

Bradford School News

Jan. 15, 2021

“Silence becomes cowardice when occasion demands speaking out the whole truth and acting accordingly.” - Mahatma Gandhi

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MLK Jr. Day of Service

- The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday on Jan. 18th is the 26th anniversary of the day of service that celebrates the Civil Rights leader’s life and legacy. Observed each year on the third Monday in January as “a day on, not a day off,” MLK Jr. Day is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. This year, our traditional MLK Jr. Day of Service will look a bit different, kicking off with a school-wide virtual community event from 10:00-10:30 (click [here](#) to register). You can then drop off donations to support Toni’s Kitchen, the Human Needs Food Pantry, the Montclair Animal Shelter, and S.O.F.I.A. in the Bradford School front circle (see the flyer linked attached to today’s e-blast for more details). You can also volunteer to help out on Monday by clicking [here](#).

Next Week’s Schedule – Please read carefully as there is a lot of important information!

- As previously shared, we are switching over to our hybrid schedules next week (the week of Jan. 18th). The first week back for students (the week of Jan. 25th) will be MOUNTIES days on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and BULLDOGS days on Thursday and Friday. The following week (the week of Feb. 1st) will be MOUNTIES days on Monday and Tuesday and BULLDOGS days on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. (Wednesdays each week alternate between Mounties and Bulldogs). The school day begins at 8:50 a.m. and ends at 12:50 p.m.
- In addition, the teaching staff will be at Bradford in person next week to prepare for our hybrid return to school. Please note that school is closed on Monday for the Martin Luther King Jr., Holiday. Tuesday, Jan. 19th and Friday, Jan. 22nd will be asynchronous instruction days, as staff members will be engaged in professional development and preparing their classrooms for the return of students. Wednesday, Jan. 20th and Thursday, Jan. 21st will be live, remote instruction. There will be no teacher office hours next week.
- You will notice some changes to your child’s schedule, most notably the elimination of small group times in the afternoon, as the school day will end at 12:50 p.m. although there will be a short amount of time scheduled for teacher office hours each afternoon. (Lunch is from 1:10-2:00 p.m. each day, and the teacher’s prep time is 2:00-2:40 p.m.).
- There will be no related services (Speech, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy) or curriculum support services (Ms. Schwartz and Ms. Hall) as these providers work to create new schedules based on the hybrid scheduling plan.

Health and Safety Forms

• Please remember to complete the re-entry health and safety contract in Genesis if your child will be participating in hybrid learning. Immunizations and physical exams for Kindergarten and new students must also be completed and on file in the nurse's office for fully remote *and* hybrid students. Medical action plans and medication forms must be submitted to Nurse Dowling as soon as possible for all hybrid students. Please email Nurse Dowling [here](#) if your child or a household member has tested positive for COVID-19 or if you have any questions.

Return to In Person Instruction

• Bradford is now ready for our in-person opening, and we are excited to welcome our hybrid students back! Please know that all school health and safety protocols will meet or exceed the guidelines set forth by both the CDC and the N.J. Dept. of Health. The recently updated Bradford School Hybrid Plan is attached to today's e-blast for your review. Some reminders are listed below:

- It is a recommended from the CDC that we provide as much fresh air as possible. Our classrooms will be ready for students and staff either through mechanical ventilation, air purification, windows being opened, and reduced class sizes. Currently our school has 26 rooms identified as having mechanical ventilation and 17 rooms which have air purification systems installed.
- Student temperatures will be taken upon arrival.
- Two cloth masks will be provided to each student when they arrive at school (one time only on the first day). Students must wear their own mask on the first day. Mask wearing will be enforced at all times, although students may remove their mask briefly for snack (which will occur outside or spaced 10 feet apart in the gym).
- A deep cleaning of all areas will occur after students leave for the day.
- Signage and floor markings to ensure hallway and stairwell social distancing are in place.
- Hand sanitizer stations are now set up in multiple locations, and we will mandate handwashing every 90 minutes.
- Each teacher has been issued a second computer to ensure that the simultaneous teaching of both the in-person and virtual students goes smoothly.
- Related Arts instruction and Related Services will continue to be provided virtually while students are at school.
- If you have any questions regarding our COVID-19 health and safety protocols, please contact our School Nurse, Patricia Dowling [here](#).

Counseling and Lunch Groups with Ms. Goff

• All counseling sessions and lunch groups are suspended for now, as Ms. Goff will be on a leave of absence from Jan. 19th – March 1st.

Mask-Wearing

• All students will be expected to wear masks upon our return to in-person learning. One of our occupational therapists, Stephanie Peters, made a short video for students on proper mask

wearing. You and your child can view it [here](#). You can also have your child participate in a 1:1 session with Nurse Dowling to learn about and practice mask-wearing by reaching out to her [here](#). Make sure your children have practiced mask-wearing for extended periods of time (covering the mouth, nose, and chin and having elastic loops or ties), and please talk to your children about the health benefits of wearing masks (click [here](#) for the CDC's explanation).

Upcoming Dates

- Jan. 18th: MLK Jr. Day of Service 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. “Drive Through and Drop Off” in the school’s front circle – stay tuned for sign up genius links to participate.
- Jan. 25th: Return to School for Hybrid Instruction (Mounties attend M, T, W and Bulldogs attend Th and F of this week)
- Jan. 28th: Early (1:40) Dismissal for Curriculum Meetings

Enjoy your weekend!