

Ballston Spa Middle School Parent Update

School Opening

What a great opening to the 2022-23 school year. We are so excited to start the school year and it will be a Happy New Year!!!! We have many exciting things happening at the Middle School this year and we hope your child takes advantage of all the opportunities we have here. Please take a moment to read through our Updates and Reminders for this week.

Class Meetings and School Rules - We have completed our class meetings which review everything from school rules and procedures to school safety. Please know we are enforcing rules to the greatest extent and will continue to do so all year long. We encourage you and your student to review the student success guide we sent home with the August mailing that outlines everything from rules around phone use to our dress code. Our school webpage is linked here <https://www.bscsd.org/BSMSSStudentHandbook> and you are able to access the success document there as well.

Football Games - Student's must have a Chaperone - Parents please understand that new this year is the rule that children in grades K-8 MUST have an adult chaperone in order to attend the school football games. Your student will not be admitted without an adult chaperone. We appreciate your cooperation with this as we are working to keep our games safe and orderly so ALL may enjoy the fun.

Spirit Week 9/26-9/30- Every year our school district does an amazing job supporting our Homecoming week. This year it will be Monday 9/26 - Friday 9/30. Please see the theme for each day - here at the Middle School we have grade level competition each day and the grade with the most points at the end of the week will get a special treat and the honor of holding our Scottie Dog! We look forward to seeing everyone's school spirit!

<u>BSCSD Homecoming Spirit Week 2022</u>				
Monday, 9/26	Tuesday, 9/27	Wednesday, 9/28	Thursday, 9/29	Friday, 9/30
America Monday	Jersey Day	Country or Country Club	Throwback Thursday	Purple & Gold Day
				
<i>Wear red, white and blue today!</i>	<i>High School: Wear Team Jerseys, Powderpuff Shirts or Favorite Team's Jersey</i>	<i>Wear your preppiest outfit or western attire</i>	<i>Wear an outfit that represents clothing from your favorite past decade!</i>	<i>High School: Wear Class or Staff Shirts District Wide: Wear Purple and Gold</i>

Save the Dates!

8th Grade Boston Trip Meeting - After a very successful trip last spring the 8th grade team is working to organize our 8th grade trip to Boston. There will be a parent information meeting on October 17th at 6pm in the auditorium. We look forward to seeing our 8th grade parents.

Parent Open House - Tuesday September 27th from 6-8pm please be on the lookout for more information!

Picture Day - October 5th and 6th

Join PTA!

We need your help!!! Please consider joining our Middle School PTA. The PTA does so much for our students from assisting with a variety of events such as the 8th grade Olympics, providing class shirts, the 8th grade moving up ceremony and so much more! Below please find a link to join! The next meeting will be November 10th at 7pm.

<https://scotties.memberhub.com/store/items/8942?fbclid=IwAR3FQOjdryig7ASL4HKhSD5-LIQHd8c4QiPHnLykA6cRH2BNyZJertu2D84>

Did you know that....

SEPTEMBER- (Sept. 15-Oct. 15) Is National Hispanic Heritage Month?

National Hispanic Heritage Month traces its history to 1968, when the observance was just a week long. President Lyndon B. Johnson signed a bill designating the week of September 15 as "National Hispanic Heritage Week," according to the Office of the Historian and the Office of Art & Archives for the US House of Representatives. National Hispanic Heritage Month honors the culture, heritage, and contributions of Hispanic Americans each year. The event began in 1968 when Congress deemed the week including September 15 and 16 National Hispanic Heritage Week to celebrate the contributions and achievements of the diverse cultures within the Hispanic community.

The dates were chosen to commemorate two key historic events: Independence Day, honoring the formal signing of the Act of Independence for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua (September 15, 1821), and Mexico's Independence Day, which denotes the beginning of the struggle against Spanish control (September 16, 1810). It was not until 1988 that the event was expanded to month-long

period, which includes El Dia de la Raza on October 12, which celebrates the influences of the people who came after Christopher Columbus and the multicultural, multiethnic society that evolved as a result; Chile's Independence Day on September 18 (El Dieciocho); and Belize's Independence Day on September 21.

October - Is National Italian American Heritage Month?

Each October, millions of Americans of Italian descent come together to celebrate Italian American Heritage Month and reflect on their families' histories, traditions, and values. This special heritage month was first celebrated in 1989 when it was proclaimed by President George H.W. Every year the president of the United States signs an executive order designating the month of October as National Italian American Heritage Month, in recognition of the many achievements and contributions made to American culture by persons of Italian heritage.

OCTOBER - Is also, National Disability Employment Awareness Month?

Congress, with the aim of helping disabled veterans, designated the first week of October as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week in 1945. Seventeen years later, the word "physically" was removed from the phrase in order to recognize the needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. In the 1970s, a shift in disability public policy led to further change and for the first time, it was viewed as discriminatory to exclude or segregate people because of a disability. As a result, the U.S. saw changes such as the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990 and the designation, by presidential proclamation, of a full month to increase public awareness of those with disabilities and appreciate the capabilities of the 30 million people in the U.S. of working-age who are disabled.