



SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Labor Day– No School 6

Parent Co-Op Meeting 7

No School 10

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Early Release 22

Parent/Teacher Conferences– No School 27

BT Is Back In Session

It’s hard to believe that we are a month into school already. In so many ways, it has been a typical start to the year: helping students find their way around the building, teachers introducing themselves and developing their relationships with students, clubs meeting and sports practicing. In many other ways it has been a start like no other: teaching students the importance of wearing their mask, distancing themselves from others in the cafeteria, and learning to get along after a year and

a half of isolation and online learning. We know that many stu-



Bloom Trail staff cheering for our students as they entered on the first day

dents, here at Trail, and around the country, are struggling to readjust after the upheaval that

the pandemic has caused. We are working hard to address the needs of our students and rebuild our community now that we are back in-person. We are asking everyone to help us in this effort. We are confident that we can move forward together and create the school all of our children deserve. Our staff is thrilled to have students back in the building. I’ve enjoyed getting to once again attend sporting events, see clubs in action after school, and interact with students in our halls, classrooms,



During the first days of school students were able to learn about and sign up for clubs and activities.

Help Stop the Spread

Bloom Trail is working daily to help ensure the health and safety of our community. We have several COVID mitigations in place to help stop the spread of illness in our building. Please partner with us in our work by reminding your

student often of the importance of properly wearing their mask, maintaining distancing whenever possible, following the seating directives in the cafeteria, and using the hand sanitizing stations that are located throughout the

building. Our district is working with several groups in our community to provide and promote vaccine clinics in our area. More information on COVID in our communities can be found on the new district online [Dashboard](#).



Physics students made robotic hands for giving virtual high-fives

If you find out or suspect that your student may be ill with COVID or is a close contact to someone who is ill, contact the main office or the school nurse.

Mrs. Upshaw's reading class picking out books in our library



Bus Delays

Many of you have reached out to the school to share your concerns regarding the buses running off-schedule. Illinois is currently experiencing a severe shortage of bus drivers. Because of this, our usual routes have been delayed in picking up students at the start of the school day and dropping off students back home at the end of the day. Many districts across the state are experiencing the same issues. We truly apologize for this inconvenience and the inconsistency it

has caused. When the buses arrive late to school, we do not hold those tardies against the students; they will not be penalized for late buses. When the buses are late to pick up our students at the end of the day, we have procedures in place to ensure that everyone is supervised until their bus arrives. We also bring them back inside to shorten the time they are standing outside in the heat. The Bloom Township School District administration and the

Bloom Trail High School administration are working with the bus company to find ways to alleviate these problems, but as long as there is a driver shortage, we can continue to expect delays.

Thank you for your patience; we will continue to update you with further information as updates become available.

COVID Protocols

Navigating our new world of probable infection and close contacts can be confusing. In order to help our families understand the process, Bloom Trail has developed a COVID and quarantine FAQ. This document explains the process to follow in the event your child is close contact or has developed COVID-related symptoms. Anytime you be-

lieve that your family has been affected by COVID, the safest thing to do is to keep your student at home. Contact the attendance office to report the absence, and let the attendance clerk know that your student may be or is currently affected by COVID or considered a close contact. The clerk can then direct your call to the main office or nurse to

determine next steps. Our district stays informed of all the guidance that comes out from the Illinois Department of Public Health, Cook County, and the Illinois School Board to ensure that we are making decisions based on the current information.

Main Office— 708-758-7000
Attendance— ext. 3104
Nurse— ext. 3127

Join Parent Co-Op

Our Parent Co-Op held its first meeting of the year on Tuesday, September 7th. Thank you to the over 2 dozen parents who joined the Zoom meeting wanting to get involved and asking questions about the school. Parent Co-Op will remain virtual for this semester. The

group supports our school through volunteering and fundraising, helping our clubs and activities, supporting teachers, and funding scholarships for several seniors each spring. The Co-Op meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, Octo-

ber 5th. The Zoom link will be on the school website and is sent out via email and text prior to the meeting. We hope you'll join us!

We are Bloom Trail. We are a CREW.



Winners from our 1st CREW cash raffle

This year, Bloom District 206 has begun implementing a new behavior framework called PBIS— Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports. PBIS is an approach schools use to promote school safety and good

behavior. With PBIS, schools teach students about behavior expectations and strategies. The focus of PBIS is prevention, not punishment. PBIS at

Bloom Trail is focused on CREW behaviors— Community, Responsibility, Engagement, and Worthiness. For all settings around the building, and in every classroom, students are learning about the positive actions that make us a CREW.

