



Town of Bedford

97 McMahon Road

Bedfordps.org

Superintendent Update

If you need this document translated, please call your child's school principal - Si necesita este documento traducido, por favor comuníquese con la escuela de su hijo - Se você precisa este documento traduzido, entre em contato com a escola dos seus filhos - Si vous avez besoin de traduire ce document, s'il vous plaît contacter l'école de votre enfant - 如果你需要这份文件翻译, 请联系您的孩子的 - 学校 - إذا كنت تحتاج /تحتاجين إلى ترجمة هذه الوثيقة إلى اللغة العربية، - 学校 - يرجى الاتصال بمدرسة طفلك/طفلاتك - Если вам нужна помощь с переводом этого документа, позвоните директору школы вашего ребёнка

Friday, February 17, 2023

Hello Bedford School Community,

February Vacation

The close of school today marks the start of our February school vacation. I hope everyone enjoys their time away with family and friends. It appears that our weather will be quite warm and not wintry until the end of the week if at all. So instead of a poem about snow, I leave you with a poem about the phases of the moon which will be waning next week. Check out Almanac.com to see more about the phases of the moon over vacation.

Winter Moon by [Langston Hughes](#)

How thin and sharp is the moon tonight!
How thin and sharp and ghostly white
Is the slim curved crook of the moon tonight!

BEF Black and White Birthday Bash!

Tickets are on sale now for the Bedford Education Foundation's Black and White Birthday Bash! The event will take place on Saturday, March 4, 2023, from 7:00 until 11:00 pm at the Café Escadrille in Burlington. Tickets are \$50 each online through Wednesday, March 1st. After that, they will only be available at the door for \$60. This year, the BEF is once again offering a special sponsorship, for individuals and families only, who would like to offer additional support. With a donation of \$250, you can become a "Birthday Benefactor". This sponsorship includes two tickets to the event, recognition at the Bash, as well as entry into a special raffle just for Birthday

Benefactors. The links for both options are at <https://bedfordeducation.org/>. Additionally, the BEF has just added a [BEF Birthday Bash FAQ Document](#) website.

We hope you will join the BEF for this very special event celebrating 15 years of the BEF! Since 2008, the BEF has funded \$312,000 for grants at all four Bedford schools. A mission that could not be accomplished without your support. So, come celebrate with the BEF and enjoy an evening of fun, music, dancing, an amazing silent auction, and more, all for a wonderful cause! Any questions, please email the BEF at president@bedfordeducation.org or check out the NEW [BEF Birthday Bash FAQ Document](#). See you there!

Vertical Concerts

Mark your calendars for the Orchestral Vertical Concert on March 21, 2023, and the Band Vertical Concert on March 23, 2023. Thank you to [POMS](#) (Parents of Music Students) for their support of these events.

Save the Date

As you plan your Spring Theater going schedule please be aware that BHS will be presenting its annual musical, CHICAGO: Teen Edition for five (5) performances on March 15, 16, 17, and 18, 2023. Performances are on March 15th at 4:30 PM, March 16th at 7 PM, March 17th at 7 PM, and March 18th at 1 PM and 7 PM. Ticket sales will begin on Monday, February 27, 2023, via the [BHS Weebly](#).

Athletic Update

The Athletic Department is excited to share with you some recent athletic highlights. At the Division IV Track Meet BHS Junior Carter Rauch finished first in the 600M with a time of 1:25, While Junior Jonny Garraway finished second in the mile with a time of 4:35, and Senior Jessica Lin finished second in the shot put with a distance of 35 feet 6.25 inches. The meet was also notable for the relays where the BHS Girls Team 4 by 800 meters finished in sixth place and BHS Boys 4 by 800 meters Team finished in third place.

Congratulations to Freshman Taelor Michols of the Swim and Dive Team who will compete at the Girls State Diving Championships tomorrow, Saturday, February 18, 2023, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology pool. Bedford will also be represented by Shae Arsenault, Matsen Spirn, Boden Spirn and Aniq Syed who will compete in the Boys State Swim Championship on Sunday, February 19, 2023, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology pool

Bedford will be represented at the State Individual Gymnastics Competition on Monday, February 20, 2023, in Tewksbury by Freshmen Alexa Masters who will compete in the All-Around competition and Senior Mikayla Cormeiro will compete on the Beam.

At the Division One Wrestling Tournament, Freshmen Andrew Luvshin and Senior Emil Colon will represent Bedford. The tournament is being held this weekend at Methuen High School in Methuen. Congratulations and best wishes to all of our student-athletes!

