



"Our School District...News YOU Can Use!"

Volume 5 Issue 5

January 2018

Special Point of Interest

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It is a new year according to the calendar, but in most schools, we've just reached the half-way point. Resolve to be involved in your children's education in new ways this year. Studies show that kids whose parents are involved in their education have better grades, a better attitude toward school, and more appropriate school behavior than those with less involved parents.

How do I get involved?

Getting involved in your child's education can be as simple as talking with your child each day about school and homework. Your involvement could also include:

- Visiting the classroom when you bring your child to school.
- Establishing a homework routine and providing your child with a good place to study — away from distractions like TV, video games, the phone, or loud music.
- Taking your child on trips, playing games together, and visiting the local library.
- Showing you value education by taking classes yourself or letting your child see you spending time reading.
- Volunteering at school to help in the classroom, library, office, or on field trips.
- Attending school board meetings and getting involved with a parent-teacher organization.

Reading to your child or have him read to you every day. What should I do if my child isn't doing well in school?

Parents and teachers working together create the best environment for learning. If you are concerned about your child's progress:

- Contact your child's teacher; don't wait for the school to contact you.
- Meet or communicate with your child's teacher frequently until the problem is resolved.
- Ask for specific activities you can do at home with your child.

What if my child doesn't like school?

Lots of kids find school to be fun, stimulating, and a time to be with friends. But others experience a great deal of stress associated with school. To find out why your child seems unhappy with school:

- Talk with your child and listen carefully before you offer any solutions.
- Arrange for a conference with the teacher.
- Ask to observe your child in class.
- Talk with your school psychologist or school counselor about your child's feelings about school.

"Reading Rockets" - Rachael Walker

“Be Cool Pack The School”

Top 3 Elementary Schools With The Highest December Attendance

Elementary Schools	December
Multicultural Magnet	96.69%
Classical Studies Magnet Academy	96.09%
Black Rock	95.63%



Top 2 High Schools With The Highest December Attendance

High Schools	December
Central	93.22%
Bridgeport Military Academy	92.89%



Waltersville School celebrated all students with perfect attendance for the first quarter with an ice cream party and certificates. All students were entered into a raffle for a tablet, which Pre-K student, Narjeli won!

Dates to Remember

- January 1 - Happy New Year/Schools Closed
- January 8 - **Tentative** Elementary Magnet Lottery Period Begins
- January 8 - BOE Meeting - 6:30 pm @ Aquaculture
- January 10 - One Session Day - School Improvement
- January 12 - **Tentative** HS Magnet Lottery Closes
- January 15 - MLK, Jr Day/Schools Closed
- January 18 - **Tentative** HS Magnet Lottery Selections
- January 22 - BOE Meeting - 6:30 pm @ Aquaculture
- January 26 - 2nd Marking Period Closes



i have a dream!

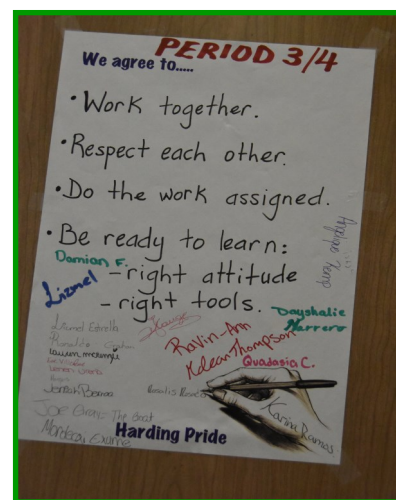
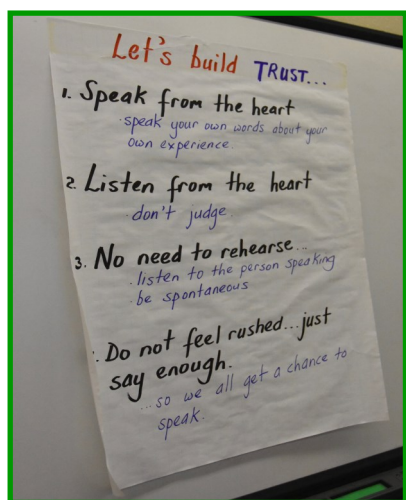
Brown Bag It Networking!

Contact Dolores Mason

dmason@bridgeportedu.net for details or assistance!



