



BJH HIGHLIGHTS

DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 8:** End of Trimester II
- March 9:** NO SCHOOL for Students; Mark Reporting Day
- March 12:** Trimester III Begins
- March 13:** Site Council Meeting 4:30 p.m., Main Office Conference Room
- March 27:** 9th Grade Choir Concert 7:30 p.m., PC Auditorium
- March 29:** BJH & PC Jazz Concert 7:30 p.m., PC Auditorium
- March 30:** Last Day of School before Spring Break
- April 2-6:** NO SCHOOL; Spring Break
- April 9:** First Day of School after Spring Break
- April 12:** V.I.P. Day
- April 16-20:** MCA Testing
- April 17:** Site Council Meeting 4:30 p.m., Main Office Conference Room; PIE Meeting 6:00 p.m., Main Office Conference Room
- April 25:** Mid-Trimester III; Progress Report Day
- April 26:** Parent/Teacher Conferences (Arena) 3:30-8:30 p.m.
- April 30-May 3:** NWEA Testing, Grades 7 & 8
- May 1:** 7th Boys Choir & 8th Vivace Choir/Jazz 2 Concert 7:30 p.m., PC Auditorium
- May 3:** Parent/Teacher Conferences (classroom) 3:30-8:30 p.m.; 6th Grade Orientation 7:30 p.m., S. Gym

SEM (Schoolwide Enrichment Model) News

By Laurie Schmeichel, SEM Coordinator

Mock Trial proved to be a challenging activity as Brooklyn Junior's team faced some tough competition. Facing mostly experienced juniors and seniors, our all ninth grade team handled the pressure well and learned how to stand up to objections and deliver some very impressive opening statements and closing arguments. Witnesses portrayed their characters, as opposing council presented cross examination.



MOCK TRIAL MEMBERS (listed alphabetically): Haley C., Kendra F., Annie G., Lindsey G., Mandie M., Stephanie M., Ed P., Austin R., and Mary S.

Brooklyn Junior sent three teams to the **High School Music Listening Contest** on January 19th. All nine students experienced tough competition at Buffalo High School. One team finished in 5th place, even beating a high school team. Hopefully these students will continue with this contest in the future.



MUSIC LISTENING CONTEST MEMBERS (listed alphabetically): Haley C., Annie G., Lindsey G., Hana L., Victoria L., Mandie M., Stephanie M., Jeanel M., and Austin R.,

TESTING, TESTING

By Christine Weatherman, Testing Coordinator

March and April are busy months in the testing arena. The State requires that students take the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA II's) to determine if we are in compliance with the federally mandated *No Child Left Behind* rule. This test determines the Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) of each school. All of our 7th and 8th grade students take the MCA's in reading and math. Our 9th grade students take the Graduation Required Assessment for Diploma (GRAD) in writing. These are un-timed tests.

Our English Language Learners (ELL) are required to also take the Test of Emerging Academic English (TEAE). This test measures reading and writing skills. These tests are timed.

The Northwest Education Assessment (NWEA) measures growth in reading and writing skills. This test is un-timed.

You can help your child do well on these tests! Some suggestions follow:

- Make sure that your child gets a good night's sleep before each test.
- Provide a healthy breakfast on test days.
- Get your child to school on time.
- Have your child wear clothes that are comfortable.
- Send your child off to school with confidence and words of praise.
- Suggest to your child to breathe deeply and relax before and during the test.
- Remind your child to read the directions carefully and look at all the answers before choosing one.
- Make sure that your child has a calculator and number 2 pencils.
- Do **NOT** schedule appointments for testing days.



Upcoming Testing Dates

March 12 – 16	TEAE	All ELL students grades 7-9
April 10	GRAD Writing	All 9th graders
April 16	MTEL Math	All 7th grade ELL students
April 17	MCA II Math	All 7th and 8 th graders
April 19	MCA II Reading	All 7th and 8 th graders
April 30 – May 3	NWEA Tests	7 th and 8 th grade students and select 9 th grade students

THE OLWEUS BULLYING PROGRAM AT BROOKLYN JUNIOR HIGH

By Gretchen Ray, Administrative Assistant

Brooklyn Junior High is in our fourth year of implementation of the Olweus bullying program. The program is designed to empower staff members and students to address bullying situations. The program utilizes a variety of interventions in order to reach students, staff, and community. The following is some information about bullying and the program at BJH.

What is bullying? Bullying is when a student is repeatedly and over time subjected to negative actions by one or more fellow students who have greater social or physical power. It takes on many forms including direct acts and indirect acts.

