BARRE TOWN MIDDLE AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

70 Websterville Road Barre, VT 05641 (802)476-6617 FAX: (802)479-5723 btmes.org

September 2018



Welcome Back!

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year!

What follows are a few highlighted aspects of your school that we wanted you to be aware of for the current year...

- *In an effort to make our bus routes efficient (both financially and timely), we have added an additional bus to the A routes (middle school) to help ensure that buses return to school for on-time pick-up and drop-off for the B routes (elementary). Another modification that we have worked out with our transportation vendor, STA, is that preschool students will be on any of the 8 buses on the B run. Past practice had specific buses devoted to preschool students. This adjustment also means that we now have a rider on each B run.
- *Effective this school year, Don McMahon and Stacy Anderson are the Co-Directors of Special Education for the Barre Supervisory Union. Stacy will keep her office at BCEMS with primary responsibilities there along with additional oversight of the BSU PreK intensive needs program (for students needing therapeutic and occupational support) located at BTMES. Don will continue to keep his office at BTMES with his primary responsibility at BT and oversight of Spaulding High School. Together, Don and Stacy will share in supervisory responsibilities.
- *The Barre Supervisory Union has updated the AUP form (Acceptable Use Policy for Technology). Simply stated, parents and guardians who wish to terminate their student's access to student technology are to fill out and return the form. If you are fine with your child using student technology, there is no need to return the form. Understanding that this has been a large shift, if you filled out and returned the form, but do want your child to have technology access, please call the school and we will shred your form.
- *Wanting to chaperone a field trip or work in your child's classroom? All volunteers and chaperones who are in contact with students and out of sight from the teacher will need to work with Central Office to have a background check completed prior to any trip or volunteer work. For your convenience, we will have a table set-up at the September elementary Open House to begin the paperwork process and/or ask clarifying questions of our Human Resources Department.
- *All staff have received training on A.L.I.C.E. (active shooter response training). Throughout this Fall, we will devote time to answering specific questions and together, create age-appropriate curriculum for all of our students at BTMES. Not sure what A.L.I.C.E. is? Want to learn more? Check-out the information via https://www.alicetraining.com/ Additionally, please don't hesitate to speak to any administrator about any specific concerns or thoughts you might have.
- *At the preschool through grade 4 levels, we continue to work together on mirroring our Responsive Classroom and PBIS practices to create a safe, caring and positive culture for all. In grades 5 through 8, staff and students continue their training and engagement in Developmental Designs for a second year, with a focus on building community, understanding the importance of the social and emotional in this transitional time of their lives. Reviewing expectations, modeling and practicing are key elements that we're all working on these first few weeks of school.

As this new year begins we thank you for the opportunity to work with your students, an honor that we do not hold lightly. It is our hope to serve the children of the Barre Town community with excellence and equity. We value your input and encourage you to reach out with questions and ideas.

Yours in education,

Erica Pearson, Assistant Principal Jennifer Nye, Principal K-4 Scott Griggs, Principal 5-8



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Crops by Kids News

A big thank you goes out to all Barre Town parents, teachers, staff, UVM Master Gardeners, Paul Belisle and his crew. and community members for their help in the Crops by Kids garden this summer. Children, families and community members worked together to cover watering, weeding and harvesting vegetables as they ripened. Fourteen families signed up this year to help with the garden. With the dry spell, the garden needed lots of watering. Thanks so much for all your efforts! Feel free to take a minute to stop in to see how great everything looks.

The summer library program was very well attended again this year. This year the theme was Colors in the Garden. We looked at purple beans, orange carrots, and blueberries (did you know we have blueberries?) We planted seeds several times throughout the summer for a continuous supply of veggies. Many of the crops will be used by the kitchen staff to incorporate into daily lunch offerings.

As we have in the past, we will once again host the CBK Farmer's Market on Thursday, September 27th, the night of the PK-4 Open House. All proceeds from the market go to support the garden, as does any money made from the Harvest Supper served that evening.

Think about having dinner with your family at school before visiting the classrooms. It might make your life a little easier. Look for an attached flyer.