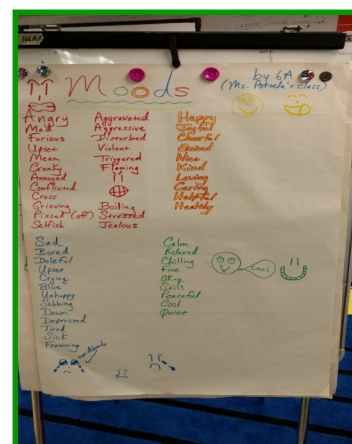
Adult Ed Registration & Class Info:
www.bridgeportedu.com/adultedu



Harding Staff have embraced Restorative Practices and RULER. School Charters can be seen on display in classrooms, "circles" take place to learn new content, share experiences, debrief a lesson and to make things right. Students are learning to use feeling words and take Meta-Moments.

COLUMBUS SCHOOL RULER

Ms. Portela's 6th grade class created a feelings words- Mood Meter in Ms. Larson's music class !





Classical Studies Magnet Academy hosted the 7th Annual Math Carnival, Thursday, December 8th. The carnival was attended by over 400 scholars and parents. Attendees were treated to a magic show by Danny the Magician. Each classroom hosted a math game with prizes for the participants. There was a room for parents to gain knowledge about the math curriculum and various math strategies. Fried dough and pizza were served in the cafe'. All scholars left with prizes and a bag of popcorn. Tavares Perkins, 4th grade Math and Science teacher has organized this event for the past 7 years. Colleagues, parents, family and friends support him in this endeavor. It was definitely a CSMA family affair! Helen Giles, Principal

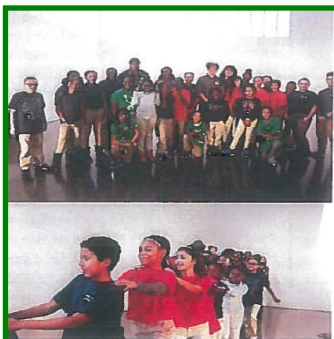


Columbus School Prekindergarten parents and students celebrated the season by making gingerbread houses and visiting with Santa. Each student received a new book from Santa Claus and our parents enjoyed a "pot luck" luncheon. "Thank you!", Ms. Diaz and Ms. Feiner!
Mary Beth Williamson, Assistant Principal



ConnectiCare Center collected winter clothing for Harding students who were victims of the Hurricane. The collection ended Dec. 18. Thirty one students will benefit from the communities generosity. Kathryn Silver, Assistant Principal

On December 21, 2017, James Curiale School hosted our annual "Clusters Night." Students participated in once per week hands-on project-based learning classes throughout the fall and presented the results of their work in performances, presentations, and research projects. Families enjoyed Japanese modern dance, music, and a craft take home project. It is so rewarding when students can share learning with their families in a positive and interactive format. We look forward to beginning our second session of clusters this winter. Michele Cerino, Principal on Special Assignment



Turnaround National Visit! Everyone aboard the "Love Train"! Five Hall students along with Mr. Covey and Miss McHale, recently got to travel to NYC with students from other Bridgeport Turnaround schools. Together they performed in a national video with Mr. Bernie Williams and Mr. Jason Mraz! Cynthia Fernandes, Principal

I am Malala Reading Experience

NNPS - 2017

Type 2 - Communication - Conduct effective communication from school - to -home and from home - to - school about school programs and student progress.

Wilcox Technical High School

Ansonia, CT



In the beginning of the school year, the Connecticut Technical High School System (CTHSS) announced an all-district reading of the book, *I am Malala (Young Readers Edition)*. Wilcox conducted this challenge and opportunity with style. Every day, a member of the Wilcox community read an excerpt of the book on the intercom or on the school's TV station. Readers included faculty and staff, students, a police officer, a retired teacher, and many more community members. Also, in class, all students viewed Malala Yousafzai's Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech.

To supplement the district's plan, the Action Team for Partnerships (ATP) at Wilcox Technical High School created Kindness Week for students to capture the spirit of Malala in their actions. During Kindness Week, in their English classes, students wrote Thank You Notes and Gratitude Cards to someone in the school community who helped them grow as an individual. As a culminating activity, students planned and conducted the Three Generations Book Club. All students, families, faculty, and community guests, including residents of a nearby assisted-living community, were invited to read and join a conversation about the book.

In the school library, participants were divided into four discussion groups, each with one or two student facilitators, at least one teacher, and at least one family member. Some groups included senior citizens, community members from a local book club, and several students. The students and all participants contributed questions to discuss. At the meeting, participants conducted several activities. Alphabet Soup asked participants to identify a character, event, place, or object from the book for each letter of the alphabet. This helped to jog memories about the book and encourage discussions. Student facilitators randomly selected discussion questions submitted by their group members and led comments back to the book's themes of injustice, kindness, and bravery.

