Now that the cooler weather has finally arrived and Thanksgiving is nearly here, that can only mean the end of first trimester.

There continues to be a whirlwind of activity throughout the school. The freshmen and sophomores continue taking the ACT Aspire assessments each week and juniors continue prep for the their ACT test in the spring. Ted Nietzke, a motivational speaker, spoke to the seniors about “doing what is best for you because others cannot do it for you.” The seniors also have met with their counselors finalizing their academic schedules. Our school musical, *Newsies*, is premiering next week and winter sports are beginning soon.

We will continue to focus on Attendance, Teaching, and Learning. Attendance: Every School Day Counts. Teaching: Every Class Matters. Learning: Every Student Improves. We believe that the actions of adults, teachers and parents make a huge impact on our students. As we learn the most effective strategies to best prepare our students for college and careers, we are confident through collaboration and consistency we can make a difference with EVERY STUDENT. If EVERY STUDENT is willing to work hard and work smart they can succeed at anything they set their mind to. Remember if it was easy, everyone would be able to do it and then the rewards would not be as great. High school is not easy and earning a high school diploma may be a daunting task, to say the least. It’s imperative to stick to the formula, the ABC’S, so many successful students have lived by to ensure a quality education, a diploma, and an opportunity to go on to a post high school education. Attendance (daily commitment to school) + Behavior (solid character and good choices) + Courses (grades matter) = Success. Apply this formula and a commitment to working hard and working smart each year you will hopefully see success.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing you and continuing our partnership!

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

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<td>Key Club Week</td>
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<td>Nov. 7, 14</td>
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<td>Nov. 8, 10</td>
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<td>Nov. 26</td>
<td>Parent Meeting with Mr. Mork, BHS Room A101</td>
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“During my high school days, my teachers always wore sunglasses. Do you know why? Because I was such a bright student.” (no seriously)
With the start of the Winter sports seasons right around the corner, just a reminder you are still able to buy booster club passes for your family in the high school office. The price for a family pass is $75, the price for a single pass is $40.

I recently read an article in the Fall Edition of the *Interscholastic Athletic Administration* written by Mark Rerick related to the shortage of officials across the country. If you are interested in becoming an official in any sport, please let me know and I would be happy to walk you through the steps it takes to become an official. If you are not interested, here are a few things the article mentioned we could do to help retain officials:

- Refrain from yelling at officials: Imagine if your job consisted of strangers (or familiar faces) coming to your desk during the day and loudly criticizing you. It’s not fun.
- Older officials are retiring to avoid the abuse, and the younger officials are getting out earlier. Make a point to be “nice” to the younger officials as they are just learning and we need them to stick around.
- Often, the criticism is meant to demean an official— as if the official is on a lower pedestal than the coach or the fan. In all reality, the officials are as necessary if not more so - as coaches for a well-run game.

A tip for parents/fans:

- You only need to say one thing to officials. If you believe they have been working hard, say “I appreciate your effort and dedication for our kids’ sports.” If you don’t think they worked very hard throughout the game, just say, “thank you for using your time to work with our kids’ sports today” that’s it; nothing else.

Just a friendly reminder this winter season, let the players play, the coaches coach, the officials officiate, and enjoy the experience of watching/being involved with high school sports.

**Save the Date**

Come join our Parent Meeting on Monday, November 26 @ 6:00 p.m., in High School room A101. A time to sit and discuss positives, concerns, or whatever is on your mind, with Mr. Mork.
What is JUUL?

JUUL is a new type of e-cigarette that has surged in popularity since its introduction in 2015. JUUL is already the most widely purchased e-cigarette brand, representing nearly half of the market share in the last quarter of 2017. Despite the fact that its purchase, possession, and use is illegal for minors under 18 years old, JUUL is especially popular among youth.

Discreet

JUUL has two components: a rechargeable battery and a detachable cartridge of e-juice called a JUULpod. JUUL's small size and its close resemblance to a USB flash drive adds to its youth appeal and allows kids to discreetly use and easily hide the device. Customizable "wraps" or skins featuring different colors and patterns add to the device's concealability.

Appealing to Youth

JUUL pods come in kid-friendly flavors such as Cool Mint, Fruit Medley, and Mango.

Nearly 9 out of 10 Wisconsin youth say they probably wouldn't try an e-cigarette if it wasn't flavored.

