

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE STAFF AT BEN STEELE!

December Events

- 3 - Winter NWEA testing begins for all 6th-8th graders
Girls' BB tourney begins
- 4 - Wrestling City Prelims - TBA
- 6 - Wrestling City Finals - TBA
- 7 - Girls' BB Championship
location TBA
- 10 - Boys' BB begins at BSMS
- 11 - Choir Concert @ 7:00 PM
- 14 - BSMS Holiday Dance @ 3:15
- 15 - Orchestra Holiday Book Fair
Fundraiser at Barnes & Noble
- 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- 22 - 1 - Winter Break - No School

January Events

- 2 - First Day Back to School
Happy New Year!
- 3 - Boys' BB at BSMS @ 4:30
- 4 - Boys' BB at LCMS @ 4:30
- 8 - Boys' BB at BSMS @ 4:30
- 10 - Boys' BB at RSMS @ 4:30
- 14 - PIR day - No School for kids
- 15 - 2nd Semester Begins
Boys' BB at BSMS @ 4:30
- 17 - Geography Bee Prelims
Boys' BB at CRMS @ 4:30
- 21 - Boys' BB at BSMS @ 4:30
- 22 - 6th Grade to Alberta Bair
Boys' BB at BSMS @ 4:30
- 24 - Geography Bee Finals in the
Library at 12:30 PM
Boys' BB at MCMS @ 4:30
- 29 - Boys' BB at WJMS @ 4:30
- 31 - Boys' BB Playoffs Begin
Location TBA

NWEA Testing This Month

During the month of December, students at Ben Steele will be completing the winter NWEA benchmark testing in Reading and Mathematics. It is important that your student comes prepared for these tests, as they provide additional insight into the progress of each student participating. Testing will take place in students' Advisory classrooms during the week of December 3rd. Our goal is to finish testing before the winter break so we can hit the ground running in January, and finish the semester strong. Thank you for helping your student be ready for the upcoming assessment!

Geography Bee Coming Up

All Ben Steele students will be given the opportunity to participate in the upcoming Geography Bee. Practice rounds will occur in Social Studies classes during the week of January 17th to determine the finalists from each classroom and grade level. Those students qualifying will move on to the final round and compete against their peers on January 24th at 12:30 PM, in the Ben Steele Library. Parents are welcome to attend the final event, and will be notified if their student qualifies for this final competition. Good luck to all of our students! Students can log on to the National Geographic website to learn more about how to prepare for the National Geography Bee!

Boys' Basketball at BSMS

On December 10th, our 6th-8th grade boys will begin their winter basketball season at Ben Steele! 8th grade boys will try out for 2 competitive teams that will travel to each middle school to compete during the week. 8th grade boys not making the traveling team will also form teams and compete against other middle schools on Saturday mornings. 6th - 7th grade teams will also compete on Saturday mornings.

February Events

- 1 - Round #2 Boys' BB Playoffs -
Location TBA
- 4 - Boys' BB Semi Final Game
Volleyball begins at BSMS
- 5 - Boys' BB Championship Game
Location TBA
- 6 - Incoming 9th Grade Parent
Meeting at West High @ 6:00
- 8 - 11 - No School for Students
- 16 - Middle School Solo and
Ensemble Festival at RSMS
- 19 - Band Concert at BSMS @ 7:00
- 21 - Girls' VB at BSMS @ 4:30
- 22 - Girls' VB at LCMS @ 4:30
- 23 - Team Champs Wrestling
Tournament at BSMS
- 26 - Girls' VB at BSMS @ 4:30
- 28 - Girls' VB at RSMS @ 4:30

Access the Ben Steele website to place your Holiday (and Basketball) order of Ben Steele Spirit Wear! The site is only open from November 29th until midnight on December 9th!

**Please update
our front office if
your address or
phone number
changes!**

Thank you Shirley Steele

On Friday, November 16th, Ben Steele Middle School celebrated Veterans Day and Mr. Steele's 101st birthday with Mrs. Shirley Steele, Julie and Jim Jorgenson (Ben's daughter) and a large crowd of veterans. The assembly was a special time to recognize those who have served, and continue to serve, our great country. When asked to speak, Shirley made it a point to tell all of us that she wanted to talk to the kids, "her kids" as she refers to all 800 Ben Steele students. During her short presentation, she reinforced the importance of reading and building our vocabulary in order to be prepared to face some of life's challenges using our words. Shirley told us, "Words are so important; words are powerful. Words can split families, end a friendship, divide a country and start a war. Good words, proper words, the right words can end a war, can bring reason, sanity, unity..." Her words of wisdom will be with all of us for years to come. Thank you Shirley Steele!

