



# BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 3, 2016

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### Course Sign Ups

Course planning for next year is upon us. **Please look for a copy of the BHS Program of Studies, which will be posted on the BHS website on February 10th at:**

<http://www.bedford.k12.ma.us/home/bedford-high-school.html>

Bedford High School **course sign-up** occurs online, through the Aspen system. Between **March 5th and 18th, students will complete their list of course requests on Aspen.** Directions for entering course requests will be posted on the Bedford High School website. When students enter their selections in Aspen in March, they will be able to view both the previously entered teachers' recommendations and the elective course choices.

**Contacting Teachers.** The teacher recommendations cannot be changed by students in Aspen. BHS teachers know their students well and are also aware of the requirements of each level at Bedford High. Their recommendations, made after weighing all factors, are usually correct and should be taken very seriously. There will still be time, **between March 5th and 18th**, for you to contact your son or daughter's teachers by email or phone regarding the teacher's recommendation for next year.

**Requesting a Level Change.** If, after talking with your student's teacher, the teacher continues to recommend the original level and after discussion and deliberation, your student still disagrees with the teacher's decision, you may make a level change request by filling out the **Level Change Request Form** available at each school and on the Bedford High Counseling page. Such level change requests must be submitted to the appropriate program administrator at Bedford High by April 1.

**A typical schedule** consists of five five-credit courses (majors) and four two-and-a-half credit courses (minors). **It is important to note that the student's teachers determine the proper level of challenge for the student in the five-credit courses (when necessary).** For the description of our leveling system, please refer to the Program of Studies.

**Requesting a sixth Major.** A typical BHS schedule (5 major courses) is quite rigorous. All BHS students interested in taking more than 5 majors must meet with their guidance counselor as part of an appeals process. This appeals process is in place to help reduce unhealthy stress for students. Students can pick up an appeal form with their guidance counselor

Please join us at the next Principal's Roundtable on  
February 26, 2016 at 8am here at Bedford High School

## FACES OF BEDFORD 2016

You are cordially invited to attend Faces of Bedford 2016!

This year's topic is "Transcending African-American Stereotypes."

On both a national and local level, we have witnessed both subtle and blatant acts of racism. In response to these events, Bedford Embraces Diversity has organized a hands-on workshop to discuss who we are as a community and what we've done or can do in response to these events.

Our guest facilitators will be Maria McDuffie (International Student Advisor and SEVIS Coordinator from Middlesex Community College), who has held numerous workshops related to diversity issues; and trained high school students who are Peer Leaders, who work to further promote the diverse and inclusive environment that's already been initiated to create change at Bedford High School.

We hope both teens and adults who want to lead positive changes in the community will join us for Bedford Embraces Diversity's first educational event that aims to critically examine stereotypes, share experiences, and strengthen community ties. Teens and adults will work in separate discussion groups. Light refreshments will be served.

A free event, organized by Bedford Embraces Diversity (the folks who bring you the Bedford Multicultural Festival).

**Link:** <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/faces-of-bedford-2016-tickets-20799140790>

### WHEN

Saturday, February 6, 2016 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM (EST) - Add to Calendar

### WHERE

Bedford Town Center, Shawsheen Room - 12 Mudge Way (Yellow Building) Bedford, MA 01730

## DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS PHONE-A-THON March 5 & March 6, 2016

BHS student volunteers are needed for the annual CSF of Bedford Dollars for Scholars Phone-A-Thon pledge drive to raise scholarship money for Bedford graduates from the town and Hanscom AFB community. Scholarships will be awarded by the CSF of Bedford Dollars for Scholars. BHS students will be telephoning town residents Saturday, March 5th and Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, to ask for pledges. The MITRE Corp, 202 Burlington Rd., Bedford, MA, is the host site for this year's telephone drive.

This Dollars for Scholars Phone-A-Thon is the major fund raiser for CSF scholarships. All awards are based on merit with the amount determined by need by the selection committee of civic leaders and CSF directors.

Student volunteers are needed from all grades at BHS. Seniors can directly aid classmates meet college tuition needs by helping in the pledge drive. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors help friends in this year's class and at the same time perform a valuable COMMUNITY SERVICE which can be cited in future college applications and job resumes.

Students are urged to sign up for 2-hour shifts with any social studies teacher; student volunteers are coordinated by the Social Studies Department. Sign-up sheets will be available after February 22. Callers are needed for Saturday, March 5th, 10AM to 4PM. Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, hours are Noon to 4PM. Brief training sessions are conducted before each shift. Please arrive 15 minutes early.