Last year the **Farmer's Market** and **Harvest Supper** were a

great success — let's make every effort to have this year be as fabulous as the last. Last year, we had plain and painted pumpkins for sale, donated vegetables, sunflowers and delicious vegetables from the Crops by Kids garden. If you have extra vegetables that you are willing to donate, please contact Deb Curtis at 476-7871, dcurtbte@u61.net or just bring them to school the day of the Farmer's Market.

Did you know we are growing kiwi? This small, hardy kiwi is a perennial vine that hails from Siberia. It isn't the same fruit that you can purchase in the grocery store. This bald green, sweet tasting fruit is about the size of a grape, the hardy kiwi is a tough, aggressive vine that produces fruit in abundance as you can see if you look up when in the pergola. We will have the vines pruned in the spring.

As you are up at school this fall, please take a minute to walk through the garden and enjoy the peace and serenity. Feel free to sample produce that is not marked as designated for the school. We do ask that you supervise your children while on school grounds. Many students are familiar with the garden due to classroom visits but still need reminding about when and how to pick vegetables.

Deb Curtis, Garden
Coordinator, will offer a 4 week,
afterschool garden club for a
randomly selected group of second
graders during September and
October. Watch for a flyer to
come home. If you have
questions, send an email or call.
(see contact information above)

Happy Gardening....

Crops by Kids Farmer's Market At Open House

We have had a great growing season. Now it is time to share what we have grown. Please stop by the Farmer's Market in the lobby on the night of Open House. We will have edible and decorative produce from the Crops by Kids garden as well as excess vegetables from our community gardeners. All proceeds go to the Crops by Kids garden. See you there.



Harvest Help Needed

We are looking for people to assist in preparing for our Annual Open House. We are in need of some "adult helpers" on Tuesday-Thursday (September 25th-27th), even a couple of hours would be helpful.



<u>Tuesday, September</u> 25th, we are painting the pumpkins white, 9am to 2:30pm, come anytime, a very easy fun day!

Wednesday, September 26th, we will be decorating the pumpkins for the Harvest Market—9am to 2:30pm (rain or shine). This a real fun day! You do not have to have any special talents!

<u>Thursday</u>, <u>September</u> 27th, we need help setting up the Harvest Market 8:30am to 3:00pm.

<u>Thursday September 27th</u> helping with the market selling 4:30pm to 8:00pm followed by clean up.

If you are available and would like to be part of this exciting event, please contact Susan Barnard at sbarnard@trans-video.net for more information.



Greetings from the Art & Design Lab



Greetings and happy new school year! We're delighted to provide quality art, design and technology education to Barre Town students. Our overarching goals are to expose students to a broad range of materials while developing a palette of strategies for creative problem-solving.

We will show the products of this labor regularly throughout the school. Special exhibitions will also be displayed in The Gallery at Barre Town, our dedicated space for celebrating students' creative achievements. Additionally, we continue to work with our Barre City and Spaulding colleagues to feature the talent of students in grades K-12 at the annual "Barre Supervisory Union Art Show." This exhibit is scheduled to open at the Aldrich Public Library on Tuesday, February 19th and run through March 29th. An opening reception will be held on the 19th from 5:30-6:30 p.m. (The snow date is February 21th.) Selections for these exhibits are based on work that exemplify the core standards that students are learning.

As a final thought, please remind your child to wear clothes that are okay to get dirty. Getting messy is often integral to creativity. We make every effort to keep students clean and neat when we use messy materials and appreciate your understanding that this process is part of your child's learning.

We invite you to contact us with your ideas, insights, and input.

Anne Leeds, grades K-5, aleedbte@u61.net, ext. 5210

Michael Pope, grades 6-8, mpopebte@u61.net, ext. 5198

Family School Coordinator by Dianna Fecher

The Importance of Breakfast

The morning rush is on! Waking the family up, double checking backpacks for homework and lunch boxes, being sure the children are dressed, teeth and hair brushed, hands and faces washed – whew! It can be exhausting to think of it all! And then, there is breakfast. Most of us have heard the adage that "breakfast is brain food". Is there any truth to this claim? How important is breakfast for our students?

Well, studies show that tests scores are significantly higher in those who eat breakfast, as opposed to those who have no breakfast, or simply drink an Energy Drink. In an article entitled "The Seven Psychological Benefits of Students Eating Breakfast", published on www.InnerDrive.Com, we read that eating a balanced breakfast can: "enhance memory, increase concentration, establish better eating habits throughout the day, improve physical and mental health, boost energy levels, and increase the likelihood of physical activity!"

