

Freshman Diego Rodriguez displaying his Level Up! reward

### DECEMBER EVENTS

Parent Co-Op Meeting @6pm

Reading with Santa 5

College & Career Fair 10

Practice SAT for Juniors 9

Quarter 2 Ends 17

Semester Exams 18, 21, 22

Winter Break Begins 23

## Happy Holidays!

Believe it or not the semester is coming to an end and the holidays are right around the corner. For Thanksgiving our staff shared with each other what we are grateful for as a reminder of what we still have amongst all that has been lost. One of the many things for which I am grateful is the remarkable perseverance our staff and students have displayed this fall. Our staff has worked so hard to make online



BT Staff get into the holiday spirit by wearing festive gear to class every Tuesday in December.

learning a high-quality experience. Our students work on their goals for the future. And everyone has worked to preserve our many traditions in a virtual world. As we make preparations for a new year and new semester full of uncertainty, I am sure that our community will find ways to thrive and move forward. From all of us at Bloom Trail, we wish you joy, health, and comfort in the new year.

### Bloom Trail Parent Co-op

#### Reading with Santa

Dear Kids, Santa wants to hear from you. Send your letters to [santa@sd206.org](mailto:santa@sd206.org)

#### Join us on Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/98630392540?pwd=dVZlNVByQnJlVGM1azdyYURlVlZkdz09>

from 11am-1pm on 12/05 2020

Register to win a present in the google form. Deadline 11/30 (see Bloom Trail website)



## Reading with Santa

On Saturday, December 5th Santa Claus took time out from his busy holiday preparations to spend time with the families of district 206. Santa visited with children for 2 hours on Saturday, answering their letters, reading Christ-

mas stories, answering their questions, and leading sing-alongs of his favorite songs. Children had sent their letters to him via his special District 206 email address, so he was able to talk to each child about their hopes for Christmas.



# Class of 2021— Complete your FAFSA



Band Director Michael Bielecki is the WGN Teacher-of-the-Month. Watch the coverage here—[Teacher of the Month](#)

FAFSA- Completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is now required for graduation. The BT Counseling office has provided links, resources, and YouTube tutorials to help families complete their application. Please visit the BT Counseling website for more information and resources: <https://bloomtrail.org/counseling/>

ISAC (Illinois Student Assistance Commission) is also offering their services virtually

to the students/parents of the class of 2021 every Tuesday from 1-3pm to help families complete their FAFSA. Below they have provided you with a link to sign up for one-on-one FAFSA meetings and help sessions.

SIGN UP SHEET - LINK <https://forms.gle/syVOAJLxjInGZvaP9>

Some of the aid provided through FAFSA is given out first-come-first-serve, so don't

delay in taking care of this important step.



*It's nearly the end of the semester. Be sure your student is Leveling Up! and ready to end on a strong note.*

# Semester Exams— Dec 18, 21 & 22

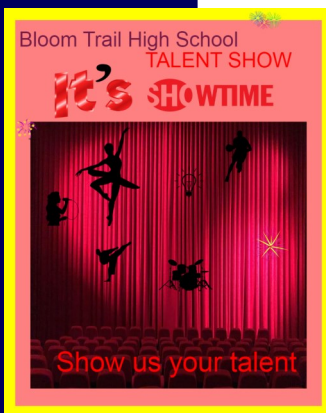
Our semester is winding down. There are only a few weeks left before winter break. The quarter officially ends on December 17th, and semester exams take place December 18th, 21st, & 22nd.

For many of our freshmen, this is their first experience taking a comprehensive exam at the end of the semester. Teachers will begin reviewing in the weeks ahead and offer students study guides to help

them prepare further on their own. Additionally, students can use Level Up time and make appointments to meet with teachers on Wednesdays to get additional help in preparing for exams.

Friday, December 18th	Monday, December 21st	Tuesday, December 22nd
Exam Period 1 8:10-9:35	Exam Period 3 8:10-9:35	Exam Period 6/7/8 8:10-9:35
Exam Period 2 9:55-11:20	Exam Period 4/5/6 9:55-11:20	Exam Period 9 9:55-11:20

Got a Talent? Video submissions for the Talent Show are due December 7th



# Virtual Talent Show

The Bloom Trail Student Council is sponsoring a Virtual Talent Show. Students should submit videos of themselves performing their talent to [dgomez@sd206.org](mailto:dgomez@sd206.org) or [jkoca@sd206.org](mailto:jkoca@sd206.org) by De-

ember 7th to be considered for entry into the show. All forms of talent are welcome. Can you draw, juggle, bake, skate, freestyle, or do basketball tricks, All videos must adhere to the school dress code and all lyrics and spoken word must be free of profanity. The talent show is another

example of the ways our staff and students are looking to build community and preserve our traditions while we are apart. Full information on the Virtual Talent Show can be found on our website at <https://bloomtrail.org/news/virtual-talent-show/>

