

February 2017

Badger Broadcast

Bret Harte School
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Calendar of Events

February

- 2nd End of the 2nd Quarter
- 3rd No School
- 8th LSC Meeting
5:30 pm
- 9th PAC Meeting 8:30am
- 10th Report Cards
Sent Home
- 14th Valentine's Day –
Dress Down (\$1)
- 17th 100th Day of School
- 20th No School- Presidents'
Day
- 24th Badger Day
(\$1 Out of Uniform)
- 25th *Ties & Tiaras*: Family
Dance
- 27th 8th Grade Picture
Retakes

Greetings Bret Harte Families,

It is difficult to believe that we are halfway through the school year. February may be the shortest month of the year, yet it's still a month full of rich history and events. Each classroom responds to a daily Black History trivia question, students are researching historical African-American icons, the intermediate and upper grade students are preparing for the assembly and it is also being supported by the modern jazz dance after school program. This month is filled with many activities to acknowledge Valentine's Day and President's Day.

Report Cards

Reports Cards will be sent home with each student on Friday, February 10th. Along with their report card, students in grades 3rd-8th will receive their Winter NWEA report for reading and math. The NWEA Reading & Math Tests are administered during the middle of the school year to give teachers, students, and parents a sense of where the students are performing in reading and math at this point in the school year. Students in Kdg-2nd will receive a TRC report with their reading results and a NWEA Math report. It is important to keep the following standardized testing percentiles in mind when reviewing your child's performance on the NWEA Test: students in grades 3rd, 6th, and 8th who are below the 25th percentile are in danger of attending summer bridge. Students at the 50th percentile are considered at-grade level and students at the 70th percentile or above are college and career ready. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

\$10,000 Creative School Funds Grant

Forward Momentum Chicago provides high-quality, dance education programs to children with an emphasis on health and fitness. The dance program is centered on African dance and African American themes. This year's theme is the Harlem Renaissance. Students in 201, 206 & 207 will leave "dance class" with critical thinking, communication, and a creative mindset that they can apply to their other subjects. We are funding this African dance program with a \$10,000 Creative School Funds Grant secured by our art teacher, Mrs. Emily Forrest.

100th Day of School

February 17th marks the 100th day of school. Congratulations on being 100 days smarter! Our primary classes will be conducting a number of fun and enriching math activities to celebrate 100 days of school. All students are welcome to participate by dressing as a 100 year old person or be creative with your 100th day of school attire.

Attendance

Our **year-to-date average** is **96.37** and we had a significant decrease in December with 93.53%. We bounced back in **January** with a **96.7%** attendance average. Our current average is trending lower from January 2016. Students need to be in attendance daily and on time to help us reach our goal of 96% or higher by June 2017.

Classroom Attendance for January 2017

Place	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th		
Room/ Grade	109/K	207/ 7-8	203/4	204/ 4-5	107/1	208/8	206/7	105/2	201/6	101/3	202/5
%	98.38	97.64	97.45	97.18	97.08	96.88	96.53	96.34	96.30	96.03	94.53

Ties & Tiaras: Family Dance

Share in a fun filled evening with your prince or princess on Saturday, February 25th, 2017 at our first Bret Harte Ties & Tiaras Dance from 5:00-7:30 pm in the school gymnasium. The dance is a school fundraiser for the 8th grade class trip to Washington D.C. Fathers, mothers, aunts, uncles, sisters, brothers, and grandparents are all welcome to attend with their prince or princess. It is \$25 per couple, \$10 each additional prince or princess. The price includes music, food, and fun. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Advanced ticket sales only. The deadline for the ticket sales is Tuesday, February 21st.

Black History Month Trivia

Shirley Anita St. Hill Chisholm became the first African American woman elected to the United States Congress representing New York's 12th Congressional District in 1968. In 1972, she became the first black candidate for a major party's nomination for President of the United States, and the first woman to run for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination.

Mae Carol Jemison, an engineer, physician and NASA astronaut, became the first African-American woman to travel in space when she went into orbit aboard the Space Shuttle *Endeavour* on September 12, 1992.

Booker T. Washington was the first African-American to appear on a U.S. postage stamp.

Douglas Wilder was the first elected black governor in Virginia 1989.

Martin Luther King Jr. was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, Presidential Medal of Freedom, and Noble Peace Prize.

Fritz Pollard was the first African-American head coach in the NFL. He coached the Akron Pros in 1921.

The first president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was Moorfield Storey, a white man.

Little Rock, Arkansas was the city where the National Guard tried to prevent nine black students from attending a segregated school in 1957.

There have been 6 African-Americans who have served in the United States Senate since it first convened in 1789.

Fun Facts About U.S. Presidents

The only president to be unanimously elected was George Washington. He also refused to accept his presidential salary of \$25,000 a year.

Thomas Jefferson was the first president to be inaugurated in Washington, D.C. and spoke 6 different languages.

John Tyler, the tenth president, had 15 children.

Lyndon B. Johnson was a teacher and auto mechanic before becoming President.

Community & Family Events**Harlem Renaissance: Rising Up**

The Beverly Arts Center is proud to feature an exhibit of local artists whose work celebrates black culture, pride, race relations, and historic and current social issues. This exhibit will give a glimpse into the themes of the Harlem Renaissance and the Great Migration, times of significant and prolific artistic and literary blossoming for African-American people, through February 19th.

Beverly Arts Center

2407 W. 111th Street, Chicago, IL

Freedom, Resistance, & the Journey Towards Equality

This exhibit is dedicated to the thousands of unsung lives given in the name of freedom and equality. It has been designed to take visitors on a journey through the African American experience addressing several key periods throughout history.

DuSable Museum

740 E. 56th Place, Chicago, IL

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane

A touching play about a toy rabbit who travels around the world for twenty years before he finds friendship, himself, and his way home. Through February 12th.

Hal & Martha Hyer Wallis Theater

19112 Campus Drive, Evanston, IL

Next Local School Council Meeting is February 8th

5:30 PM in the Gym

PAC February 9th 8:30am