Another activity was the Malala Magic Square in which participants matched quotations with the person in the book who said them. The first group to accurately complete the activity read the quotations aloud to the whole group, while participating in a modified game of "hot potato" with a Barnes and Noble gift card.

Participants gave the student facilitators high marks for planning the book club meeting and leading discussions. One community member remarked, "The Malala discussions engaged [all of us] in evaluating how to be kind and courageous to benefit those around us." Many others also helped plan the meeting. The ATP prepared pre-discussion guides, an acrostic poem game, and some discussion questions. Teachers coordinated with the assisted-living community. One chef and his students in the Culinary Arts Department baked cookies and refreshments.

The ATP advertised the book club discussion in a student-created display case, on the intercom, the school's TV station, and marquee, with e-mails, and at school meetings. Students' work was featured in the display case, including poems, essays, word clouds, and ornaments--all related to Malala's story.

"At first I thought this was an impossible idea," said one administrator. "Then, it became something for me to talk about to the students when I saw them in the cafeteria or library." The all-read-Malala experience strengthened a sense of the school community, encouraged tolerance of differences among students, and reinforced a deep awareness of the importance of education.

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Technology Tuesdays and Wellness Wednesdays with the Community

NNPS - 2107

Type 6 - Collaborating With The Community - Coordinate resources and services from the community for families, students and the school and provide services to the community.

Lincoln Charter School
York, PA

With a firm belief in educating the whole child, Lincoln Charter School set out to connect students to community experts in the fields of technology and health. Teachers and administrators wanted to develop new kinds of hands-on learning activities that would foster students' critical thinking about specific topics. And, they wanted to open the school doors to the community to strengthen their program of school, family, and community partnerships. To meet these goals, the Action Team for Partnerships (ATP) and teachers worked together to find experts in the community to provide mind-stretching experiences for students.



Each Tuesday, several Community Teachers came to the school. They brought with them “a mystery technology-related object” from their work that students could touch, explore, analyze, and reflect on. Students could sketch the object in their learning journals and were required to record ideas and predictions about the object's use. After some thinking time, the Community Teachers revealed the actual name, use, and nature of the object. The same process was repeated on Wednesdays, when Community Teachers brought in an object linked to health and wellness.

Community Teachers are asked to visit four classes throughout the year for 30 minutes each. Each expert talks with one class per visit to respect their busy schedules. A large number of volunteers were involved to meet with all classes. Teachers made adjustments to accommodate their guests, and ensured that all students had pens and journals to make their notes and observations. Students had a chance to practice good citizenship and social skills as they interacted with the presenters. The activities also advanced students' knowledge about many different occupations linked to technology and health.

The school's Director of Community Engagement noted that this partnership practice was “preparing students for jobs in 2030 by exposing them to real world application and experts.” The ATP worked with teachers, over time, to help them recognize the value of school and community connections for student learning. At first some teachers were skeptical, but now all teachers support Technology Tuesdays and Wellness Wednesdays as a real benefit for students.

The ATP and others were clever in their outreach efforts. Community Teachers were identified from networks that were already in place. Teachers' spouses and students' parents were among the experts, and teachers' friends in the community were tapped to participate. As this practice continues, more contacts with different experts will be made. The program may grow with Community Teachers connecting with classroom teachers on other topics in the curriculum beyond technology and health. More partners may make more visits to each class. This expansion will require advanced organizational skills, but Lincoln Charter School is ready for that challenge.

The contributions of the Community Teachers help students see that the “school community” extends beyond the school doors. Teachers were asked to record observations linked to Community Teachers and the topics that were discussed. Every teacher observed and reported improvements in students' thinking and behavior, including increased scores on the state science tests. Technology Tuesdays and Wellness Wednesdays are powerful—yet manageable—ways to increase students' critical thinking and introduce them to the world of work.

Anne Clark
Director of Community Engagement
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My Life Beyond: A Career Day to Inspire Students and PARENTS

College & Careers - NNPS - 2017



Type 6 - Collaborating With The Community - Coordinate resources and services from the community for families, students and the school and provide services to the community.

LaGranada Elementary School
Riverside, CA

We know big trucks are impressive. LaGranada Elementary School recognized this and invited a fire truck, dump truck, trash truck, back hoe, CSI vehicle and military vehicle to park on the school's field. The display of trucks was one part of the school's career day, My Life Beyond. The day was in response to parents' requests to expand children's career awareness with lively ideas about occupations and professions they might think about in the future.