# Creating Virtually Everything— Art Online

Art teachers, Ms. Miguez and Mrs. Insalaco are proving that with some dedication and innovation, performance and project-based classes such as visual arts can be productive during remote learning. They have provided supply packs for students to begin e-learning. These supplies are essential in allowing students to fully engage in the projects that are demonstrated via live camera and video that they record for each lesson. They have modified their course materials and lessons so that students can now cre-

**Ms. Miguez & Mrs. Insalaco demonstrate technique to students** ate at home along with them and with video instruction. After and during creation, students receive feedback from their teachers through progress checks and engage in self and group critiques of work via google meet and presentations. Our teachers have also been creating virtual gallery videos and posting student artwork on social media to continue to allow our

student artists to have an outlet for expression.



***Bloom Trail teachers in all content areas have put in a lot of time & effort into translating their courses into an online platform***

## NJROTC— Building Leaders Online

NJROTC is another of our programs that is traditionally very performance-based that has found a way to continue online. Cmdr. Isom and Chief Shelton are focusing most of their time on teaching leadership fundamentals as well as reviewing motivational videos that are thought-provoking. “We are making the best of what we have knowing that our biggest asset is

creating opportunities for new experiences.” NJROTC can give students a head start. People who are successful in life, who succeed in business, industry, and education have developed a strong sense of self discipline, a sound character, and an ability to lead and motivate others. NJROTC teaches these and other skills that can help meet life’s challenges. The NJROTC curricu-

lum, instruction, and activities are designed to develop leadership ability regardless of a student’s career path. Lessons of leadership, citizenship, and community are especially important during these times, and our NJROTC is answering the call.



## Placement Testing & Practice SAT

Although we are remote, we continue following our assessment schedule! Currently, our Class of 2025 is placement testing through a virtual platform with the collaboration of the feeder schools and the Bloom Trail testing team. We look forward to meeting the incoming freshmen live; the results of their

placement testing will guide decisions in planning for appropriate programming for their freshman year.

Looking ahead in December, the juniors will have the opportunity to take a practice SAT during the asynchronous school day on Wednesday, December

9. Encourage your junior to take the practice test; It has been shown that students who take the SAT more than once have a greater likelihood of improving their score. Students will take the practice SAT through their English class and their teacher will provide students with testing details.

the exam now will be beneficial not only to the students, but to the teachers as well. The teachers will be able to identify areas of growth which will inform their classroom practice.



### **Bloom Township District 206**

Bloom Trail High School  
Glynis Keene, Principal  
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**At BTHS, Every child is my child**

**Dr. Timothy Craddock**, Associate Principal for Student Services– tcraddock@sd206.org  
**Mrs. Susan Woodyatt**, Assistant Principal for Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessments– swoodyatt@sd206.org

### **Counselors**

Mr. Tom Doyle– Freshman Counselor  
Mrs. Laura Lauritsen– students A-G  
Mrs. Marcia Jones– students H-O  
Mrs. Amy Majewski– students P-Z  
Mr. Tim Connolly– Special Education Counselor  
Mrs. Amy Inka– Post-Secondary Counselor

### **Deans**

Mrs. O’Letha Watson– students A-G  
Mr. Tom Tong– students H-P  
Mr. Timel Moore– students Q-Z

## Student Spotlight— More College Acceptances

The Class of 2021 continues to earn acceptance into more schools across the country everyday. Not only that, they are beginning to rake in scholarship dollars too. Every year, Bloom Trail students earn millions of dollars in scholarship offers; this is not including any need-based aide they receive. The Class of 2021 is shaping up to be no different. Here are some more of our amazing students and where they’ve been accepted:

Aniya Moore- North Park U, West.. Mich U, & Bowling Green St. U

Sierra Keblusek-Wolak- SIUE, Lewis Cristian Lopez- SIUC, NIU (\$7,000 per year scholarship), Setan Hall U (\$21,000 per year scholarship)

Delayna Hardimon- UIC, NIU (\$7,000 per year scholarship)

Adrianna Menjivar- UIC Scott Sobbe- EIU & WIU

Heidi Sosa-Chavez- NIU, SIUE, CSU, ISU, WIU



**Alex Jones has earned a merit-based full tuition scholarship to Greenville University**

Idaline Muro Castaneda- SIUC

Stephen Terrell- Lewis Univ.

Elexus Lopez- Bradley U (\$20,000 scholarship)

Zoe Dean- NIU, Bradley U, Aurora U

Bella Mensing- UIC, EIU, U of Iowa

Aaliyah Jones- SIUC

Rebecca DuMontelle-Columbia Chicago, Minn. State

Anthony Thomas- SIUC and Columbia Chicago

Brooke Armstrong– Olivet Nazarene

Aaliyah Trabue- Olivet Nazarene U

Kira Machen- U of Louisville (\$10,000 scholarship), Bradley U & Northeastern U