

Borel Bobcat Blast Parent Newsletter #10

2 files • Katherine Russell • 13 days ago • Thursday, Sep 29 at 4:30 PM • **Borel Middle School**

Borel

Middle School



Bobcat Blast Newsletter #10 September 29, 2022

Upcoming Events

9.30.22 Teacher Prof.
Development Day--no
school for students

10.3 - 10.7 Fall Break--No
school

10.10.22 Return to School

10.10.22 Indigenous
People's Day

10.11.22 Student Photo
Make Up Day

10.17-10.21 Outdoor
Education

Principal Message: Celebrating Diversity, Return on Indigenous Peoples' Day

School News:

- **Academic Achievement & Wellness: Tips for Supporting students with Progress Reports and School Loop**
- **Wellness: Have a peaceful and relaxing October Break, truck needed for Outdoor Education**
- **Equity: Clothing Guidelines, Project Pantry Snack Drive**
- **Eighth Grade Families--High School Enrollment**
- **Borel Drama Update**
- **Photo Make Up Day**
- **Yearbook --Photos for Yearbook**

Principal

Message Today was the last day students were on campus before our October Break. Thank you for a very successful first half of quarter one. Our staff has worked so hard to bring your child rigorous, engaging, relevant lessons and get



to know who they are and their many assets. School has been a safe and positive place to learn. We have dedicated staff, bright students and amazing families. There is such a rich diversity here that contributes to learning in meaningful ways. We will return to school on Monday, October 10th which is also Indigenous Peoples' Day. From our president I want to share that "On Indigenous Peoples' Day, we honor America's first inhabitants and the Tribal Nations that continue to thrive today. I encourage everyone to celebrate and recognize the many Indigenous communities and cultures that make up our great country. And from our San Mateo County, I want it to be known that "San Mateo County Parks acknowledges that our lands are located on **the ancestral homeland of the Ohlone peoples**, and that, as the original stewards of this land, the Ohlone understood the interconnectedness of all things and maintained harmony with nature for millennia."

School News

Academic Achievement & Wellness: Communication is really important to partner on bringing the best education and experience to our students. Our teachers reach out through email, phone calls and post assignments on **School Loop**. Since it is halfway through the first quarter, we also send **progress reports** home as needed. For a third of our school, this is the first time they are seeing letter grades. We send home progress reports if your child has a C- or lower or if their citizenship or behavior is cause for concern. We include comments on the progress report so you better understand what is happening. Now, for the important part-How do you help your child when looking at their grades? Here's some tips I suggest and honestly use at home with my own children.

- **Listen to your child.** Get them to talk about their day. Pick one of these curriculums and ask them what they are learning or to show you something from that platform
 - Math-Demos and Math Nations
 - Social Studies: TCI
 - ELA: Common Lit, Springboard, Ask them about what they are reading
 - Science: Open Sci Ed
- **Check School Loop** with them at least once a week. If you need help logging in, just let us know. Together, I look with my son and he explains what they are doing. If there's anything missing, I help him advocate to the teacher. Often, it's an easy fix, where he did the assignment, but didn't turn it in. If there's a low score we talk about what happened and how we can learn from that to make improvements next time.
- **Cultivate a growth mindset** and open dialog. If your child got a progress report, share your **belief that they can be successful** and there's a lot of people who can help. Hopefully, in their planner they have identified a **study buddy** for each class they can connect with when needed. Hopefully, they have a **quiet place to study after school** for at least 1 hour. If they don't have a buddy or a place, encourage them to reach out to their teachers or their counselor to make a plan. More information will be coming soon about an our school Homework Club at Borel. Right now our library is open on Wednesdays and Fridays for an hour after school.

Wellness: We hope you all enjoy a relaxing and peaceful October Break. Here's a picture of the Peace Wheels that Ms. Hilleli's students made.