27th Annual Regional High School Exhibit

The Visual Arts Department is excited to announce their participation in the 27th Annual Regional HS Art Exhibition to take place at the Lexington Arts and Crafts Society (LexArt) building at 130 Waltham Street in Lexington from Saturday, March 4, 2023, through Sunday, April 2, 2023. The show will feature the work of students from Bedford, Burlington, Lexington, Minuteman, Waltham, and Winchester high schools. This exhibit showcases the creativity and innovation of area students and high school art programs and helps raise funds for our high school scholarship program. All sales The proceeds from all sales in the gallery gift shop will support the annual cash awards LexArts gives to graduating seniors pursuing careers in the arts. There will be two receptions, the first is Sunday, March 5, 2023, from 2 pm until 4 pm for Bedford High School, Burlington High School, and Minuteman High School. The second reception is on Sunday, March 12, 2023, from 2 pm until 4 pm for Lexington High School, Waltham High School, and Winchester High School.

BHS National History Fair Day (NHD) Projects

Please take a moment to review the work of our Bedford High School students who have been working for months on their NHD projects. These projects are done as class projects in some of our United States II history classes. Students engage in a process of discovery and interpretation of historical topics related to the NHD theme while honing their creative talents by producing original presentations. Projects were publicly presented at the Winter History Fair on Thursday, January 26, 2022, at BHS. From there, some students will continue working on their projects with the intention of submitting those projects to the NHD competition. The first round of competition will take place in March. National History Day (NHD) is an annual initiative designed to promote the teaching and learning of history. NHD is an exciting way for students to study and learn about historical issues, ideas, people, and events. The core of the program is a nationwide National History Day competition. Check out the BHS NHD Projects [HERE](#).

Bedford Town Meeting Survey

The office of the Town Manager is inviting all residents of Bedford to complete a survey to provide feedback about their experience with Town Meetings in Bedford. As the Select Board considers potential changes to how Town Meeting is conducted in Bedford, resident feedback is valued. This anonymous, unscientific survey is designed to take about five minutes to Complete.

All of the questions are optional. The survey will be open for responses until April 3, 2023. For anyone who would prefer to fill out a paper copy, that option is available in the Town Manager's Office during business hours. Click [HERE](#) to complete the survey. For more information about Bedford's Town Meeting, please go to [Bedford Town Meeting](#).

Kindergarten Registration

Registration is now open for children age-eligible for Kindergarten for the 2023-2024 school year. To register navigate to the [2023 - 2024 Lt. Eleazer Davis Kindergarten Registration Form](#)

Please note that the Davis School will host an informational meeting for all parents, caregivers, and/or guardians of students entering Kindergarten. This event is for adults only and will be especially helpful for families that have not previously had a student in Kindergarten at the Davis School. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 1, 2023, from 6:30 until 7:30 pm, at the Davis School, 410 Davis Road.

William James College INTERFACE Referral Service Affiliation

The Town of Bedford and the Bedford Public Schools maintains an affiliation with the William James College INTERFACE Referral Service. The Helpline can be reached at 888-244-6843 for resource information and/or outpatient mental health provider referrals from a trained resource and referral counselor. Additional information about INTERFACE can be found here - <https://www.bedfordma.gov/209/INTERFACE-Referral-Service>. For more information on Social and Mental Health Services offered to Bedford residents, please navigate to [Bedford Youth and Family Services Website](#).

The MA Behavioral Health Help Line (BHHL) Launches

The Massachusetts Department of Mental Health launched the new [Massachusetts Behavioral Health Help Line](#). [The Help Line](#) is available 24/7 to provide assistance across the state and in more than 200 languages to help anyone in need of mental health services connect with a provider. For individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing contact MassRelay at 711 to be connected to [The Help Line](#). The BHHL is free and available to all Massachusetts residents.

Bedford Safe Campaign

The *Bedford Safe Campaign* is a collaborative gun violence prevention campaign sponsored by the Bedford Police Department, Health Department, and Board of Health. The Campaign partners are hosting a free community education forum on Wednesday, March 1, at the Bedford High School Auditorium, 9 Mudge Way from 7-8:00 pm on the topic of Gun Violence in America presented by the co-director of the Massachusetts General Hospital Center for Gun Violence Prevention. For more information on the forum, please view the event flyer found here <https://www.bedfordma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2191/Bedford-Safe-Forum-Flier-PDF>.

Upcoming Changes to the College Career and Life Readiness Platform at BHS

It is our pleasure to announce that beginning with the Class of 2024 we will be partnering with [Naviance](#). Naviance is a comprehensive K-12 college and career readiness packet that helps districts, schools, students, and families to reach their goals by developing critical skills for college, career, and life. The Naviance platform will replace SCOIR for the Class of 2024 and beyond. The Class of 2023 will continue to use the SCOIR platform. If you have any questions or concerns please contact our Director of Counseling Lester Eggleston at lester_eggleston@bedfordps.org.

District Calendar: 2023-2024

The 2023-2024 District Calendar was re-approved by the School Committee on January 17, 2023 meeting. You may view the calendar on our website [here](#).

Recent Earthquake

As you are undoubtedly aware there was a recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria. The magnitude 7.8 earthquake has killed over 36,000 people to date. To learn more about the earthquake or to assist the victims please navigate to [Organizations making a difference in Turkey and Syria](#)

As always, thank you for your patience, your participation, and your continued commitment to our schools.

Sincerely,

Philip Conrad
Superintendent