



2020-2021

Newsletter #22

February 8th-12th

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**

NEW ITEMS

PRINCIPAL'S ANNOUNCEMENT: PLEASE BE SAFE DURING THE FEBRUARY BREAK!

Prior to the upcoming February break, I would like to remind our students, families and staff to remain vigilant in terms of controlling the spread of Covid19 in our community by practicing effective face mask wearing, social distancing, and staying apprised of local news as it relates to the developing pandemic. I am also aware that families will be traveling and want to draw special attention to the guidelines by providing the following Covid19 travel guidelines linked here for your convenience: [Travel Advisory February 2021](#)

Attention 8th Grade Students/Parents: Transition to Staples High School

Here is the link to the recording of the "SHS Transition Night" held on 02/10/2021 as well as additional resources: [Grade 8 to 9 Transition Homepage](#)

Upcoming SHS transition events:

- Tuesday, February 23rd is Pre-Registration Day at BMS. Students will be guided to enter in their course requests by SHS and BMS staff and counselors. Students should be prepared with choices and can bring their course selection worksheet as a guide.
- March: During the first two weeks of March, all 8th graders will have an individual meeting with a member of the BMS counseling team to review course requests, review override forms, and make any final changes. Students will be informed ahead of time when their meeting will occur.

Contribute: Positive Message Photos

[LINK: Positive Message Photos Participation Form](#)

We are looking for your positive message pictures! Upload a picture of you, your pet or your family promoting a positive message. As an example option, you may want to write a message and hold it up in your photo. Answer the questions below, then upload your photo. Be sure to use your Westport email address for logging into the form! Please email Mr. Barbiero or Mr. Savage if you have any trouble.

WESTPORT TOGETHER

Please click the following link for an important announcement, which was originally created and sent to all families by the Westport PTA Council Health and Wellness Committee: [Student Social Emotional Health - Westport Together is Here to Help!](#)



Westport Together Mission Statement

- Westport Together is an alliance that unites Westport by strengthening the health and well-being of youth within our families, schools and community and nurtures positive youth development through advocacy, education, and enhanced community connections.
- Advocacy for Resilient Youth, Healthy Families, and Strong Communities
- Education through Programs, Presentations and Resources
- Enhanced Connections among Families, Schools and the Greater Westport Community

Black History Month 2021 at BMS!

The following slides now appear on the digital signage screens throughout BMS and are also posted to BMS Schoology, which automatically goes to all BMS students. Please visit the BMS



Did You Know?



Elaine Brown is an American prison activist, writer, singer, and was the first and only woman to be the Black Panther Party chairwoman. She established the first Free Breakfast for Children program, which ran from 1969 to 1970, reportedly feeding more than 20,000 California students in the process.



Did You Know?



Condoleezza Rice entered the University of Denver at the age of 15 and earned her Ph.D. by age 26. She is an American diplomat, political scientist, civil servant, and professor who is the current director of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. Rice served as the 66th US Secretary of State.



Did You Know?



In 1908, **John Baxter Taylor** became the first African American to win an Olympic gold medal, and he also held a degree in veterinary medicine from the University of Pennsylvania.



Did You Know?



Floyd Norman was the first African American animator at the Walt Disney Company. His first film was *Sleeping Beauty* in 1959 and his credits include *Monsters, Inc.*, *Toy Story* and many more. His 2016 documentary is currently on Netflix!



Did You Know?



Nyeem Hudson travels the world delivering motivational speeches to other kids, offering support to victims of bullying, building up confidence, and teaching self-love. On Instagram (where he goes by the name King Nahh), Hudson delivers brief, uplifting messages to his more than 200,000 followers.

BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH

Did You Know?



In her early life, **Coretta Scott King** was as well known for her singing and violin playing as she was for her civil rights activism. The young soprano won a fellowship to the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, the city where she met future husband Martin Luther King Jr.

BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH

Did You Know?



Matthew Henson was an African American explorer best known as the co-discoverer of the North Pole with Robert Edwin Peary in 1909. He is buried in Arlington Cemetery.



[More about Matthew Henson](#)

Did You Know?



In the 1930s, Charles Alston founded the 306 group, which convened in his studio space and provided support and apprenticeship for African American artists, including Langston Hughes; sculptor Augusta Savage; and mixed-media visionary Romare Bearden.



Did You Know?



When the Flint Water Crisis began in Flint instead of feeling helpless **Mari Copeny** decided to use her voice to help out her community and to fight for the kids in Flint and she has not stopped since. Since then she has expanded her effort to help communities across the nation dealing with toxic water.



[More about Mari Copeny](#)

Did You Know?



Shirley Chisholm became the first African American congresswoman in 1968. Four years later, she became the first major-party Black candidate to make a bid for the U.S. presidency. She survived **THREE** assassination attempts.



[More about black women in politics](#)

PARENT DRIVERS: PLEASE PULL FORWARD FOR MORNING DROP-OFF!

Please pull all the way forward before dropping off your child in the morning. Please make sure your child is ready to get out of the car - curbside only - as soon as you pull all the way forward and stop. Please do not

stand/wait in the drop-off line as it causes a ripple-effect all the way down the BMS driveway onto North Ave. Thank you for your help in keeping traffic flowing safely at BMS!



Are you ready for some football? Help kick off the Super Bowl by donating some canned goods. The food will be donated to the Gillespie Center of Westport, a food pantry that is part of a larger organization called Homes with Hope. Donation boxes will be located at the main entrance lobby & the Health Education classrooms. The canned drive will run from **February 1st through February 26th**. Help us tackle hunger by making a donation!

NEXT SCHOOL WEEK'S SCHEDULE: FEBRUARY 22th-26th (after the February Break)

DAY, DATE	IN-SCHOOL HYBRID COHORT	SCHEDULE ROTATION
Monday, 02/22/2021	FULL OPEN for Cohorts A & B	E-Day
Tuesday, 02/23/2021	FULL OPEN for Cohorts A & B	D-Day
Wednesday, 02/24/2021	REMOTE LEARNING ½ DAY	A-Day
Thursday, 02/25/2021	FULL OPEN for Cohorts A & B	C-Day
Friday, 02/26/2021	FULL OPEN for Cohorts A & B	B-Day

IMPORTANT STUDENT TECH REMINDERS!

Students need to bring their school-issued Chromebooks to school CHARGED and in the protective case every day. BMS does not have spare devices or chargers on hand. Students are not permitted to bring their personal devices to school, however, they are welcome to use them at home on distance learning days.

- If students have a technical or physical issue with their device, they can report to the LMC, and the LMC staff will evaluate it and troubleshoot. If the device can not be repaired by the LMC staff, they may swap it out with another device OR provide a loaner while the device is being repaired by a Westport Public School IT technician.

- Please remember that if students have technical issues while learning from home an adult at home can contact the Distance Learning Tech Support. Here is a [link](#) (it is also a button on the bottom left of the BMS homepage)

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](#)