



# Bryant Bulletin

October 2010



## **BRYANT MIDDLE SCHOOL**

460 N. Vernon  
Dearborn, MI 48128  
Office: 827-2900  
Attendance: 827-2901

### **PRINCIPAL'S NOTES**

Happy October! As the leaves are changing and the weather is getting cooler, there is much activity at school. The students are adjusting to the changes this year and have a resiliency that I admire.

Parent-teacher conferences are this month. Please take advantage of the time to speak with your child's teachers. Together, we can help them be successful. Parent connect letters have all been handed out or mailed. Don't forget to check parent-connect often. This is a great way to stay on top of homework, tests and class assignments.

The MEAP test will be given during the weeks of October 11th -October 25th. Please make sure your child gets a lot of rest and a healthy breakfast to allow for the best performance.

Thank you for your input on Open House. Your voice has been heard. We will alter the format for next year.

As always, we welcome parents and hope you visit. Please call or email Mr. Hartley or myself with questions or concerns.

Together, we will continue to make Bryant Middle School the best!

Mrs. Peterson

### **Parent-Teacher**

### **Conferences**

**October 26th: 4:30-7:30pm**

**October 28th: 3:30-6:30pm**

### **EMPTY BOWLS:**

Art class and Art Club Students are participating in the Empty Bowls community service event. The event raises funds for people in our local community who are having trouble putting food on the table. There is a \$5 suggestion for donation, and in return, you get a meal of soup, bread, coffee, tea, or water, a student made piece of artwork, and most importantly you are helping those in need.



Hope to see you there!  
Monday, November 29th, 2010  
4-6:30pm (drop in at any time)  
Park Place Banquet Hall  
23400 Park St., Dearborn



### **6th GRADE ART CLUB:**

6th grade art club is starting on

Wednesday, Oct. 6th. Those interested in using their imagination and learning new art techniques are welcome. Most meeting dates will be on Wednesday's and the time will be from 3-4:00 pm. Please make arrangements for your child to get home-there is no bus service at this time. A list of meeting dates are going to be on the art club permission slip. Also mark your calendars for Monday, November 29th for Empty Bowls.

Thank you,  
Mrs. Reynaert

### **PEER TO PEER:**

The Peer to Peer Program is underway. This program is designed to assist students with social disabilities to function socially and gain independence using peer support. If your child likes to help others, wants to know more about various disabilities such as Autism Spectrum Disorder or just wants to make new friends, consider signing them up. Look for the Peer to Peer Program table in the lobby at open house or call Mrs. Mark at 827-2910 or Mrs. Tozzi at 827-2911.

**MEDICATION**

Please note that students are not permitted to self-administer prescription or over the counter medications during school hours. If your physician has determined that medication has to be taken during the school day, a Medical Authorization Form, available in the office, must be completely filled out and signed by both the physician and the parent. The form and medication must be submitted to the office. Your child must report to the office to receive their medication. This policy of the Dearborn Public Schools is in accordance with General School Law (Section 380.11780).

**CELL PHONES**

Dearborn Public Schools policy on cell phones is that they cannot be seen or heard. We discourage students from bringing them to school. The school rule is that if a phone is brought to school, it must be turned off and locked in the locker until 2:55 p.m. Students may not use their phones inside the school. Phones may only be used after school and outside of the building.

School personnel will not be responsible for lost or stolen phones. If a cell phone is seen or heard, it will be confiscated and returned only to a parent on the following day. The second time a cell phone is confiscated will result in a detention and a parent/guardian retrieving the cell phone on the following Monday. If a student is caught using a cell phone or if the cell phone rings in class, the cell phone will be confiscated and returned the following Monday to a parent or guardian. Repeated offenses may result in further discipline.

**BICYCLE SECURITY**

Students must lock up their bikes in the racks on the north side or south side of the school. It is recommended that bicycles be secured with a strong cable and lock.

**BUS INFORMATION**

Eligible students should have received a postcard from our Transportation Department telling them where they should wait for their bus and the pick up time. Students should make a point to learn their bus number and their driver's face. This makes it much easier to find the bus at dismissal time.



Riding the school bus is a privilege. Students are expected to behave as young adults on all buses. Students who misbehave will face a range of consequences including loss of riding privileges. All questions regarding transportation should be addressed to the Transportation Department at 827-3300.