Call Alma and Sal Pomponi, Phone-A-Thon Chairmen, 781-275-0375, for CSF information or visit our website at: [www.bedfordma.dollarsforscholars.org](http://www.bedfordma.dollarsforscholars.org).

## SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROJECT

The Town of Bedford was pleased to learn that their infrastructure application for a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) project on behalf of John Glenn Middle School) was awarded funding through the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT). MassDOT and the Town of Bedford are proposing pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements for JGMS located at the intersection of Great Road at Mudge Way and continuing through the High School campus to Railroad Avenue. The goal of the project is to improve walking and bicycling safety and access to/from the John Glenn Middle School.

Mass DOT has invited Bedford residents and other stakeholders to a Design Public Hearing to be held on Thursday, February 11, 2016, 7:00 PM at the JGMS Auditorium. Plans will be on display one-half hour before the hearing begins, with an engineer in attendance to answer questions regarding this project. A project handout will be made available on the MassDOT website. For information about the project development and the site plan please visit the home page of Bedford Department of Public Works [www.bedfordma.gov/department-of-public-works](http://www.bedfordma.gov/department-of-public-works). For SRTS information please see the Safe Routes to School section of the "Healthy Bedford" link at [www.bedfordma.gov/healthy-bedford](http://www.bedfordma.gov/healthy-bedford) or contact Carla Olson at [healthybedford@bedfordma.gov](mailto:healthybedford@bedfordma.gov)



## ATHLETIC NEWS

Registration for the Spring sports season is now open in Aspen. Note: Parents/guardians must register their children. Students can not complete the registration under their login credentials.

The link for instructions is below

[http://www.bedford.k12.ma.us/images/stories/pdfs/bhs/athletics/Parent\\_Winter\\_Sports\\_registration.pdf](http://www.bedford.k12.ma.us/images/stories/pdfs/bhs/athletics/Parent_Winter_Sports_registration.pdf)

## MUSIC NEWS

The Department of Music & Theater Arts would like to congratulate all of our student musicians who recently have auditioned for and been accepted into district and state festivals.

Last month a number of students participated in the Massachusetts Eastern District Senior Festival held at the Boston Latin School.

Hannah Rubin played cello in the orchestra. And performing in the chorus were:

Julia Doucet	Chloe DeMello	Matthew Bridgeman
Nate Fisette	Natalie Lewis	Rebecca Kelly-Bowditch
Emi McSwain		

Of these students some were eligible to audition for the All State Festival. Three students were accepted and will be performing in Boston's Symphony Hall in March.

Hannah Rubin	Chloe DeMello	Matthew Bridgeman
--------------	---------------	-------------------

And, just accepted into the Junior District Festival to take place in March are:

Gabriel Alper	Lauren Anderson	Sophia Clouse
Samantha Gallant	Jayden Heller	Liam Oates
Jessica Ryan	Noah Southard	Kate Winkler
Ben Woodward		



## ART NEWS

Congratulations to the students who were recognized in this years Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. If you have one or more of these students in your classes, please congratulate them!



Gold Key work will be exhibited at EF (Education First) Two Education Circle, Cambridge, MA 02141 (near the Science Museum), from March 5–March 20, 2016.

Elizabeth Antuna	Silver Key	Photography	Looking Up
Benjamin Arnold	Silver Key	Sculpture	Something the World Can Share
Abby Bosco	Honorable Mention	Drawing & Illustration	Macro Patterns of Insects
Gwen Gardner	Honorable Mention	Painting	Untitled 1
Gwen Gardner	Silver Key	Painting	Sera sul Fiume Arno
Kendall Hiltz	Silver Key	Drawing & Illustration	Bust
Juwon Jeon	Honorable Mention	Mixed Media	Confined by Expectations
Avery Kaplan	Gold Key	Humor	Eulogy to Blue Corduroy Shorts
Avery Kaplan	Gold Key	Personal Essay/Memoir	Dear Reader
Avery Kaplan	Gold Key	Writing Portfolio	Grow a Sentence Just Add Water
Avery Kaplan	Silver Key	Critical Essay	A Picture's Worth 643 Words
Avery Kaplan	Silver Key	Personal Essay/Memoir	One Marble, Four Dimensions
Avery Kaplan	Silver Key	Short Story	Nothing Silk Can Stay
Nicole Kennedy	Silver Key	Ceramics & Glass	Sonia Delaunay's Place Setting
Caroline Ngooi	Honorable Mention	Ceramics & Glass	Story Vase
Gwendolyn Orav	Silver Key	Photography	Black Veil
Alina Thopurathu	Gold Key	Photography	A Foggy Day
Erin Venuti	Honorable Mention	Flash Fiction	Green Guilt