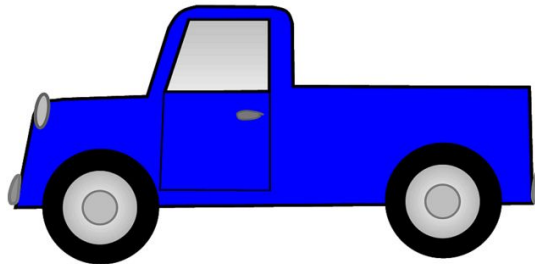
There are many great books in the library to curl up



with and enjoy. If there's anything you need, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Outdoor Ed for 6th grade is almost here!

This is a great academic and social emotional program to support a positive connection to each other.



Help needed- We are looking for a parent who can

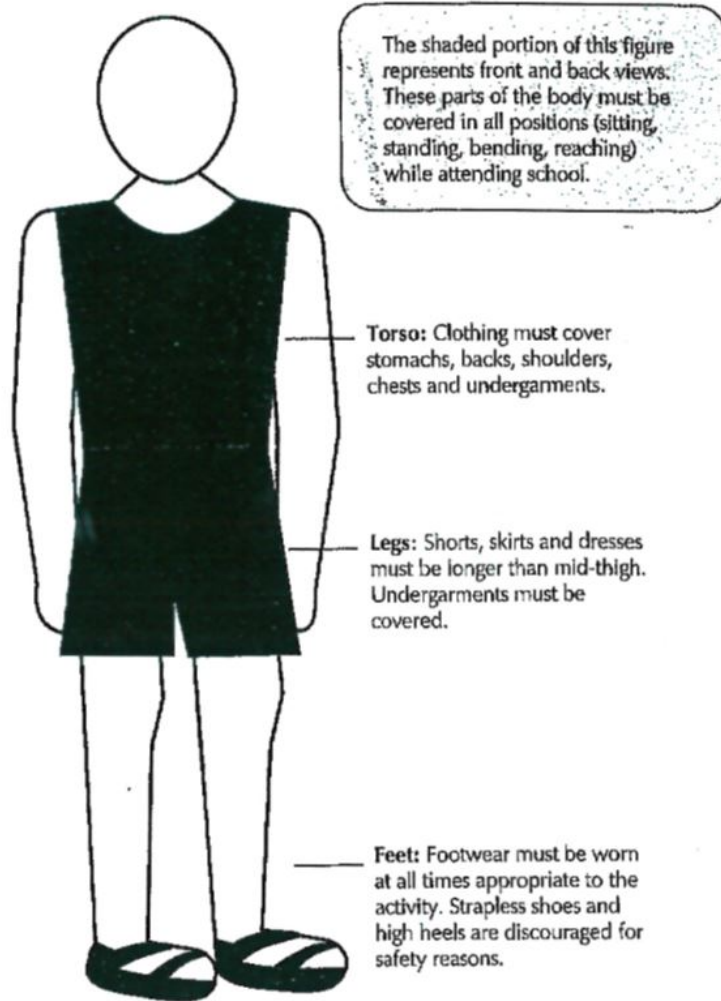
drive a 6 to 8ft rental truck to and from outdoor education. The morning of Monday, Oct 17th the driver will pick up the truck at 8:00am and come to Borel, luggage will be loaded and then the truck heads to outdoor education. Also, we need a parent who can pick up a truck at 8:00am on Friday, Oct. 21 and drive to outdoor education, pick up the luggage and then back to Borel where the truck will be unloaded. Please let Ms. Gilchrist (kgilchrist@smfc.k12.ca.us) know if you are able to help!

Equity

The 8th grade AVID Class of 2021-2022 worked with staff, students and families to develop **Clothing guidelines**. We've shared the guidelines with students during assemblies and advisories and wanted to keep you looped in too.

- We want Borel students to feel **safe and comfortable** in our school.

- The student clothing guidelines serve to support all students to develop a **body positive self-image** and follow **health and safety recommendations**



- Students should be able to wear clothing **without fear of or actual unnecessary discipline or body shaming.**
- Students are encouraged to dress in a manner that is comfortable and conducive to an active school day and allows them to **express themselves including their self-identified gender.**
- Clothes shall be sufficient to cover undergarments.
- Shirts or tops must be worn and must cover the torso.
- Shoes must be worn at all times.
- Hats, hoods, caps and other head coverings shall not cover the face
- Masks are only allowed for medical health and safety purposes
- **Students cannot wear** clothing, jewelry or personal items that depict: Violent language or images, Images or language depicting drugs, alcohol, tobacco, nicotine, e-

cigarette or vaping, hate speech, profanity, pornography or gang affiliation (or any illegal item or activity), images or language that create a disruptive, hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class (defined as race, ethnicity, country of origin, religion).

