

**February 3, 2021 Co-Principals' Report to the BMU School Board
Presented by Scott Blood; Principal Grades PreK - 6 & John Barone; Principal
Grades 7-12**

I. Winter Assessment Season

The winter student assessment season is underway. The elementary grades (K, 1, & 2) are completing the winter administration of the POA (Primary Observation Assessment). Also, some teachers in grades K-3 are administering the PNOA (Primary Number and Observation Assessment) or ENOA (Elementary Number and Observation Assessment) as a diagnostic tool. These two math assessments are not required until the 2021/2022 school year. The window for the winter administration of the STAR Reading and STAR Math assessments opens February 1, 2021 and runs through February 19, 2021. These (local) assessments are administered to students in grades 3 through 8. We anticipate having the Winter Local Assessment Report to the board in March.

II. Remote Learning

Beth Fraser has been re-assigned to be the remote teacher for the elementary grades. Ms. Fraser started in this position as of January 19, 2021, and began teaching her group of students on January 25, 2021. She will be providing instruction to those elementary students who have committed to full-time remote learning on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Ms. Fraser is operating under a co-teaching model where she follows the lesson plans of the classroom teachers and delivers their lesson plans. On Wednesdays these students join remote learning with their regular classroom teacher and peers. While students are participating with their peers on Wednesdays, Ms. Fraser is instructing 7th & 8th grade math classes. Mr. Blood was teaching 7th & 8th grade math classes on Wednesdays. He is now teaching high school Algebra I Common Core during block B3-4.

Mr. Blake Kincaid has started in his new role as the (Remote) Interventionist for students in grades 5 through 12. BMU is fortunate to be able to offer this service to struggling learners due to additional allocation of Title I funds. This position will be in place through the remainder of this current school year. Mr. Kincaid works with students both in person in the school and remotely. A referral process has been put in place for students to be referred to Mr. Kincaid.

III. Student Updates

At a virtual Forensics Tournament on January 23, 2021 Jake Faucette (grade 11) came in first place in the Impromptu category. He and Sam Despins (grade 11) will be competing at the State Tournament on February 8, 2021.

Madysen Harrington (grade 12) put together a news package/informational video informing the community of how BMU uses Title 1 money. The video was posted to our Bucks News Network Facebook page on January 14th. In that 12 day span, it has reached 1,182 people. Of those 1,182 people, 978 have started the video (although many didn't watch the entire thing). Of those nearly one-thousand viewers, 246 people in our community have "engaged" with the content, meaning they have "liked, commented, or shared" the video. As a school/district which received Title 1 funding, we are required to present annually to the community how we spend our Title 1

allocation. Due to COVID-19 this has been a challenge for this year. Madysen did an excellent job with the news package. If you haven't seen the video yet, you may watch it here.

<https://www.facebook.com/BucksNewsNetwork/videos/324093978846880> The news package has also been placed on the BMU web page.

IV. High School Scheduling for 2021-2022

Dawn Blanchard has taken over scheduling and the building of the high school master schedule for the 2021-2022 school year. She has met with each of the teachers, by department, to look at classes for next year and is working on a first draft of the high school's master schedule. She is also working on the *2021-2022 Program of Studies*. We are pleased to announce the following new courses that will be offered to high school students for next year:

History of Rock - a music/fine arts elective

Healthy Living - a health elective

Outdoor Adventures - a PE class/elective class

SNHU Anatomy & Physiology - a 2 credit science course (and a 3 credit undergraduate college course)

SNHU Introduction of Sociology - a 2 credit social studies course (and a 3 credit undergraduate college course)

SNHU Probability & Statistics - a 2 credit math course (and a 3 credit undergraduate college course)

SNHU College Composition - a 2 credit English course (and a 3 credit undergraduate college course)

Advanced Spanish Grammar, Composition, and Conversation - a world language honors level elective course

Foundations of Accounting - a mathematics/elective course

Occupational/Technical Mathematics - a mathematics/elective course

Diversity Studies - an English course

Yearbook - This class will be taught by Mrs. Dube and Mr. Munson. Therefore students can earn either an art credit or a technology credit.

Once completed, detailed course descriptions will be available in the *2021-2022 Program of Studies*.

V. Student - Teacher

Beginning January 19, 2021, Monique Brochu joined BMU's Kindergarten and Early Childhood Special Education Department as a student teacher. Monique attends Northern Vermont University-Lyndon and will graduate this spring with a degree in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, and Special Education. We are very pleased to have Monique completing her student teaching at BMU!

VI. Winter Athletics Update

Through much planning and organization the dedicated staff and student athletes that make up our programs have been back in the gym since state officials deemed it safe to do so. This season has certainly brought about change and while we will dearly miss things like our community in the gym with us we are grateful for the opportunity to come together and participate in the winter sports we love. All of our programs are currently up and running inside our building on a daily basis. When/if games are allowed we plan to live stream all home events in Dr. Harry M. Rowe Gymnasium at all levels to ensure our community is able to continue a long proud tradition of support that is Blue Mountain Athletics. (This information was provided by Todd Powers, BMU's Athletic Director).

VII. The Great Kindness Challenge Week

Led by Mrs. Gandin, the elementary grades are participating in the Great Kindness Challenge Week (January 25th - January 29th). Students and staff are participating in a variety of activities, challenges, and fun dress-up days. Students are encouraged to show acts of kindness and if, by the end of the week, students are able to express 1,000 or more acts of kindness, Mr. Blood will be tasked with a "secret" challenge, chosen by students and staff.