

OCTOBER 15TH, 2020

THE REEF

Burlington High School's E-Newsletter

Parent/Teacher Conferences Scheduled for October 21st

A parent/guardian's ability to connect one-on-one with their student's teachers is an important piece of the education process, even moreso during this virtual learning time. As a result, BHS is proud to present our first ever **All Virtual Parent/Teacher Conferences**, scheduled for Wednesday, October 21st.

We are utilizing a program called PTCFast to schedule conferences. This is a user-friendly program to help parents/guardians schedule one-on-one virtual face-time with teachers to ask questions, check in on their student's progress, and bring up any feedback or concerns.

Navigate to the PTCFast homepage and sign up (using any email account) by clicking [this link](#). Follow [these instructions](#) (use your BSD email account to view) to secure your conference time through PTCFast. If you are having trouble logging in or have questions about parent/teacher conferences, please reach out to Molly Roach at mroach@bsdvt.org or 802-864-8406.

We look forward to "seeing" you all soon!



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PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Principal Noel Green

Hello BHS Community, Thank you very much for staying connected with us. Although we are physically separated under our current circumstance, we can stay mentally and emotionally connected. We can do this in various ways, and will continue to find new and creative ways to do so until we can be physically together again.

Next week, you will have the opportunity to connect with your students' teachers during our Parent/Teacher conferences. I would ask that if possible, your student attend the virtual conferences with you. It is most helpful to be able to check in with both parents/guardians and students, especially given the added challenge of extended virtual learning. We're here for you and we can't wait to talk about all of the great accomplishments you've made these past few months!

Tonight, we have our first BHS College Planning Night, hosted by the Counseling department. In the announcements section of this newsletter there is a link to the virtual Zoom meeting, starting at 6:30pm. Counseling staff will be there to answer questions and talk about the college application process, as well

as a representative from VSAC to discuss financial aid.

Lastly, the Athletics Department would like to extend an invitation to the UVM Student Athletes of Color Stand Up. Fight Racism. Together. Event on Saturday, October 17th. This event will take place at South Burlington High School on Munson Field starting at 4pm. Attendance will be capped at 150 attendees due to COVID-19 regulations, so be sure and arrive early. Our own LeVar Barrino will be speaking, as well as other staff and faculty from BSD and members of the Burlington community.

As we prepare to close out another week, remember: Be Safe. Work Hard. Stay Kind. Keep Swimming.

Let's Go, Seahorses!

Follow Us!



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BHS Website
Home

BSD SCHOOL BOARD SUMMARY



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

by Rebecca Cunningham, BSD Student Representative

BHS/BTC Campus Update: The Burlington School Board is working aggressively to establish an alternative space in the city where teaching and learning can resume in person, and test and remediate the BHS building. The goal remains that teaching and learning will commence in person by the second semester. The school board will reserve \$25,000 for the Burlington Technical Center and OnTop programs. The board will pay Sanborn-Head \$23,700 for their geotechnical reporting services, which will determine the ledge elevation at various locations on the BHS campus. The BHS/BTC ReEnvisioning team will use this data to assist foundation design.

Superintendent Flanagan's 100 Day Entry Plan Report: Superintendent Flanagan's three core areas of belief: *equity, engagement, and deep learning* served, and will continue to serve, as the foundation for his work.

Phase 1 – Listening and Learning: Superintendent Flanagan held more than 50 one-to-one meetings with teachers, students, families, administration staff, board members, and community leaders. During these meetings he asked all for strengths, improvements areas, and promising opportunities they saw in the district.

Phase 2 – Early Actions: Superintendent Flanagan created a Cabinet with all the executive directors, directors, and principals in the district. This Cabinet will act as the “core decision-making body” and replace the previous Executive Committee. Further, a Coordinator of Engagement and an Office of Equity were established. A complete list of actions taken in the first 100 days can be found [HERE](#).

Phase 3 – Next Steps: Superintendent Flanagan articulated future goals which include building strong relationships, creating a system for feedback, modernizing systems, communicating thoroughly and openly, and considering equity in every decision.

Motion passed: The school board will allow the city to use Edmunds Middle School, Integrated Arts Academy, C.P. Smith Elementary, and Sustainability Academy as voting locations for the November 3rd election.

