



2020-2021

BMS Newsletter #37 June 7th-11th

Westport Schools COVID Reporting Hotline: if you've tested positive or have been directly exposed to a positive case, please call: 203-341-1016

**DISTANCE/REMOTE
LEARNING TECH HELP
CENTER LINK**



Bedford Middle School's
Student Newspaper

PRINCIPAL'S ANNOUNCEMENT

After this week, only 5 and ½ school days remain with the final half-day taking place on Monday, June 21, 2021! BMS/CMS dismissal time is 12:40 p.m. on 06/21/2021. We will hold a school supply drive so students can drop-off any unwanted items for donation (ex. Binders, pencil cases, folders, packs, etc.) in the BMS main entrance lobby; items will be collected, organized and quarantined. The BMS Spirit and Leadership group will provide labeled boxes throughout the school for students to donate gently used school items. More information will be shared regarding school supplies for the 2021-22 school year as well as the opening 6th grade orientation.

Calling All Rising 9th Graders!

Join the Staples High School Library Media Specialists to gear-up for the Fall at Staples! Join us in the SHS Library Media Center's Maker Space and library to make custom Staples swag and brush up on your technology readiness skills. Learn the top Google and Schoology tips and tricks and get organized so that you are ready for a smooth start to high school!

There will be two sessions offered:

- Workshop #1(5 sessions): July 26th through 30th; 9:30-11:30 am; Instructor: Mrs. Moeller nmoeller@westportps.org
- Workshop #2 (5 sessions): Aug 2nd through 6th; 12:30-2:30 pm; Instructor: Ms. Cirino jecirino@westportps.org

Please register for this free course by June 10th: [REGISTRATION LINK](#)

8th Grade Chromebook Collection Process

This year, your 8th grader was assigned a district 1) Chromebook with 2) charger and 3) protective case. On Friday, June 18, 2021, the 8th grade teaching teams will be collecting these three items.

Please note:

- Students participating in the summer extended school year program are asked to keep their device through the end of the summer program. ESY teachers will collect school assigned Chromebooks, chargers, and cases at the end of the summer program.
- Distance learning students are asked to drop off their Chromebooks, chargers, and cases on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 to the designated drop off location in the main office.

Here is the cost list for any component not returned; an accountability will be assessed based on each missing item:

- \$230 for a Chromebook
- \$30 for the Chromebook charger
- \$25 for the Chromebook case

Staples High School is a BYOD (bring your own device) school; every SHS student will bring their own personally-owned device to school fully charged every day. For more information please click on <http://byod.westportps.org>. Families that qualify for free/reduced lunch, or the Westport Warm Up program through the Town, can be provided with a student laptop for high school; please contact SHS for the application. Incoming 9th grade students can bring their laptops to their assigned high school orientation day prior to the start of school to connect to SHS's network prior to the first day of classes. Technical help will be available; Staples will send out additional information in August.

6th & 7th Grade Chromebook Collection Process

This year your child was assigned a district 1) Chromebook, 2) Chromebook charger, and 3) Chromebook case. Students participating in the summer ESY program will be expected to bring their assigned Chromebook to class each day. All other students will be expected to safely store their assigned Chromebook over the summer; this will be your child's assigned Chromebook for the 2021-2022 school year. To safely store it, please do the following:

- Completely power it off and close the lid fully with nothing stored between the screen and the keyboard
- Wrap up the assigned charger and keep the charger with the device inside the case
- Store the case flat with nothing on top of it in a relatively cool, dry place

The assigned Chromebook can be used by your child over the summer, if you so choose, but it is not mandatory. Please note there is no tech support or repair services for student devices until the start of school in August.

If your child returns to school in the fall and is missing a component an accountability will be assessed and must be paid before a replacement will be provided.

- \$230 for a Chromebook
- \$30 for the Chromebook charger
- \$25 for the Chromebook case

If you know you are transferring from the Westport schools over the summer, please have your child return their Chromebook, Chromebook charger, and Chromebook case to their team leader on Friday, June 18th. If you transfer over the summer please return the items to the main office with your child's name clearly marked on each component.

BMS Allies in Action for Pride Month



Check out this video [LINK: Connections Video](#) created by the Staples Gender Sexuality Alliance (SHS GSA) and Westport Pride!



Hear NEW data on Westport Youth next week!

Dear Friends of Westport Department of Human Services,

I am pleased to invite you to attend an upcoming [Westport Prevention Coalition](#) meeting on Tuesday, June 15th at 3 p.m. to learn about Westport's recent student survey findings.

Background: The Town of Westport's [Department of Human Services](#) (DHS) is fortunate to partner with [Positive Directions](#), our local Prevention Council, and the [Westport Public Schools](#) to coordinate and enhance prevention services in our community. Together with the Westport Prevention Coalition, our partnership utilizes best practices, known as the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF), to establish a comprehensive approach to prevention services. Our goal is to engage our community in effective prevention and intervention efforts by increasing awareness of mental health issues, alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (ATOD) among residents and providing prevention education programs supporting children's positive development.

Part of the comprehensive process for addressing substance misuse and related behavioral health problems is to engage in regular needs assessments to inform our work. The results of Westport's 2021 [Search Institute](#) Developmental Relationships Survey will provide us with actionable data to help prioritize community needs and develop a strategic plan that addresses substance use and mental health issues in Westport.

