

Blanchard Memorial School
Community Coffee



November 30, 2018

Blanchard Memorial School Cafe

- Numbers of class sections for next year
 - Four sections of second grade
 - Second grade opening - will start hiring process in spring
 - Go back to 2 1/2 sections of K
 - Keeping structure of assistants (12 hours per classroom)
- Communication home about what students are learning
 - Paw print - mid-month summary of grade levels and classrooms
 - Lots of communication home
 - Start with the classroom teacher, then reach out to Dana/Leigh
 - Keep conversation going
 - Bloomz - many teachers use it and update frequently
 - Dana's Requirements - 2 forms of communication home - traditional and social/online presence
 - We will share progress about math pilots, big information with families
 - Varied approaches to portfolios, etc
 - Words their way program for spelling - teaching explicit spelling patterns
 - Website and curriculum resources from the district - thematic units of study, programs
 - Google classroom and drive in upper grades, portfolios
- Students wearing jackets at recess
 - We are concerned about exposure, frostbite
 - We don't go out if it is 20 degrees or below
 - Recommend to kids - layers- can wear shorts, t-shirts in school, need to wear pants, gloves/mittens, hat, boots-outdoors due to exposure.
 - If students are not dressed appropriately, we will give them something to wear from the lost and found and call home
 - No one will be held out of recess
 - Lost items go into lost and found by the cafeteria
 - We have reiterated expectations to staff
- Creative Arts and Sciences
 - Enrichment program in Newton: <https://www.newton.k12.ma.us/domain/103>
 - Curriculum integration, special programming during the school day, coordinate with teachers
 - Possible PTF grants?

- Communication about band programming: Looking for clarity around expectations for beginning band ensemble
- Popcorn players
 - Resend email about auditions
 - Send an additional email about the crew
 - Dana and Leigh will clarify
- The format for emails from the office
 - Change subject to say topic, keep 'message from the principal'
 - Send regular emails about programming, events in the school
- Recreation programs: running club, art club, nature clubs, etc.
 - working on how to communicate about these things - clarify if there is a cost associated
 - Will list in the paw print
 - Meghan C drafting list
 - Recreation commission working on being able to offer scholarships
 - District giving us money to use toward field trips for students in need - can also be used for enrichment
- Equity
 - Next year - we will order all classroom supplies for classrooms - promoting equity, supporting students
 - Online homework, accessibility
 - Can use google from the library
 - Finding a balance between tech and traditional do students don't necessarily need to have a device
- Website - add a safe arrival phone number to the front page (completed)
- CPAC - December 10th - basic rights for students on IEPs at RJ Grey 7:00 pm
- Drives
 - Toys for Tots - have extended day send an email
 - Hats and Mittens
 - Food drive - later in the year