Community is how we treat each other, **Responsibility** is how we make smart decisions, **Engagement** is how we learn in class, and **Worthiness** is how we make sure we are working for everything we deserve. The goal of PBIS is to highlight, reinforce, and reward students who are demonstrating CREW behaviors and encourage more students to do the same. Students can earn CREW cash that they can use to win prizes or collect to earn privileges in the building.

CREW is more than a catchy name, it's a set of beliefs about creating the school that everyone deserves

Expectations	Locations			
	ALL Settings	Hallway	Cafeteria/Commons	Bus
Community Relationship Skills Social Awareness	1. Give people our full attention. 2. Respect other people's views & voices. 3. Encourage and uplift everyone. 4. Speak and act respectfully to each other.	1. Keep the halls clean. 2. Follow instructions. 3. Are empowered to say something if we see something. 4. Acknowledge others positively.	1. Are kind to cafeteria staff. 2. Socialize quietly with those around us. 3. Make announcements respectfully. 4. Practice good manners.	1. Respect the personal space of others. 2. Use appropriate language with our inside voice. 3. Represent BT in a positive way while on the bus and at bus stops.
Responsible Self-Management Decision Making	1. Are on-time. 2. Respect school property. 3. Follow instructions. 4. Wear IDs appropriately at all times.	1. Walk. 2. Use appropriate language with our inside voice. 3. Respect the personal space of others.	1. Arrive on time. 2. Wait patiently in line. 3. Find our seats promptly and remain seated. 4. Follow washroom procedures. 5. Listen to announcements respectfully. 6. Use appropriate language with our inside voice.	1. Arrive on time to bus stop 2. Follow all bus procedures. 3. Display appropriate behavior by not engaging in horse-play. 4. Wear IDs appropriately at all times.
Engaged Self-Awareness Self-Management	1. Listen attentively. 2. Participate fully. 3. Follow through with assignments & tasks.	1. Pay attention to what's going on around us. 2. Wear no more than one earbud. 3. We are active listeners.	1. Follow lunch line procedures. 2. Wear no more than one earbud.	1. Follow instructions of our bus drivers and bus supervisors. 2. Remain seated. 3. Wear no more than one earbud.
Worthy Self-Advocacy Decision Making	1. Work to be successful. 2. Identify and work toward our goals. 3. Have a Growth Mindset.	1. Maintain a safe hallway. 2. Move with purpose to be on time.	1. Maintain a clean and safe environment by following all cafeteria/commons procedures.	1. Maintain a safe and peaceful bus ride to and from school and activities by following all bus procedures. 2. Maintain a clean environment by following all bus procedures.

Parent/Teacher Conferences— September 27th

Monday, September 27th will be a non-attendance day for students so that we can hold Parent/Teacher Conferences. Because we need to maintain social distancing, we will be holding conferences virtually again this year. Families will be able to register for a virtual meeting with their student's teachers, dean, counselor, and social worker using an online



platform called SignUp. Unlike Open House in August, these are individual meetings during which

families and teachers can discuss individual students' progress and grades. We also encourage families to use this time to connect with deans, counselors, social workers, and other people in the building who work with their student. If you've not yet had the chance to meet or talk to these people, this is a great opportunity to make that connection.



Bloom Township District 206

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At BTHS, Every child is my child

Mr. Timel Moore, Assistant Principal for Student

Services– tmoore@sd206.org

Mrs. Susan Woodyatt, Assistant Principal for Cur-

riculum, 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. James Ison– students H-P

Mrs. Elizabeth Lloyd-Chambers– students Q-Z

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

September is national Suicide Prevention Awareness month. With the effects of the pandemic wearing on us and our children, this year it is more important than ever to raise awareness and connect individual to people and organizations that can support them.

At Bloom Trail, our newest student group, The Breakfast Club, has planned suicide prevention activities for our school community to help raise awareness. All BT staff and students received and have been wearing purple and teal “I Care About You.” wristbands to show people who may be struggling that someone cares about them. The group also sponsored a T-shirt sale and is planning a day for everyone to wear their shirt as an even more visible sign of support. On our Sep-

tember 8th early release day, classes took time out to learn about suicide prevention and ways to seek and give support. Throughout the school there are signs with purple semicolons posted. The semicolon is a mark



The semicolon is the symbol of suicide prevention. It signifies a pause, not an ending.

of punctuation that signifies a pause in a sentence as opposed to an ending. A semicolon means that although one part is finished, another part is just beginning. It is the national symbol of suicide prevention. For people who have survived the struggle it indicates that one part of their life has ended, but there is more, much more, to come. If you know someone who is struggling, please reach out to them and let them know that someone cares. If you are concerned about a student, please reach out to their school counselor and/or social worker.

National Suicide Prevention Hotline-
(800) 273-8255

National Alliance on Mental Health-
(800) 346-4572