

Town of Bedford

97 McMahon Road

Bedfordps.org

Superintendent Update

March 3, 2023

Hello Bedford School Community.

Read Across America

On Thursday March 2, 2023, our Davis School students celebrated Read Across America by hosting special guest readers. Readers came from throughout the community and included the Town Manager, Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Special Education Director, Principals and Assistant Principals, School Resource Officer, and mentor students from BHS. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to read together! The Davis School sends a huge thank you to everyone who made this such a great event for our students.

The reading emphasis continued today at Davis School as everyone stopped what they were doing at 10:00 to participate in the annual 'Drop Everything and Read Event'.

Our next reading event will take place when the Davis and Lane Schools come together for our annual Read-a-Thon fundraiser. More information regarding the Read-a-Thon will be coming to Davis and Lane families soon so stay tuned. In the meantime if you are looking for great read-aloud books for home check out Scholastic's List of the 100 Best Read-Aloud Books.

Dollars for Scholars Fundraiser

The Citizens Scholarship of Bedford is proud to announce the 58th Annual Dollars for Scholars Fundraising Campaign. The campaign is now underway. Bedford High students have recently prepared the Mail-a-thon letters. The letters have recently been mailed to Bedford neighbors in hopes that we will all support the Mail-a-thon as we have in the past. Please continue your wonderful support to help make this year's scholarships for the Class of 2023 the largest awards

yet. In May 2022, CSF of Bedford Dollars for Scholars awarded almost \$165,000 to graduating seniors. Thank you to everyone at CSF of Bedford for all that they do to support our students! For additional information, please see their website, bedfordma.dollarsforscholars.org

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 TOMORROW Saturday, March 4, 2023, from 7:00 until 11:00 pm at the Café Escadrille in Burlington. Tickets are available at the door for \$60. For more information check out the BEF Birthday Bash FAQ Document on their website.

Chicago: Teen Edition

The Bedford High School Performing Arts Department will present CHICAGO: TEEN EDITION, the long-running Kander & Ebb Broadway musical, on March 15th through the 18th in the BHS Auditorium. The production, led by director Katrina Faulstich, features approximately eighty students in the cast, crew, and pit orchestra. CHICAGO: TEEN EDITION is most appropriate for audiences in middle school and up. The show runs for 90 minutes with one intermission.

Tickets are now available through the <u>Performing Arts Website for Tickets</u>. Tickets are \$14 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors. The online box office will close seven hours prior to each performance time, and tickets will be sold at the door if available. The BHS production of CHICAGO: TEEN EDITION is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

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.

Davis School STEM Night

The Davis School is excited to welcome families to this year's Davis School STEM Night on Thursday, March 16, 2023, from 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm. Families are invited to join Davis School staff in activities and games that help students practice the skills they are learning in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math! This event is free and open to the community. Please RSVP HERE so we can be prepared for the number of families that will be joining us!

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 <u>POMS</u> (Parents of Music Students) for their support of these events.

BY&FS and BED invite you to a Dinner and Discussion

Bedford Youth and Family Services Department in partnership with Bedford Embraces Diversity is hosting a Dinner and Discussion Event on Monday, March 20, 2023, from 6 pm until 8 pm. Dinner will be provided from 6 pm until 7 pm. From 7 pm until 8 pm Metrowest OUT will present LGBTQ+ Basics and Beyond. This is a conversation focused on up-to-date vocabulary, answers to frequently asked questions, and improved tools for allying with queer and transgender people. Dinner is open to all. The discussion is appropriate for those aged 12 and up. Childcare and transportation are available. Pre-registration is requested. For more information and to register, please visit - BY&F BED 3 20 23 Event.

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 <u>HERE</u> to complete the survey. For more information about Bedford's Town Meeting, please go to <u>Bedford Town Meeting</u>.

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 maintain 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.

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 reach their goals by developing critical college, career, and life skills. 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.

Superintendent Search Update

On Tuesday night at their meeting the School Committee voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Cliff Chuang as superintendent of schools, effective July 1, 2023. Mr. Chuang is a senior associate commissioner at the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Mr. Chaung and the School Committee will now enter contract negotiations. Welcome to Bedford Mr. Chaung. To read Mr. Chaung's biography please navigate to Candidate Bios

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

Sincerely,

Philip Conrad Superintendent