

Badger Broadcast

January 2017

Bret Harte School

1556 E. 56th St. Chicago, IL 60637

(773)535-0870 www.harte.cps.edu



Calendar of Events

January

- 9th Students Return to School & Progress Reports Sent Home
- 10th First Grade Parent Meeting
- 11th LSC Meeting
5:30 pm
- 12th PAC Meeting
8:30 am
- 16th Martin Luther King Day-No School
- 20th 8th Grade Pictures
- 21st College Starts Now Parent Workshop
- 27th Badger Day
(\$1 Out of Uniform)
- 28th Father Daughter Dance

Greetings Bret Harte Families,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! This is a great time to reflect over last year, focus on what matters most for the upcoming year and create a plan of action. Our hope is that the NEW YEAR brings new beginnings, change in mindset and the determination to accomplish your goals. Upon the students return, we look forward to helping our students to set goals and work hard to maximize their learning and reaching their goals. You will receive additional information about parent workshops, instructional supports and classes that will assist students in reaching their goals.

Progress Reports

Progress Reports will be sent home with each student on Monday, January 9th. Please make sure to review your child's progress report and feel free to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns. You also can access your child's grades, attendance and receive alerts through the parent portal. If you have not set up an account, please contact the office for the more information.

NWEA Winter Testing

We began administering the middle of the year state test (Winter NWEA/MAP) to all of our students in grades 3rd-8th to have a better idea of where our students are performing in reading and math at this point in the school year. This online test creates a personalized assessment experience by adapting to each student's learning level. The teacher, student, and parent will have real time assessment data and essential information about what each student knows and is ready to learn. Your child's Winter NWEA report will be sent home with their second quarter Report Card on Friday, February 10th. Things to consider when reviewing the report: students below the 25th percentile are in danger of attending summer bridge; students at and slightly above the 50th percentile are considered to be at grade level; and students at or above the 70th percentile are considered to be above grade level and have college readiness skills.

Attendance

One of our main priorities is to average 96% or better in our yearly attendance rate. Our **year-to-date average** is **96.39%** - September (97.53%), October's (96.62%), November (96.91), and December (93.53). We are in jeopardy of not reaching our yearly goal due to the December attendance. Our monthly goal for January is 98%. Please make sure your child is on time, ready to learn, and attends school daily. We would like to recognize the top three classrooms for the month of December, Ms. Turley's class (96.67%), Mr. Schwartz' class (96.56), and Ms. Grib's class (95.36). Keep up the good work!

Classroom Attendance Year-to-Date Totals for 2016

Place	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th
Room/ Grade	207/ 7-8	204/4-5	203/4	206/7	208/8	202/5	201/6	105/2	109/K	101/3	107/1
%	97.79	97.60	97.58	97.52	96.61	96.65	96.43	95.85	95.83	94.62	93.98

Parent Involvement Survey

Parental involvement is critical to any school's success. We want to encourage you to become more actively involved in a variety of opportunities that exist within the school day at Bret Harte. Our goal is to support you in helping prepare our students for academic success while honoring their social/emotional development. Your assistance will greatly support this effort. We thank you in advance for completing this survey. Survey deadline is Wednesday, January 11th. If you did not receive the link via email, it is located on the school website at www.harte.cps.edu

"College Starts Now" Parent Workshop

Even though your child is in elementary school, it is important to know what you and your child can start doing now to prepare to be college ready. We will be conducting a workshop at Bret Harte to address the skills and study habits that your child will need to lay the foundation for college readiness. The session will also involve explaining the different assessments administered at the elementary and high school level (NWEA, PARCC & SAT). Please join us at one of the two options on **Thursday, January 19th at 6:00pm – 7:30pm** and on **Saturday, January 21st at 9:00am – 10:30am**. Please contact the school if you have any questions and we look forward to seeing you there. Thank you.

Father Daughter Dance

Share a fun filled evening with your princess on Saturday, January 28, 2017 at our 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 of 2017. It is \$25 per couple, \$10 each additional princess. The price includes music, food, and fun. Fathers, uncles, older brothers, and grandparents are all welcome to attend with their princess.

Winter Break Online Learning

BrainPOP offers cross-curricular animated movies, learning games, interactive quizzes, primary source activities, and additional resources for students. It covers Science, Social Studies, English, Math, Engineering & Tech, Health, Arts & Music. Students, teachers and parents will have access until 6/30/17.

Username: hartecps

Password: brainpop

Student Fees

Just a reminder.... the deadline to submit your student fee payments is January. The \$50 fee helps to support numerous instructional programs throughout the school due to the significant budget cuts that we received this year. The school accepts cash or money orders.

Community Family Events**Art Institute of Chicago**

The Art Institute of Chicago is one of the world's best art museums. Visiting at any time of the year is a once in a life experience, however, visiting during the holiday season is even more spectacular! Visit Thursday nights for free admission (5-8 pm for IL residents).

Midway Plaisance Rink

Children with skates: Free
Children without skates: \$6
Adults with skates: \$5
Adults with skates: \$9

1130 Midway Plaisance
Hyde Park

Hyde Park Art Center

Classes & workshops for kids, teens, and adults.

5020 S Cornell
Hyde Park

Next Parent Meetings
Local School Council
January 11th
5:30 pm

Parent Advisory Council
January 12th
8:30am