Click [HERE](#) to read Superintendent Flanagan's most recent
Community Update

SEAHORSE SPOTLIGHT

New Faculty and Staff - Part I

Melyssa Sweet, BHS School Psychologist

Ms. Sweet recently moved to Burlington for the opportunity to work in this amazing community. For the last 22 years, she has been a full-time student so she can truly appreciate all of the hard work that our students are putting in. She is excited to continue to work with BHS students and families to help make this school year a success. In her free time, she enjoys hiking with her dog Ralphie (pictured above), Crossfit, drinking coffee, and playing board games (Catan, anyone?!)



Rachel Hurwitz (she/her/hers), EL Teacher

Hi, Seahorses! I am so excited to be joining your community. When I am not teaching my amazing students, you're most likely to find me curled up with a good book or exploring in the mountains. I also love to travel, and I am always on the hunt for a good new coffee shop or restaurant. I'm looking forward to the day when we can all be back in the building together!

NEXT WEEK'S SEAHORSE SPOTLIGHT:

New Faculty and Staff - Part II

Madeline Wilson, SLP | Jennifer Richter, Director of SUCCEED | Ellen Wollensack, Library Para

Extra Curriculars

ENRICH YOUR EXPERIENCE



Click [here](#) for a complete list of Expanded Learning Opportunities and BHS Clubs - updated regularly!

FREE ATI BTV WEBINARS THIS SATURDAY, 10/17!

Above the Influence Burlington (ATI BTV) members at Burlington High School team up to support and inspire each other to live substance-free lives AND to bring about positive change in their school and broader community in a wide range of activities including: community education and outreach, public speaking, and advocacy.

THE POWER OF YOUTH ADVOCACY

With Colin Ryan



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

1:00 - 2:30PM

Communication expert Colin Ryan is on a mission to connect important messages to the audiences who need to hear them. Drawing on 10+ years experience as a comedian & professional speaker, Colin trains youth and others in authentic storytelling to help transform people into unforgettable ambassadors for the issues they care deeply about.

SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY!

#OLOV2020



Click to
Register for
THE POWER
Webinar



Click to
Register for
FIRE UP
Webinar

FIRE UP ABOUT YOUTH ADVOCACY

With Lincoln Mondy



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH

1:00 - 3:30 PM

In this free virtual workshop, Lincoln will share details about the film he created to raise awareness tobacco issues and prompt critical questions about activism, public health, and the worth of the black body in the US. Lincoln will help you think about what you've been taught about power, who holds it, and what those with power look like.

SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY!

#OLOV2020

ATHLETICS

Click [here](#) for the full BHS Athletics Calendar



The Burlington School District and South Burlington Athletic Departments are excited for our communities to **Stand Up. Fight Racism. Together.**

The University of Vermont Student Athletes of Color affinity group is looking to spread awareness by sharing life experiences that call for action against systemic racism, prejudice, inequitable practices, and implicit bias toward members of the BIPOC community. Information about the UVM SAOC group can be found [here](#).

The idea for a Fight Racism game was first launched by South Burlington junior girls soccer player, Josie Oliviera, and the BSD is excited to be a part of advancing a much-needed dialogue. **The event will take place at South Burlington High School on Munson Field on Saturday, October 17 at 4pm.** Among the guest speakers for the event will be BSD's own Lashawn Whitmore-Sells (Principal, J.J. Flynn Elementary) and Mert Sells (Varsity Girls Basketball Head Coach, BHS), LeVar Barrino (Student Achievement Advisor, BHS), Henri Sparks (Director of Equity and Safe/Inclusive Schools, BSD), and newly hired Director of Police Transformation, Kyle Dodson.

For information regarding tickets, please visit the UVM SAOC website [here](#), and reach out to Mike Jabour at mjabour@sbschools.net (Director of Student Activities, SBHS) or Lynn Kynoch at lkynoch@sbschools.net (Administrative Assistant to the Director of Student Activities, SBHS).

Due to COVID-19 state guidelines, maximum capacity and ticket sales will be capped at 150. If you are unable to secure a ticket, we will also be live-streaming the event via Facebook Live on our new Burlington School District Athletics Facebook page. Be sure to like the page and follow us for Saturday's event, as well as for future sporting events within the BSD.



