

# BMS 2020-2021

**Newsletter #18**  
**January 11th-15th**



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

**TECHNOLOGY HELP: For families who have tech issues when students are learning from home, please visit the tech help center linked below.**

[DISTANCE LEARNING  
TECH HELP CENTER](#)

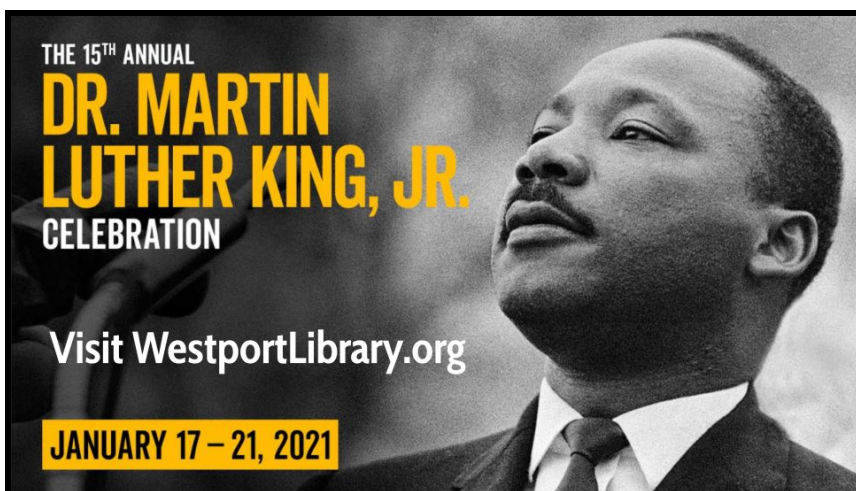
## NEW ITEMS

### **UPDATE FROM THE PRINCIPALS**

Now that both middle schools are open, we are actively planning for full time in-school learning for all students at both town middle schools noting that the distance learning option will remain available through June. Based on the positive record of cooperation on behalf of our awesome students, families, and staff, we strongly believe that we can increase the in-school student population and maintain safety for all. Please stay tuned for updates from Superintendent Scarice, the Board of Education and the middle school leadership.

### **ATTENTION 8th GRADE STUDENTS & FAMILIES: Transition to Staples High School**

The grade 8 counselors and teachers will be working with our students next week on the transition to Staples High School process. Students will be introduced to the SHS Program of Studies and the pre-registration process. [\*\*LINK: TRANSITION LETTER SENT FROM SHS TO ALL 8th GRADE FAMILIES\*\*](#)





### Interview with Layla F. Saad

A live virtual event, the celebrated author of the groundbreaking book *Me and White Supremacy*, will discuss her work with TEAM Westport's Bernicestine McLeod Bailey.

**Sunday, January 17 at 12PM**



### New Works / New Voices

Monologues towards a just world — original works written and performed by locally-based theater artists Gracy Brown, Tenisi Davis, Tamika Pettway, and Terrence Riggins.

**Thursday, January 21 at 7PM**



### What can I do next?

Towards a more perfect union. Join leaders from our partner organizations as they discuss ways to participate in the *Me and White Supremacy* 28-day challenge.

**Tuesday, January 19 at 7PM**



### The challenge begins

Open your copy of Layla F. Saad's book and join your neighbors as we examine and own responsibility for the ways in which our community has upheld white supremacy.

**February 1 – 28, 2021**

## Event Co-sponsors

The Westport Library, Westport Country Playouse, TEAM Westport, Westport/Weston Interfaith Council, and Westport/Weston Interfaith Clergy

### **CROWN AWARD FOR BMS STUDENT JOURNALISM!**

The Columbia Scholastic Press Association awarded BMS's student newspaper URSUS the coveted [Crown Award](#) for last year's set of published newspapers. The Crown Award is the highest level of recognition and we are extremely proud of last year's staff for their writing, reporting and layouts. Here is a list of this year's staff; the names in bold denote members of last year's staff: **William Boberski, Niklas Boenicke**, Teddy Brooks, **Benjamin Buchalter**, Riley Caney, Kevin Cano, Blake Carlson, **Alex Gaines, Henry Goldman, Shreyas Gorre**, Lily Gray, **Mack Haymond**, Lucas Kopreski, Avni Krishna, Kensley Laguerre, Robin Luftig, Gray McGuinness, **Camille Mergenthaler**, Elena Nasar, **Dylan O'Brien, Jordan O'Brien, Oliver Oren**, Andrew Rebello, Veronica Rodrigo, **Rei Seltzer, Matthew Stashower, Aidan Zer**, Grace Zhang, Samuel Zwick-Lavinsky

### **SCIENCE OLYMPIAD NEWS**

The BMS Science Olympiad team competed in its first invitational of the season on Dec 19th. Because of pandemic regulations, invitationals are happening in a virtual mode, wherein students log on to a website to compete in their particular events. The Connecticut state competition will be entirely virtual. This is a new way of competing, and for this reason, we asked a small group of veterans to participate in a nation-wide practice invitational. We spent a little less than 2 months preparing in earnest before the invitational, about 2 months less than our usual, non-pandemic prep. And the practice invitational offered a number of trial events that we chose to ignore. The team achieved top 10 finishes in 3 events, and were very competitive in many more. We are pleased with this result given our preparation limitations. The experience has also helped us understand the new registration system, and given students a glimpse of how to do Science Olympiad virtually!

#### **NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE: JANUARY 18th-22nd**

<b>DAY, DATE</b>	<b>IN-SCHOOL HYBRID COHORT</b>	<b>SCHEDULE ROTATION</b>
Monday, 01/18/2021	MARTIN LUTHER KING NATIONAL HOLIDAY (NO SCHOOL)	
Tuesday, 01/19/2021	Cohort B is in school full day	E-Day
Wednesday, 01/20/2021	REMOTE LEARNING ½ DAY	B-Day
Thursday, 01/21/2021	Cohort A is in school full day	D-Day
Friday, 01/22/2021	Cohort B is in school full day	C-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](#)