Bullying may occur when someone is:

- Using putdowns
- Name-calling
- Spreading rumors

- Threatening
- Kicking, hitting, pushing, tripping, or shoving
- Racially or sexually harassing someone
- Excluding

In the past, bullying was often seen as just a normal part of growing up. However, increasing evidence has shown that bullying can have a prolonged negative effect on the social, emotional and physical development of victims, bullies, and bystanders:

- Bullied students are two to four times more likely to suffer from depression and feel suicidal.
- Students who are bullied often fear school and have high absenteeism.
- Bullies are five times more likely to have a criminal record by adulthood than students who haven't bullied others.

hood than students who haven't bullied others.

- Bystanders often feel vulnerable to negative behavior and powerless to assist in changing things.
- Bystanders begin to feel a diminished empathy and sensitivity toward negative and harmful situations.
- Bystanders often feel a sense of guilt, but are unsure of what to do when they witness bullying situations and are unsure of how to respond.

Brooklyn Junior High will continue to strive toward creating a positive school climate where all students feel safe and are respected.

If you have any questions about the program please contact Nisa Giaquinto or Gretchen Ray at (763) 569-7700.

ARTISTIC ENRICHMENT EXPERIENCE

By Patricia Holton, Physical Education Instructor

Students in Ms. Holton's 9th grade Physical Education classes were involved with a special presentation from the **Shubert Performing Arts and Education Center** in mid-January. This was an interactive, web-based, distance learning program. The instructor taught from the Shubert Center and the PE classes were held at BJH. Students and the instructor were able to hear and see each other on the screen. There was verbal exchange between the instructor and students.

Hip Hop was the theme of the instruction. Jason, the instruc-

tor, covered the history and showed the students the difference between the East and West Coast dancing styles. He spent time informing the students that they are at the age of needing to make good decisions on what type of music they listen to and the dances they do because there is so much inappropriate material available.

Students were led through warm-up stretches followed by learning individual steps to a dance. The students received a demanding workout which complemented the District 279's Physical Education

themes of body control and fitness.

When time allowed, individual students had the opportunity to show Jason their "individual" style of dancing. Listed are some that took the opportunity to show him their moves: Fuming X., Andre M., Jesse H., Keng K., Xiao X., Mauricio H., Matt N., Reajhon S. and Omolara B. **Jason was so impressed with the skills of the students that he invited them to the school!** Interested students received information from the Shubert Performing Arts Center to bring home to their

families.

The PE classes and Ms. Holton would like to thank Ms. Kinsmith, Media Specialist, for the time spent making arrangements between both schools. Her work effort brought a new horizon of experience for all involved!



POETRY CONTEST WINNERS

Two students from Ms. LaPointe's classes were selected to have their poems published in the anthology [A Celebration of Young Poets](#). This is quite an honor, as there were thousands of entries in this contest. Congratulations to our BJH poets!

9/11

By Jesse N., 7th grade

Tall giants standing in the sun
None are as tall, not even one.

They glisten as they stand tall and true
Against a sky of wondrous blue.

Then from out of know where a scream is heard
And the people took to the sky and see one little bird.

But this bird is not a bird, but a airplane instead
Who's only purpose is to leave people dead.

The plane soars toward the giants in all of their glory
And knocks into one bringing down each and every story.

People are screaming and running away
As a second plane dives into its powerless prey.

It falls beside its twin, broken and defeated
The angels looked at the way the nation had been treated.

The angels cried a powerful song in heaven
On the dreadful day of 9/11.

Love Hurts

(I got to get it through my head)

By Kentaya B., 7th grade

As I reach my hands
up high for the one.
The thing I can't realize is
he is not the one for me.
I do everything I can
to get him back.
But he doesn't want to come,
So I pout, cry and whine.
But the thing I don't
understand is that
MORE WILL COME!!!
Maybe not this second
or not right now.
But sooner or later
the right one will
enter my life.
The right one
will be by my side.
And love me
for who I am
not for what I got.

BLING UPDATE

Congratulations to these 12 students who won the BLING drawings and received “royal” treatment, a Davanni’s lunch, and other prizes from local businesses. Please show your appreciation to the following establishments for supporting our Brooklyn Junior students and their good behavior: Davanni’s, Panera, Culver’s, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Baker’s Square, Grand Rios, Brunswick Zone, 50’s Grill, Rainbow Foods, and Arby’s.

*Congratulations to ALL our students who were
“caught” being good and earned BLING coupons!*



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