What if I am at school and not in clothing that follows this part of the dress code guidelines? What can I expect?

Your teachers, counselors or administrators could take one or more of the following actions:

1. Discreetly have a side conversation with you in a neutral & calming tone, so it is not public and does not include shaming
2. Say something like this to you: "I noticed you are not following the clothing guidelines today. You are not covering your torso" OR "You are not covering your undergarments." "Please put on your sweatshirt or jacket" OR "Please pull up your pants." This could happen when your teacher greets you at the door for class to begin.
3. After the discreet conversation, your teacher will instruct you to continue with the school day.

Reminder: If you need support, ask your counselor, teacher or administration. We are here to help!

Thank you to all who have donated to **Project Pantry**. It is great to have snacks to hand hungry students. We are running low on snacks and could use more to refill the bags. These grab and go snacks will go directly to teachers in classrooms across the school.

We are collecting:

- Granola Bars
- Fruit Snacks (small, individual packs)

If possible, please donate and help feed Borel students. Nut-free snacks are preferred, but

all donations are helpful! Donations can be dropped off at the front office. Any questions, please contact Mrs. Spaulding at pspaulding@smfc.k12.ca.us

Thank you for your continued support!



8th grade students and families - Enrollment for high school will begin on November 7, 2022.

Priority Enrollment (P1) is just around the corner! P1 will be from Nov 7, 2022 - Feb 10, 2023. Families can complete the entire process electronically, appts are **NOT** necessary unless they are missing documents or need assistance with completing the enrollment.

Please note: The form will be available on our **District website** starting Nov 7. The Intra District Transfer/Sibling Transfer form will also be available starting Nov 7.

Families can contact our office at **enrollment@smuhsd.org** if they have any questions.

Please be aware that the high school district is no longer offering any shadow days for 8th grade students. Instead there will only be Parent Information Nights at the different high schools. Families should call the San Mateo Union High School District at 650-558-2299 for specific questions. Please see the link below regarding the upcoming Parent Information Nights.

8th Grade Parent Information Night

Borel Drama Update – Audition information for our musical, Jinx, is now available at **<https://www.boreldrama.com/jinxauditions>**! We are looking for a diverse group of students from all grades to audition for our show which will perform March 3-5, 2023 at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center. No experience is necessary to audition. All are welcome! **Auditions begin after Fall Break.** You can sign up for an in person audition time slot now in Room 3. Video audition submissions are due Oct. 11th. If you have any questions about Jinx or auditioning for the musical, please contact Ms G (**agoldrath@smfc.k12.ca.us**).

Photo make up day is Tuesday, October 11 in the Library. Photo re-takes are only for students who missed photo day, or have a photo packet to return to Lifetouch. This event is not for students who have lost their ID cards. We will let you know how to replace lost cards at a later date.

Here is the photo schedule:

6th grade: 1st period

7th grade: 3rd period

8th grade: 5th period

Leadership would love photos of our Borel students for our 2022-2023 yearbook! First day of school, sporting events or any other

photos you may have taken.

There are 2 ways you can help us and contribute.

1. Download the app named "Yearbook Snap."
2. Directions for submitting any pictures you'd like to possibly see in this year's yearbook are below. 2.) Visit the www.yearbookforever.com website and share your pictures with us.

Click on the "Community Upload" tab and look for our school "Borel" on the dropdown menu. The access code for yearbook snap is borel23. Once you are there, you can upload the photos from your computer.

Yearbooks are on sale now! There are two ways to purchase a yearbook:

Pay online! Go to www.yearbookforever.com search for "Borel" to pay with a credit card.

Or you can drop off a check or cash to the front office.