Here at BTMES, we understand the importance of offering healthy food choices for our students and staff. For the mornings when you just "run out of time", please be assured that your child can still enjoy a healthy breakfast, at very low cost to you. If you are looking for some quick, healthy breakfast ideas at home, check out: "Fifteen On-The-Go Breakfast Recipes" at www.parenting.com. Here is one of the recipes on that site:

Morning Milkshake

What you need:

- 1 cup milk
- 1 tablespoon honey or sugar
- 1 tablespoon peanut butter
- 1 banana, frozen (or fresh bananas and add a handful of ice cubes)

1/4 tsp. cinnamon

Combine all ingredients in a blender and blend until smooth.



Parents and Guardians of Grade 5-12 Barre SU Students: Infinite Campus

Parent Portal Information

We have a link on our website to Infinite Campus so that parents of grades 5-8 students can keep apprised of their students' grades throughout the year. If you forgot or misplaced your parent portal password or require an account, please email kbensbte@u61.net to request that a letter be sent to you with this information.

Sign up for an Infinite Campus Portal Account:

- 1. Contact the person listed below at your school.
- 2. Provide your name and email, and your students' name(s)
- 3. They will send you the information to set up your account.

If you have students in more than one school, you only need to contact one school and provide all information.

<u> </u>	School	Contact Person	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
<u> </u>	Barre City Middle School Andra Holbrook		aholbbce@u61.net	476-6541 x4310
^	Barre Town Middle School	Kim Benson	kbensbte@u61.net	476-6617 x6305
_	Spaulding High School	Christel Cross	ccrossshs@u61.net	476-4811 x1121
	Central Vt Career Ctr	Linda Blow	lblowcvcc@u61.net	476-4811 x1139

Calling All Gardeners

Once again we will be holding our annual

Crops by Kids Farmer's Market at the PK-4 Open House on Thursday, September 27. As in past years, we receive donations of produce from our supportive community that we are always so thankful for. The produce sold on this evening helps to support our Crops by Kids garden. We would like to invite donations from family gardeners. If you have grown an excess of garden products or any other items that could be sold, we'd love to add it to the market. If you have questions or would like to donate, please contact Tina Lunt at 476-6617 ext. 6306 or email tluntbte@u61.net.

Parent/Student Handbook

As we embark on another school year, we would like to welcome you and are looking forward to a great year working with you!

In the spirit of saving paper and labor costs to print the entire 2018-2019 Parent/Student handbook it is available for your review online. Please visit our website at www.btmes.org to review. If you would like a paper copy of this year's handbook, please call Tina Lunt at 476-6617 ext. 6307. She will be happy to send one home with your child.



Some Important Information...

ABSENT STUDENT?

- ⇒ Call 476-6617
- ⇒ Press "1"
- ⇒ Leave a message regarding the absent student

Just a Reminder

Head Lice - Check Often, Check Weekly

Welcome back from vacation. Many of you have traveled visiting family, friends, and vacation destinations. Traveling, summer camps, and contact with others may increase a person's exposure to head lice. Following a lengthy vacation schools may see an

The Nurse's Office has a direct phone line. Please feel free to use it should it become necessary.

Phone: (802) 477-5088

Transportation Questions?

Please contact Terrie Murray, Barre Town
Transportation Coordinator, at 476-6617
ext. 6331 or email tmurrbte@u61.net.

Thank you!



Student Arrival and Dismissal Information

Arrival Information

- Middle school students in grades 5-8 may not be dropped off at school before 7:30 am
- Elementary school students in grades PreK-4 may not be dropped off at school before 8:30 am
- Students who are dropped off earlier than the stated times must be registered with the YMCA's Before School program. There is a fee associated with this program. This program is available to students K-8.
- If a student is dropped off before stated times and is not registered with the YMCA, families will be called to come pick the student back up.