In all, 50 community members came to the school to talk to students about their careers. Along with the interesting vehicles and drivers, the children met doctors, politicians, translators, nurses, teachers, veterinarians, lawyers, accountants, business owners, police, nutritionists, restaurant owners, computer technicians, and pilots. The community members were welcomed warmly by students with hand-made welcome signs, good behavior, and curiosity.

The most powerful feature of My Life Beyond was that the presenters were carefully selected so that they looked like the students. At LaGranada Elementary, nearly 70% of the students are English Language Learners, and nearly all students qualify for free or reduced price lunch. Many of the presenters—male and female—spoke Spanish, had brown skin, or wore saris. They came from the students' neighborhoods. Some had special needs, had struggled in school, came from single-parent homes, were economically stressed when they were growing up, but all of them identified their interests and moved forward with their lives.

Parents were invited so that they could hear the same motivational stories that their children heard and the message of "Yes, you can!" Mothers and fathers saw their children try out a stethoscope, climb up on a back hoe, learn about the radar dish on the top of the military tank, and much more. The career awareness activities could help parents support their children's dreams.

The presenters took questions from students and parents. One police detective was impressed, "These students generated some truly thoughtful questions!" The school counselor met with parents to discuss topics to improve student success. They talked about the importance of the transition to middle school, ways to support reading at home, the importance of regular attendance, and how to help students set their own goals and work to meet them.

The selection of speakers took persistence and commitment of the Action Team for Partnership (ATP) and school counselor. They reached out to speakers in the community, called upon Spanish language businesses, asked friends for recommendations, and made many phone calls. The vice-president of the district school board attended and remarked, "This is such a wonderful event! I just love how excited the students and their parents are about this!"

After career awareness day, students were given time to write thank you notes and draw pictures for all of the community members who gave presentations. One student wrote, "Thank you for this opportunity to learn about such cool jobs!" School staff conducted follow up activities with a survey for feedback from teachers, presenters, and parents for improving career awareness activities in the future. It helps to give young students opportunities to see that people like them followed many different paths, met challenges along the way, and reached satisfying career destinations. Such interactions tell students there are no limits to what they can accomplish in life.

Carrie Mondt, Principal
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SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018

Interdistrict Discovery Magnet School

4510 Park Avenue , Bridgeport, CT 06606

12:00-12:45 p.m. Check-in

1:00– 4:00 p.m. Program



minds in motion™

*Interest-based, hands-on workshops for students in Kindergarten – 8th Grade
Free parent & teacher program, free literature, resources, networking opportunities
Exhibitors, camps, books, educational toy sales and more*



Event Workshop Examples

- **Introduction to Robotics – Citizen Invention**
- **Creative Recycling – B-Green Initiative**
- **Squid Dissection – Mystic Aquarium**
- **Engineering with LEGO - Play-Well TEKnologies**
- **Math Jeopardy – Daniel Westphal**
- **Artful Jewelry Design – Nicki Realm - Jewelry designer**
- **A Tiger's Tale – Beardsley Zoo**
- **DJ 101 – DJ Pepe**

Sponsored by:






In Partnership with The Bridgeport Public Schools District

REGISTRATION WILL BEGIN IN FEBRUARY

REGISTER ONLINE AT CAG WEBSITE: www.ctgifted.org

Special Bridgeport Student Rate \$10 First Child; \$5 for Siblings (Normally \$40/child)