Not Harmless

JUUL's highly concentrated levels of nicotine have been engineered to mimic the kick of cigarettes with less of the harshness that comes with cigarette smoke. Nicotine is highly addictive, and it can have lasting effects on adolescent brain development, including permanently lowering impulse control and damaging parts of the brain that control attention and learning. Research suggests that youth are up to seven times more likely to use other forms of tobacco if they use e-cigarettes like JUUL.
As we move to Grading for Learning at the high school, it is important for everyone to understand that changing our grading practices does not mean that the practices of the past were wrong. However, in the context of our world today, what we know about student development and learning, and the ways we have changed instruction, traditional grading practices do not fit anymore. As you may have noticed, your child’s experiences at school are not the same as what we experienced when we were in school. We will continue to try and provide you as much information as possible, so you can understand this change. If you have any questions along the way, please do not hesitate to call the school (920-361-2000) and talk with Lynn Mork, principal; Joe Brandl, Assistant Principal; Jodi Becker, 6-12 Director of Instruction.

Our grading practices are about grades that reflect student proficiency and growth rather than grades as a reward or commodity. Teaching to standards and understanding student learning in light of these standards is replacing the traditional routine of activity completion. One of the most important jobs is to increase the accuracy of our grades by reporting a student’s current level of understanding - whether they learn it right away or through more study and practice over time.

One aspect of grading practice that you may have heard about from your child is their ability in some classes to retake different assessments. Beginning second trimester, all teachers will be implementing a retake procedure that is consistent for their department. These procedures will be clearly communicated at the beginning of the trimester. Below is some information about this change:

- Within these procedures, students must be allowed to reassess without penalty.
- Departments have set parameters for these reassessments based on their courses, and these are specifically stated in the procedure.
- Each department has set routines that students must follow in order to show the continued learning needed to master the material. This allows the student to reflect on their current level of understanding based on their first assessment and address the areas needed with targeted learning.
- Students will not be able to reassess without following these guidelines. Reassessment is not about just getting another shot to get more right on an assessment; it is about increasing the learning and mastery of standards and for teachers to gain a more accurate measure of what a student really knows.
Students of Mrs. Breunig's Drawing and Painting class are creating portraits for a KINDER world through the Memory Project. The Memory Project is a charitable nonprofit organization that invites art teachers, art students, and solo artists to help cultivate global kindness by creating portraits for children around the world who have faced substantial challenges, such as violence, war, extreme poverty, neglect, and loss of parents. Participants create these portraits to help children feel valued and important, to know that many people care about their well being, and to provide a special childhood memory for the future.

Mrs. Breunig’s class is drawing orphans from Bangladesh. Once the portraits are completed, they will get delivered to the orphans. The Memory Project asks that each portrait is supported with a $15 sponsorship fee to cover costs. To learn more about the project go to www.memoryproject.org. All of our students’ projects have been sponsored for this year!
Entertainment Weekly says, “Stop the presses! Newsies is an irresistible, high energy winner!” Vanity magazine calls it “Exuberant! It’s a vigorous David-and-Goliath tale rendered with old-school skill.” The cast, crew and orchestra at Berlin High School hope to earn similar statements from the audience following performances on November 8, 9 and 10, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. each evening.

Tickets for the show are now available at the high school office from 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. as well as one hour prior to show time each night. Ticket prices are $10 for adults and $8 for students high school age and younger. Friday night is often a sellout, so it is advised to purchase tickets for that night early.

The Music Boosters will be selling Drama-Grams and carnations before the show and during intermission along with concessions at intermission. The Drama-Grams can be purchased, filled out with good wishes for any cast, crew or orchestra member, and then they will be delivered to the receiver backstage. The same holds true for carnations. Director Lisa Utecht says, “This is such a meaningful gesture for our students. Some of them are used to accolades for academics or sports and this means just as much, but for others this might be the only extracurricular activity they are in and being recognized or sent good wishes for a performance is huge. I’m so impressed with the work of our kids!”
We are presenting our Veterans Day program on Friday, November 9th, at 10:00 a.m. in the high school gym. You are invited to attend and help us honor our Veterans.

**The Fallen Soldier Battle Cross**

Is a symbolic replacement of a cross, or marker appropriate to an individual service-member's religion, on the battlefield or at the base camp for a soldier who has been killed. It is made up of the soldier's rifle stuck into the ground or into the soldier's boots, with helmet on top. Dog tags are sometimes placed on the rifle, and the boots of the dead soldier can be placed next to the rifle. The purpose is to show honor and respect for the dead at the battle site. The practice started during or prior to the American Civil War, as a means of identifying the bodies on the battleground before removal. Today, it is a means of showing respect for the dead amongst the still living members of the troop. It is commonly seen in the field or base camp after a battle, especially among American troops in Afghanistan or Iraq. While it is used less today as a means of identification, it still serves as a method of mourning among the living, as attending the funeral is not always possible for soldiers still in combat.

The best way we can pay tribute to our Veterans this day is to recognize what they have achieved and join them in their resolve to keep America strong and free.