Yearbook Only

Now - 11/30/22	\$40.00
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12/01/22 - 01/31/23	\$45.00
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02/01/23 - 04/30/23	\$50.00
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With a Namestamp

Now - 11/30/22	\$45.00
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12/01/22 - 01/31/23	\$50.00
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02/01/23 - 04/30/23	Unavailable
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PTA & Community Resources

Fall Fundraiser

This is the last week of our Fall Fundraiser for selling magazines, cookie dough, cheesecakes, and more. Online selling closes on Friday, September 30th. Keep in mind that 40% of all sales proceeds go back to Borel, so plan ahead for the holidays and get some early shopping done through your student. Help us make this fundraiser a success! Visit the [Fall Fundraiser webpage](#) for more information or email Jen Hwang and Janelle Frueh at fundraisingevents@borelbobcats.org.

Explore The Arts & Express Yourself

Reflections Art Program is back this year and the theme is "Show Your Voice!" We are looking for your submissions in dance, music, visual arts, photography, literature and film. This year's deadline is Friday, October 21, 2022. Please go to BorelBobcats.org/reflections for more details.

Borel Boosters

We appreciate the generosity of the [Borel Community](https://BorelBobcats.org) who have donated to our Borel Boosters Fall Drive. Borel PTA's Fundraising Goal of \$282K would only be possible with your participation and contribution. Ahead of the fall break, we are at 60% of our Booster's goal and still need your help. Any amount big or small is appreciated. Please DONATE at BorelBobcats.org/Boosters or complete the donation form that was brought home by your student and return it to the office. Also, check to see if your company offers donation matches. Any donation of \$10 or higher gives you PTA membership and eligibility to vote at the Association meeting to make your voice heard. Email Sophia Tseng with any questions at boosters@borelbobcats.org.

Wellness Corner

In October's newsletter, Tiffany Wightman, Wellness Ambassador, explores how emotions and behaviors relate to our needs and wants. Our needs change as we evolve from babies to adolescents to adults, but underlying many of our emotions is the need to have a healthy attachment to others, feel supported by friends and family, and have agency over our lives. Emotions experienced internally and expressed outwardly help get our needs met. Read more of [this month's article](#) or visit the [Wellness Corner](#) for all her articles! Questions or Feedback? Please contact Tiffany Wightman at wellness@borelbobcats.org.

Lunch Bunch

We still have a few spots left. Four great lunches are delivered to your student at school. The date of our first lunch is October 13th - Noah's Bagel with Plain Cream Cheese and a Jamba Juice Strawberry Whirl Smoothie are on the menu. Sign up at the [Lunch Bunch webpage](#) (\$60/student) or consider donating a lunch, only a few quantities are available. We still need a few volunteers to help make this a success. Email Teri Genschoreck at lunchbunch@borelbobcats.org with your questions.

Cultural Fair Survey

We are planning for our 32nd Cultural Fair, which is a much-loved community building event that brings families together to share their heritage, country artifacts, and the wonderful foods representing many cultures. Please take a small [survey](#), before September 30th, to help with planning this event. More info can be found on the [Cultural Fair webpage](#). If you are interested in volunteering, please email Claudia Carreno at culturalfair@borelbobcats.org.

Volunteer at Borel

Amazing programs, hosted by PTA, continue to ask for your help to get off the ground. To sign up, visit BorelBobcats.org/volunteer as we are looking for VP Fundraising (Board Opportunity), Program Volunteers (Cultural Fair,

Community Event), and Fundraising Volunteers (Grants Fundraiser Lead, Online Auction, Lunch Bunch). Our Online Auction team is getting started right now and the Cultural Fair Team will begin in November. Contact Jen Hwang at community@borelbobcats.org with your interest

Notre Dame High School

For families with 8th grade daughters, shadow dates are open at Notre Dame High School in Belmont! 8th graders spend a day experiencing classes, meeting students, and getting a taste of all that Notre Dame has to offer. Parents will learn about the admissions process, hear from current students, and take a tour of the school. Shadow dates run from September 20th - November 16th. Registration is also open for Open House on October 23rd and Notre Dame Night on November 17th.

To register for a shadow visit or other event:

https://ndhsb.schooladminonline.com/portal/new_inquiry

Learn more about Notre Dame: www.ndhsb.org