## Guidance Department February Newsletter

Check out the Guidance Department's February Newsletter, full of information about AP Testing Registration, the Sophomore PSAT, and advice Juniors about visiting colleges. See the newsletter below or at:

[http://joomla.bedford.k12.ma.us/images/stories/pdfs/bhs/guidance/February\\_newsletter.pdf](http://joomla.bedford.k12.ma.us/images/stories/pdfs/bhs/guidance/February_newsletter.pdf)

## Reminder for international trip applications are due

This is a reminder to students who are applying for international trips that applications for all trips should be turned in by this Thursday, February 4, to the teacher leading the trip. Applications can be submitted in person, via email, or dropped off in the student office addressed to the trip leader. If you are interested in applying, all applications are available on BHS Student News on a notice from Mr. Griffin.

# 2015/2016 School Calendar

(Times and dates can change so please also check on the on line calendar too)

## February 2016

- 1st MCAS Biology Session 1
- 2nd MCAS Biology Session 2
- 9th School Council @ 2:45pm  
*Principal's Conference Room*
- 15th February Vacation Begins
- 16th February Vacation
- 17th February Vacation
- 18th February Vacation
- 19th February Vacation
- 23rd School Committee @ 7:30pm
- 25th Principal's Advisory Council @ 1:20pm  
*Principal's Conference Room*
- 26th Roundtable @ 8am  
*Principal's Conference Room*
- 29th MCAS Retest-ELA Composition Sessions A&B

## March 2016

- 1st MCAS Retest-ELA Reading Comprehension Sessions 1&2
- 2nd MCAS Retest-ELA Reading Comprehension Session 3
- 3rd MCAS Retest-Mathematics Session 1
- 4th MCAS Retest-Mathematics Session 2
- 11th No School—Teacher Workshop
- 16th BHS Musical
- 17th BHS Musical
- 18th Roundtable @ 8AM
- 18th BHS Musical
- 19th BHS Musical
- 22nd MCAS 10 Grade—ELA Composition Sessions A&B
- 23rd MCAS 10 Grade— ELA Reading Comprehension Sessions 1&2
- 24th MCAS 10 Grade-ELA Reading Comprehension Session 3
- 25th Early Release @ 11:20am
- 29th School Council @ 2:45pm  
*Principal's Conference Room*
- 29th School Committee @ 7:30pm
- 31st MCAS 10 Grade Make Up-ELA Composition Sessions A&B

## April 2016

- 5th Mandatory X-Block Meeting for All Grades
- 12th School Council @ 2:45pm  
*Principal's Conference Room*
- 12th School Committee @ 7:30pm
- 18th April Vacation Begins
- 19th April Vacation
- 20th April Vacation
- 21st April Vacation
- 22nd April Vacation
- 28th Principal's Advisory Council @ 1:20pm  
*Principal's Conference Room*
- 29th Roundtable @ 8am  
*Principal's Conference Room*

## May 2016

- 3rd School Committee @ 7:30pm
- 6th Art Show
- 7th Art Show
- 8th Art Show
- 17th MCAS 10 Grade-Mathematics Session 1
- 17th School Council @ 2:45pm  
*Principal's Conference Room*
- 17th School Committee @ 7:30pm
- 18th MCAS 10 Grade— Mathematics Session 2
- 21st Relay for Life
- 22nd Relay for Life
- 24th ROTC Awards
- 27th Roundtable @ 8am  
*Principal's Conference Room*
- 27th Principal's Advisory Council @ 1:20pm  
*Principal's Conference Room*
- 30th No School—Memorial Day
- 31st School Committee @ 7:30pm

## June 2016

- 1st MCAS-STE Session 1
- 2nd MCAS STE Session 2
- 2nd 2016 Graduation @ 6:15pm
- 7th Locker Clean Out
- 10th Finals Begin (With No Snow Days)
- 13th Finals (With No Snow Days)
- 14th Finals (With No Snow Days)
- 14th School Council @ 2:45pm  
*Principal's Conference Room*
- 14th School Committee @ 7:30pm
- 15th Finals (With No Snow Days)
- 16th Finals (With No Snow Days)