There are two opportunities to hear data measuring student perceptions of relationships, equity, social-emotional competencies, and current events, including substance use:

1. Monday, June 14th at 7 p.m. [Westport Board of Education](#) (in-person/online/or Education Access TV)
2. Tuesday, June 15th 3-4:30 p.m. The Westport Prevention Coalition ([virtual meeting Zoom link](#))

I hope you will join the Westport Prevention Coalition and our [Westport Together](#) partners in a robust conversation of the survey findings.

Face masks all the way to the last day of school 6/21/21!

Now is not the time to let our guard down! We've been doing incredibly well with no need to contact trace any BMS-related cases since March. Face masks are still required to be worn at all times while inside the school with the exception of lunch. Both the CDC and the Department of Public Health have maintained their recommendation for masks inside the school building for both vaccinated and unvaccinated students and staff for the remainder of the current school year. However, with our low community transmission rates in both the town and our schools, as well as an increasing number of vaccinated staff and students, masks will no longer be required for students when outdoors for both recess and PE. We will continue to move towards a return to

complete normalcy as quickly as possible, while keeping appropriate measures in place to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

- [Updated-Outdoor-Events-and-EOY.pdf \(ct.gov\)](#)
- [20210520-DPH-Order-Regarding-Universal-Masking.pdf \(ct.gov\)](#)
- [Universal Mask Policies in School Buildings \(ct.gov\)](#)
- [DPH_Covid_Rules_Vaccinated_5-20-21.indd \(ct.gov\)](#)

How do I pick up my child during the school day for an appointment?

If you plan to pick up your child from school during the day, please:

1. Provide your child with a signed note with a pickup time and reason (ex. doctor visit);
2. Tell your child to deliver the note directly to the BMS main office as soon as they arrive at school;
3. The main office will provide your child with a pass to leave class at the designated time;
4. Parents, when you arrive at BMS, please come to the main entrance intercom to speak with the main office;
5. If your child was provided with a pass, they will be already waiting in the main office when you arrive.

UPDATE: Transition to 9th Grade

Each 8th grade student will have the opportunity to meet individually with their Staples High School counselor. During this brief meeting, the SHS counselor will review their 9th grade schedule and answer any questions your child may have. The SHS counselors will be coming to BMS on the following dates:

- Thursday, June 10th (11:18-2:45)
- Monday, June 14th (11:18-2:45)

IMPORTANT NOTICES

- No courtesy riding on school buses through to the end of this school year; you can only ride your assigned school bus/van
- Students may not walk out of BMS for parent pickup without first signing-out in the main office; this is an important safety requirement

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE: June 14th-18th		
DAY, DATE	IN-SCHOOL HYBRID COHORT	SCHEDULE ROTATION
Monday, 6/14/21	FULL OPEN for Cohorts A & B	B-Day
Tuesday, 6/15/21	FULL OPEN for Cohorts A & B	A-Day
Wednesday, 6/16/21	FULL OPEN for Cohorts A & B - EARLY DISMISSAL AT 12:40 p.m.	C-Day
Thursday, 6/17/21	FULL OPEN for Cohorts A & B	E-Day
Friday, 6/18/21	FULL OPEN for Cohorts A & B	D-Day

Prior Newsletters

- [BMS/CMS Newsletter #1 Week of Sept 8th-11th](#)
- [BMS/CMS Newsletter #2 Week of Sept 14th-18th](#)
- [BMS/CMS Newsletter #3 Week of Sept 21st-25th](#)
- [BMS/CMS Newsletter #4 Week of Sept 29th-Oct 2nd](#)
- [BMS/CMS Newsletter #5 Week Oct 5th-9th](#)
- [BMS/CMS Newsletter #6 Week of Oct 12th-16th](#)

[BMS/CMS Newsletter #7 Week of Oct 19th-23rd](#)
[BMS/CMS Newsletter #8 Week of Oct 26th-30th](#)
[BMS/CMS Newsletter #9 Week of Nov 2nd-6th](#)
[BMS/CMS Newsletter #10 Week of Nov 9th-13th](#)
[BMS/CMS Newsletter #11 Week of Nov 16th-20th](#)
[BMS/CMS Newsletter #12 Week of Nov 23rd-25th](#)
[BMS/CMS Newsletter #13 Week of Nov 30th-Dec 4th](#)
[BMS/CMS Newsletter #14 Week of Dec 7th-Dec 11th](#)
[BMS/CMS Newsletter #15 Week of Dec 14th-Dec 18th](#)
[BMS/CMS Newsletter #16 Week of Dec 21st-23rd](#)
[BMS & CMS 2020-2021 Newsletter #17 Jan 4th-8th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #18 Jan 11th-15th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #19 Jan 19th-22nd](#)
[BMS Newsletter #20 Jan 25th-29th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #21 Feb 1st-5th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #22 Feb 8th-12th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #23 Feb 22nd-26th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #24 Mar 1st-5th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #25 Mar 8th-12th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #26 Mar 15th-19th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #27 Mar 22nd-26th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #30 April 19th-23rd](#)
[BMS Newsletter #31 April 26th-30th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #32 May 3rd-7th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #33 May 10th-14th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #34 May 17th-24th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #35 May 24th-28th](#)
[BMS Newsletter #36 June 1st-4th](#)