HORSIN' AROUND

BHS Spirit Week

OCTOBER 13TH-16TH



Mr. Green giving us his best Steve Urkel for Decade Day (above)

Right: Ms. Stephens getting GROOVY for decade day!

Below: Faculty and Students show their team spirit during Jersey Day!

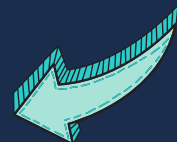


Tuesday, 10/13: Decade Day
Wednesday, 10/14: Jersey Day
Thursday, 10/15: CLASS COLOR WAR
Friday, 10/16: BHS Pride Day

ANNUAL STUDENT UPDATE in PowerSchool



CLICK ON THE CLIPBOARD TO ACCESS POWERSCHOOL



PARENTS/GUARDIANS! If you have not completed your ANNUAL STUDENT UPDATE (ASU) information in PowerSchool yet, please do so ASAP! Navigate to the **Forms** tab and complete all outstanding information. **All forms must be completed in their entirety.**

This annual update is important for the safety of our students while at school. Although we are currently virtual, we are still collecting this information, as there is still information that is vital to student's safety and ability to learn remotely.

If you have questions about how to complete the forms or are unable to log into your account, please reach out to Molly Roach at mroach@bsdvt.org for assistance. Please include the best email and contact number to reach you at in your email to Ms. Roach.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Login with BSD account to view!



BHS College Planning Night!

TONIGHT, October 15th, 6:30PM!

Thursday, October 15th 6:30-8:00PM The BHS Counseling office is holding an Information Night for parents & guardians of BHS Seniors. We will be presenting *a lot* of information, and there will also be time to ask questions via Zoom chat. VSAC also has a financial aid event this evening at this time. Please be aware that our presentation will be recorded and available on our website to view at a later date if you cannot make it to the live session.

Click [here](#) to join the Zoom meeting! (Meeting ID: 864 7440 1652, Password ARBS5d)

We hope to see you all there! - BHS Counseling Department

Attendance

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday attendance is accounted for during your online classes. Your teacher marks you present, just like in-person learning.

BUT WHAT ABOUT WEDNESDAYS!?

Wednesdays are our *asynchronous* learning days, so while classes do not meet, you are still expected to be working on your coursework. That may include watching a recorded class you missed during the week, catching up or getting ahead on work, responding to class discussions and emails, and/or attending Office Hours for your class! The possibilities are endless!

In order to be counted as "present" on those days, you must fill out the Wednesday Attendance Form. You can access that form by clicking [here](#), or by scanning the QR code to the right. **You can only access the form on Wednesdays from 8:00am - 11:59pm**, and you must use your BSD email account to login!



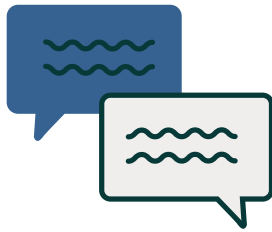
Please email Ms. Roach at mroach@bsdvt.org with attendance questions

HELPFUL LINKS AND INFORMATION

Links from this week's newsletter and more can be found below. Please reach out to Ms. Hoyt at bhoyt@bsdvt.org if you have questions, comments, or feedback.

BHS School Counseling Page

(including help with transcript requests, registration needs, and scheduling virtual meetings with your school counselor)



Free and Reduced Lunch Form



BSD Website - <https://www.bsdvt.org/>

BHS Website - <https://bhs.bsdvt.org/>

BHS Athletics Website - <https://burlingtonathletics.com/>

BHS Expanded Learning Program Schedule - Fall 2020 -

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1R0aszeywga2Z1GkgSWvl0zVp4el29-dtxKlalv8bnTU/edit>

BHS Afterschool Activities and Clubs - <https://bhs.bsdvt.org/about-our-school/clubs/>

Wednesday Attendance Form -

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeSmv9y4wm0uyMDy0ddZ4zAa3ZhEMI46qCdB-t6VD3rKjnG3Q/closedform>

Good Morning, BHS! Announcements -

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/2/folders/1Tt7YJxDnS0H3wmmSTbiEhETm-A1iYsqN>

PTCFast Website - https://www.ptcfast.com/schools/Burlington_High_School_2