**TEXTBOOKS**

Parents can help students avoid end of the year fines, which can amount to a great deal of money, for damaged and lost texts by doing the following:

1. Periodically go over each textbook with your child to examine and check for damage. This also shows the child that you will be monitoring his /her progress carefully. It is recommended that books be covered.
2. Do make sure that your

child's name is written in the place provided on the inside of the cover with the teacher's name. This will help us get lost books back to the student quickly.

3. Do remind your child not to lend their books to friends as he/she are responsible for the book that they have been assigned.

**ATHLETIC/ ACADEMIC FEES**

To participate in athletic or academic after school activities, middle school students must pay the following fees:

Fees:

- \$45 per academic activity
- \$75 per athletic activity
- \$100 per student for athletic AND academic
- \$300 per family

These fees were approved by the Dearborn Board of Education as part of a strategy to balance the budget. Participation requires the above fees to be paid before the activity begins. For those in financial need, parents may apply for a waiver through the Business Office of the Dearborn Public Schools.

**LATE START DATES**

School begins at 9am on the following dates. Doors open at 8:50am.

November 3rd	November 10th
December 1st	December 8th
January 5th	January 12th
February 2nd	February 16th
March 9th	
April 6th	April 13th
May 4th	May 11th

**PARENT CONNECT**

Please take advantage of this exciting service. Parent Connect allows parents to view their student's grades in real time through the web. We encourage every parent to sign up and access parent connect regularly. Sign up forms can be found in the office or on the Bryant Middle School website.

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Welcome back PTSA Members, Parents, Students and Staff!,

All of the PTSA board welcomes you to another school year which we count on as being productive and a safe time of growth and enrichment. We will work hard to see that these goals are achieved. As I stated last year, please note that the name is not SPTSA - as in Some Parents - each of us have children at Bryant and each of us needs to play our part in achieving this success. We all have busy schedules and multiple commitments as I know all too well. Again, **if each family has just one parent volunteer for just a single event, or even just one hour out of the entire school year, we will meet all our volunteer needs!** Can you honestly say you cannot afford one hour over the next year to help out? Please sign up on one of the volunteer sheets or give us a call/drop us a note to say you can help in any small way! Join the PTSA today.

Make your voice heard ... call us, come to a PTSA meeting, let us know what we can do to be even better. Many of the improvement and support programs we are working on will, of course, mean a commitment of money. Bryant PTSA has only one major fundraiser a year - the magazine subscription program. Even if you are not interested in this program, a donation per family of just \$20 or \$25 for the entire year, would mean we could meet our goals without having to rely entirely on the fundraiser. You can help in other ways too, such as the no cost Kroger, GFS, or Subway card programs, which again cost you nothing and rewards our school with each of your purchases - ask for details. And as also stated previously, we're all in this together for the same 700+ reasons - our 700+ kids - and with just a small effort you can help us make this year just a bit better for all. Please do what you can and I promise you and your child will be better because of it.

Vida Chatila  
Bryant PTSA President

**Parents: Future copies of the Bryant Newsletter will be posted on the Bryant website. If you do not have internet access, please contact the school office to receive a hard copy.**

**Advisory to all Parents**

As part of the Dearborn Public Schools District's pest management program, pesticides are occasionally applied. You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application made to the school grounds and building. In certain emergencies, pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but you will be provided notice following any such application. If you need prior notification, please complete the information below and submit to:

Shannon Peterson, Principal  
Bryant Middle School  
460 N. Vernon  
Dearborn, MI 48128 (313) 827-2900

Pesticide Prior Notification Request

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Numbers (Daytime) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to be notified prior to a scheduled pesticide treatment inside of the building.

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to be notified prior to a scheduled pesticide treatment on the outside grounds of the school.

\_\_\_\_\_ Both of the above                      Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**LEGAL NOTICES:**

The law requires that the Dearborn Public Schools provide parents or guardians with information regarding several legal notices. Several schools now include this information with their school newsletter, post them on their school website or send the information home with students. The legal notices are available for review on the district website: [www.dearbornschools.org](http://www.dearbornschools.org), or by stopping by the school office. Copies can also be picked up by visiting the Communications Office. If you have any questions regarding the legal notices please call the Communications Office at 8273006.

# MEAP Test

**Remember to Eat a good breakfast!**



**TIPS ON MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS**

- Read the question before you look at the answer.
- Come up with the answer in your head before looking at the possible answers, this way the choices given on the test won't throw you off or trick you.
- Eliminate answers you know aren't right.
- Read all the choices before choosing your answer.
- There is no guessing penalty, always take an educated guess and select an answer.
- Don't keep on changing your answer, usually your

first choice is the right one, unless you misread the question.