JANUARY 2018 BRIDGEPORT ELEMENTARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p></p> <p>2 ~Cold Cut Sandwich Veggie Juice (red/orange) Assorted Vegetable Sticks with Hummus</p>	<p>3 WG Chicken Nuggets WG Dinner Roll Sweet Plantains Assorted Veggie Sticks with Hummus</p>	<p>4 ~Loaded Baked Potato with Beef Taco topped with Cheddar WG Dinner Roll Assorted Fruit Juice Broccoli Garden Salad</p>	<p>5 ~Potluck Pizza Garbanzo Bean Salad Assorted Veggie Sticks with Hummus Dip</p>	
<p>8 ~Breaded Chicken Drumstick Texas Toast Waffle Cut Sweet Potatoes Assorted Veggie Sticks with Hummus</p>	<p>9 ~Pulled Beef Brisket & Gravy Over Smashed Potatoes Buttermilk Biscuit Assorted Fruit Juices Garden Salad with Dressing</p>	<p>10 ~Mini Twin Cheeseburgers Broccoli Assorted Veggie Sticks with Hummus</p>	<p>11 ~Cherry Blossom Chicken Rice Mixed Asian Veggies Rosati Ice Garden Salad with Dressing</p>	
<p>15  ~Grilled Cheese Sandwich Buttery Corn Assorted Veggie Sticks with Hummus</p>	<p>16 ~Chicken & Cheese Pita Pocket Garlicky Green Beans Assorted Fruit Juice Assorted Veggie Sticks with Hummus</p>	<p>17 ~Cheeseburger with WG Hawaiian Roll Sweet Potato Fries Garden Salad With Dressing</p>	<p>18 Beef Tacos-Tostitos Walking Taco Fiesta Rice Broccoli Assorted Fruit Juices Garden Salad w/ Dressing</p>	
<p>22 ~Grilled Cheese Sandwich Buttery Corn Assorted Veggie Sticks with Hummus</p>	<p>23 ~Teriyaki Chicken Stir Fried Vegetables Rice Assorted Fruit Juice Garden Salad With Dressing</p>	<p>24 ~Park City Burger on a Pretzel Roll Waffle Cut Sweet Potato Fries Assorted Veggie Sticks with Hummus</p>	<p>25 ~Curry Chicken over Rice Broccoli Rosati Ice Garden Salad w/ Dressing</p>	
<p>29 ~Macaroni & Cheese WG Texas Toast Broccoli Assorted Veggie Sticks with Hummus</p>	<p>30 ~WG Popcorn Chicken WG Dinner Roll Assorted Fruit Juice Fiesta Corn Garden Salad w/ Dressing</p>	<p>31 ~WG Spaghetti and Meatballs w/ Marinara Sauce Garlic Breadstick Assorted Veggie Sticks with Hummus</p>	<p>26 ~Cheese Pizza Veggie Juice Assorted Veggie Sticks with Hummus Dip</p>	
<p>Daily Offerings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cold Cut Sandwich • Soy butter & Jelly • Fresh Fruit, Cupped Fruit & Dried Fruit • 1% White Milk & Skim Flavored Milk 				<p>This is an equal opportunity provider</p> 

JANUARY 2018 BRIDGEPORT High School



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 2 Hot and Spicy Chicken Tenders WG Texas Toast French Cut Buttery Green Beans	3 Spicy Buffalo Chicken Sliders Sweet Plantains	4 General Taos Chicken Vegetable Eggroll Stir Fried Broccoli Assorted Fruit Juice	5 Stuffed Crust Cheese Pizza Veggie Juice (Red/Orange) Fresh Garden Salad	
8 Chicken Patty with Cheese Pretzel Roll and Mustard Waffle Cut Sweet Potatoes	9 Sloppy Joe Baked Potato Bar With all the Fixin's Sweet Corn Assorted Fruit Juice	10 Breaded Chicken Drumstick WG Twisted Bread Stick Collard Greens ONE SESSION	11 Curried Chicken over Brown Rice Cauliflower Assorted Fruit Juice	12 Buffalo Chicken Pizza Veggie Juice Fresh Garden Salad
 22 Seaside Chicken and Cheese Brioche Bun Waffle Cut Sweet Potatoes	16 Mozzarella Sticks Marinara Dipping Sauce WG Dinner Roll Fiesta Corn Assorted Fruit Juice	17 Rice and Beans with Grilled Chicken Strips Sautéed Spinach	18 Meatball Grinder with Marinara Sauce WG Grinder Roll Buttery Cauliflower Assorted Fruit Juice	19 Cheese Pizza Veggie Juice (Red/Orange) Fresh Garden Salad
29 Steak Bar WG Grinder Roll Cheese Sauce, Sautéed Mushrooms and Onions Broccoli	23 Chicken Burrito Bar with all the Fixin's Black Beans Assorted Fruit Juice	24 Chicken Tempura Nuggets WG Texas Toast Broccoli Slaw	25 Beef Tacos served over a Taco Boat Fiesta Rice Sweet Corn Assorted Fruit Juice	26 Turkey Bacon and Ranch Pizza Veggie Juice Fresh Garden Salad
30 Sloppy Joe with Tostitos Scoops Fiesta Corn Assorted Fruit Juice	31 Teriyaki Chicken with Stir Fried Asian Veggies and Brown Rice	 Daily Offerings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1% White & Skim Chocolate Milk Assorted Fresh fruit and Cupped Fruit Seasonal Vegetables with Hummus Check out our made to Order Deli Bar!	This is an equal opportunity pro- vider Get your Green on: Mon- Chef Salad Tue- Caesar Salad Wed- Garden Salad Thur- Cobb Salad Fri- Garden Salad with Fresh Tuna Salad	