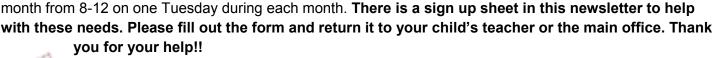
Dismissal Information

- Middle school dismissal is at 2:30 pm.
- Middle school students may not wait to be picked up after 2:30 pm anywhere in the building (including the lobby, cafeteria, or library) unless they are signed up for a supervised activity (such as homework club). Teachers will be giving information on the beginning date and schedule of such activities very soon.
- Middle school students who are not riding a bus must be signed out in the lobby by the adult picking them up, students may not meet a ride in the parking lot.
- Elementary school dismissal is at 3:30 pm.
- Parent pick up for elementary school students is at 3:25 pm in the cafeteria. The sign out sheets for parent pick up are located in the cafeteria.

PTO Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO)

Our first Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting will be Tuesday, September 18th at 6:30pm in the BTMES Library. Everyone is welcome. You do not need to be a member to visit and check us out. Come once or all the time, we welcome input! We meet every third Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm. Our next meeting dates are: September 18th and October 16th at 6:30pm in the BTMES Library. Please join us!

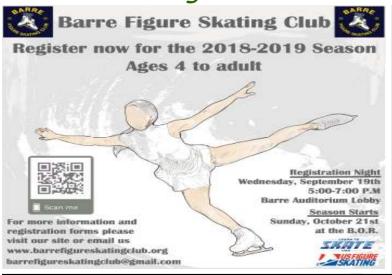
We are in need of more volunteers! At the end of the school year, three PTO members will have their children graduate 8th grade and go onto high school. We are deeply grateful for these dedicated parents and all they have done to support their PTO and BTMES. In order for the PTO to continue their important work of supporting our children and teachers, we need to have volunteers. You do not have to attend a meeting to help. We need help with cutting Box Tops and putting them into bags of 50 each. We also need help with Family Movie Nights, fundraising events and helping in our PTO Bookstore that we hold once a



We do collect Box Tops. If you could trim these, that would be very helpful. Thank you!

Megan Spaulding - Secretary, Megans5507@gmail.com

Other Offerings



BYSA BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

Girls and Boys Grade 1-6
Registrations will be
September 1st through September 31, 2018

Please visit Barreyouthsports.com for the upcoming instructions and online registration detail.

WINTER IS COMING!!!



REGISTRATION FOR BYSA HOCKEY IS OPEN!!!

PROGRAMS START OCT. 21st

REGISTRATION NIGHT/EQUIPMENT SWAP SEPT. 19TH - 5:30-7:00PM (AUD BASEMENT)

FREE REGISTRATION FOR NEW PLAYERS 8 AND OLDER

- WE'RE IN DESPERATE NEED OF GIRLS BORN IN 2005, 2006 OR 2007 TO FORM A 13U TEAM
- FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE ERIC HUTCHINS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
- FAMILY DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE
- FREE LEARN TO PLAY IN NOVEMBER CHECK WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO



Preschool – Grade 4 2018-2019 Open House

Thursday, September 27, 2018

We welcome you to join us for this annual event. This is a great opportunity to meet your child(s) team of teachers and to help support your school.

Open House

Classrooms will be open between the hours of 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. for visits.

Farmers Market in the gym

Produce and Fall decorations will be available for purchase. Prices range from \$0.50 - \$25.00. All proceeds go to our Crops by Kids Garden.

PTO Bookstore in the gym

The BTMES PTO Bookstore will be open and available for families to explore and/or purchase. Pricesrange from \$0.10 - \$12.00. All proceeds support the Barre Town Parent Teacher Organization.

Harvest Dinner in the dining room

The Abbey Group will be serving dinner starting at 5:00 p.m. Tickets will be available for purchase <u>at the</u> <u>door</u>. The cost is \$5.00/per person or \$20.00/for a family of five. Cash or checks only please.

Menu:

Pasta with Meat or Marinara

Vermont Tossed Salad

Homemade Wheat Rolls

Chocolate Zucchini Cake with Cream Cheese Frosting

Fresh Farm Milk





Sign Up Opportunities To Support PTO

(Parent Teacher Organization)

Please fill out and return to your child's teacher or the main office. Thank you!!!

Please check the boxes that you would be interested in helping. Then simply fill out your contact information so we can reach you. We appreciate your help.