- If you are certain one of the statements is true don't choose "none of the above."
- If you are certain one of the statements are false don't choose "All of the above".
- In a question with an "All of the above" choice, if you see that at least two correct statements, then "All of the above" is probably the answer.
- A positive choice is more likely to be true than a negative one.



**SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR A BULLY FREE ENVIRONMENT!**

Mrs. Mark's and Mr. Renko's Advisory is very busy working on our bully-free school message. Students are working on posters and pledges that students may sign to show that they choose to be respectful and promote a bully-free school. Students have an opportunity to purchase pink shirts here for \$5.00. Pink shirt day origin was in Nova Scotia. Two upperclassmen ob-

served a new student getting teased for wearing a pink shirt to school. In response, the upperclassmen texted their friends and asked them to wear pink shirts on the very next day to show support for the new student. According to the news report, over 200 students came to school in pink shirts. It just goes to show that one or two people can make a big difference. "International STAND UP to bullying day" will be celebrated worldwide in November.

## Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS)

Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search offers seventh and eighth students the opportunity to experience the ACT and SAT exams during their middle school years. Students are selected to participate based upon their high achievement on last year's MEAP in reading and/or mathematics.

The qualifying scores are:	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Mathematics</b>
Seventh Graders (Grade 6 MEAP scores)	661 or higher	658 or higher
Eighth Graders (Grade 7 MEAP scores)	755 or higher	755 or higher

Students who take an above grade-level test through NUMATS are able to:  
Practice taking the test before it really counts.  
Compare their abilities to other academically talented participants as well as high school students.  
Receive suggestions for academic planning and extracurricular activities.  
Gain access to enriching summer camps and other educational opportunities.

On October 15, Mr. Renko will give students who met the criteria set by NUMATS the required registration information and MEAP performance scores. Qualifying students may register online or pick up an application from the counseling center. The paper registration must be postmarked by October 30.

The test dates are:                      Online registration ends:

<b>ACT</b> - Saturday, December 11	October 25
Saturday, February 12, 2011	December 20
<b>SAT</b> - Saturday, December 4	November 1
Saturday, January 22, 2011	December 15

The test centers and exam fee vary.

Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search is an opportunity for academically talented students to challenge themselves today for a brighter tomorrow. To learn more about the Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search, please visit the web site at [www.ctd.northwestern.edu/numats](http://www.ctd.northwestern.edu/numats). If you have any questions about eligibility, please contact Mr. renko at [renkok@dearborn.k12.mi.us](mailto:renkok@dearborn.k12.mi.us).

**If you have difficulty understanding this notification, please call the Bilingual and Compensatory Education office at 827-3007.**

ALBANIAN: Ju lutemi telefononi zyren e Programit Dygjuhësor në 827-3007 për colo vështirësi në kuptimin e këtij njoftimi.

ARABIC: إذا كان لديك أية استفسارات، الرجاء الاتصال بالمكتب ثنائي اللغة على رقم 827-3007.

ITALIAN: Chiamano l'ufficio Bilingual and Compensatory Education 827-3007 se incontrano difficoltà a capire questae nota.

ROMANIAN: Daca nu intelegeti acest mesaj va rugam sa sunati la biroul Bilingual cu numarul 827-3007.

SPANISH: Por favor, llamen la oficina de Bilingual and Compensatory Education 827-3007 se no comprendon esta nota.

## School Bus Safety Week is October 18 – October 22, 2010



It is a great time to remind students about bus safety:

- Ø Be on time to your bus stop – 5 minutes early is best.
- Ø Wait for the bus in a safe spot – not in the street. Respect the property where you wait.
- Ø Don't run to the bus. Wait for the bus to come to a complete stop and the driver opens the door.
- Ø Never run after a school bus – there are too many blind spots around a school bus.
- Ø Use the handrail.
- Ø Be careful not to wear clothing with long drawstrings.
- Ø On the bus - stay seated, talk quietly, pack in your lap, and hands to yourself.
- Ø Never put anything out a school bus window.
- Ø Never play with emergency equipment, including windows and doors.
- Ø Getting off the bus – wait for the bus to come to a complete stop, wait your turn, and no pushing.
- Ø Off the bus – move away from the bus, stay in clear view, and never reach under the bus to retrieve anything.
- Ø If you have a question or problem please speak with the bus driver.
- Ø Be smart, be alert, and be safe.