- PTO Family Movie Nights: popping popcorn, selling popcorn/logo gear.
- Trimming Box Tops and putting them into bags of 50 each.
- PTO Bookstore: every first Tuesday of the month we hold a bookstore in the lobby from 8am to noon. We need help selling books.
- Fundraising events

Name of adult:	
Phone number:	
Email address:	
Names of children in school & grades:	

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Welcome to the Barre Town band program. I look forward to teaching all 4th graders to play band instruments this year! Please make note of all information below and contact me with any questions.

• All 4th graders will see demonstrations of band instruments in their first band classes, which will help them (and you) choose an instrument to play this year. Lessons are provided on:

Flute, Clarinet, Alto Sax, Trumpet and Trombone

- 4th Grade Band at Barre Town School is a commitment for the entire school year.
- A Band Survey and information from <u>Ellis Music Co.</u> are attached to this letter. Please return the Band Survey to your classroom teacher **on or before Tues. Sept. 11**. Please read all attached information carefully. It lets you know the cost of monthly rent, and how much you should plan to pay up front to start the rental period.

FOURTH GRADE BAND NIGHT - Monday Sept. 17 in the BTMES Dining Room. Starts at 6 PM

- <u>Ellis Music</u> will deliver instruments, books and accessories to the Dining Room here at school on <u>Monday, Sept. 17, starting at 6:00 PM</u>. If you indicate on the survey that you will rent from <u>Ellis Music</u>, an instrument will be reserved for you to pick up that evening.
- Please indicate whether you will be picking up or renting online from Ellis Music.
- If you will be renting a school instrument (see attached form for details) you will also be paying for and receiving the instrument from the school on Mon. Sept. 17, starting at 6 PM.
- If you already have an instrument for your child, please indicate that on the Band Survey and bring the instrument to school **ASAP** so that I can make sure it is in good playing condition.
- **Important:** If you find that renting an instrument poses a financial hardship, the school has a limited number of instruments to loan to families at a low cost. Information on renting school instruments is included in this packet.
- All Barre Town band students should have an area at home where they can practice at least 15 minutes every day. Practice records are checked in every weekly band class.
 **Please consider purchasing a folding music stand (\$20) for home practice. It really helps encourage good habits for playing with correct posture.
- Students have a weekly 40-minute band class. Lessons with instruments begin on Tues. Sept. 18.
- Our 4th Grade band performs two concerts this year, Friday, February 1 & Thursday, June 6, 2019.

Sincerely, Brent R. White – Barre Town Band Director bwhitbte@u61.net



Located just off Interstate 89 Exit 3 in Vermont

Payments/Correspondence

P.O. Box 437 Bethel, VT 05032 UPS/FedEx Shipping

1709 Vermont Route 107 Bethel, VT 05032 Musical Instrument Sales, Rentals, Repairs & Accessories

~ Family owned and operated since 1946 ~

Phone: (802) 234-6400 • Fax: (802) 234-5024

Online at ELLISMUSIC.COM

☐ ELLIS RENTAL PROGRAM: Quality Instruments ~ Reasonable Rates ~ Friendly Service
☐

<u>r</u>	SENTAL PRIC	ING INFORMATION	<u>v</u>
Instrument (Note: certain schools may not offer lessons on all instruments listed below)	Rental Rate (sales tax will be added if applicable)	Repair & Replacement Plan (covers the instrument in case of fire, theft, or accidental damage)	Initial Payment (will vary due to cost of lesson book and other accessories that may be needed)
Flute ~ Clarinet Trumpet ~ Trombone Drum Kit or Percussion Kit Violin ~ Viola Guitar	\$20 per month	\$5 one-time fee	Approximate Total \$60 Includes 2 months rent, R&RP, Lesson book
Oboe Alto Saxophone Cello	\$35 per month	\$8 one-time fee	Approximate Total \$95 Includes 2 months rent, R&RP, Lesson book
Bass Clarinet Tenor Saxophone French Horn Euphonium (Baritone Horn) String Bass	\$45 per month	\$10 one-time fee	Approximate Total \$120 Includes 2 months rent, R&RP, Lesson book
Bassoon	\$80 per month	\$15 one-time fee	Approximate Total \$195 Includes 2 months rent, R&RP, Lesson book

Advantages of renting from ELLIS MUSIC:

- Authorized dealer for the best instrument brands, including Yamaha, Gemeinhardt, Fox, Ludwig, and Conn-Selmer.
- Weekly pick-up and delivery service to most schools throughout the academic year.
- All instruments discounted at least 10% off manufacturer's list price, with an additional discount for early payoff.
- Payment plans available to help finance purchase.
- Rent credit applies toward purchase of the rental instrument or another instrument of equal or greater value.
- Equity transfers when changing to a different instrument.
- Reeds, cleaning supplies, lesson books, and other accessories available for purchase online or by phone.
- Complete in-house repair facilities with professionally trained repair technicians!
- Free loaners available for most instruments if the rental instrument needs repair.
- One-time only repair and replacement fee.
- Supporter of the arts in Vermont and New Hampshire through underwriting and student scholarships.

A completed contract, credit card info, and initial payment (cash, check, MC/VISA) are due prior to receiving an instrument. Contract requires signature of the adult who will be responsible for all payments.

Can't make it to your school's rental night? Rent online at EllisMusic.com

BAND INSTRUMENT SIGN UP - GRADE 4

The purpose of this form is to determine which instrument your child is interested in studying in Band this year.

Please fill out and return this form to your child's teacher no later than Tues. September 11, 2018.

This will ensure your child has an instrument and book for their first lesson the week of September 18th,

*If this form is not con	npleted and reti	orned in time, an instru	ment of teacher	's choice will be assigned.
Student Name:		Teach	er:	
Parent/Guardian Name:				
Phone Number(s):		Emai	l(s):	
Les	sons are offered	at Barre Town School or	n the following in	struments:
Flute	Clarinet	Alto Saxophone		Trombone
	(*141111)********************	STUDENTS:		
Having see	n the demonstrat	ion, which instrument lis	sted above would	you like to learn?
	Ple	ase pick a first and secon	nd choice.	
First Choice:		Sec	ond Choice:	
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,				
		PARENTS/GUARDI.	ANS:	
at 6 PM in the BTMES	dining room to	pick up instruments f	rom Ellis Music	Night on Monday Sept. 17 or from the school, nusic stand you may need.
	Plea	se check the appropriate	box below:	
We will be rent	ing an instrume	nt from Ellis Music Co		
First choice instrument	will be reserved	for you on 9/17 unless I	contact you abou	t a change. Please contact me
				anged on Instrument Night,
We already ha	ve a band instru	ment for our child to u	ise.	
Instruments that are not	rented or loaned	MUST be checked by N	Ar. White for play	ying condition ASAP.
The state of the s		MES loaner instrument		
				speriencing financial hardship
If the requested instrum	ent is available,	you will be notified by p	hone or email. A	Loaner Contract will need to
be completed on Instrun	nent Night. You	will be asked to pay a or	ne-time fee of \$4	5 and to purchase a band boo
				OTE: Please plan to pay the
loaner fee on Instrument	t Night unless vo	m have already made arr	angements with t	he school or Mr White



Come Join Us!!!

Barre Town Middle & Elementary School

is participating in Walk to School Day on

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

Join children and adults around the world to celebrate the benefits of walking and bicycling.

About our event:

Where: Rock Of Ages Visitor Center

Grades 5 - 8: Begin at 7:30 a.m.

Grades K-4: Begin at 8:30 a.m.

Please contact **Dianna Fecher** at 476-6617 x 6188 with any questions you may have.

walkbiketoschool.org

Walk to School Day is coordinated in the U.S.A. by the National Center for Safe Routes to School



September

October

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Labor Day— No School for Students	4	5 School Board Meeting—5:30 p.m. Library	6	7
10	11	12 Walk to School Day	13	14
17 Band Instrument Pick up Night 6pm—Dining Room	18 PTO Mtg. 6:30 in Library	19 Barre Town Facilities/Transportation /Finance 6pm—Library	20	21
24	25	26	27 Open House – PK-4th Harvest Supper & Farmers Market 5:30 –7:00 pm	28







Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2	3 School Board Meeting—6 p.m. Library	4 Parent/Teacher Conferences—1/2 Day for Students	5 Staff Development Day—No school for students
8 Columbus Day— No School for Students	9 PTO Bookstore 8am-12pm Lobby	10 Student Picture Day	11	12
15	16 PTO Mtg. 6:30 in Library	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		