

September 21, 2017

Bancroft Buzz

The bimonthly newsletter of Bancroft Elementary School



Dear Bancroft Families,

At Bancroft, we are fully committed to our International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program (IB-PYP). This fall, the Minneapolis Public Schools began using **new literacy materials for High 5 through 5th Grade students**. We are excited to have these new literacy materials in our school and, more importantly, in students' and teachers' hands!

We all see ourselves as learners as we begin to make connections between our IB-PYP framework and these new materials, while engaging our students in meaningful lessons. Our students will be independent and critical readers, writers and researchers who read in order to deepen their understanding of themselves and the world around them, and effectively communicate their unique perspectives.

We believe students should experience the following high-quality elements of instruction every day to help them become successful, engaged readers. Each of these elements can be practiced at home as well!

- **Every day**, every child reads something he/she *chooses*.
- Every child reads *accurately*.
- Every child reads something he/she *understands*.
- Every child writes about something personally *meaningful*.
- Every child *talks with peers* about reading and writing.
- Every child *listens* to a fluent adult read aloud.
- **Every day**, *ALL students think of themselves as literacy scholars*.

We are looking forward to a year of learning and growth with our students.

Respectfully,
Diego De Paz
Assistant Principal

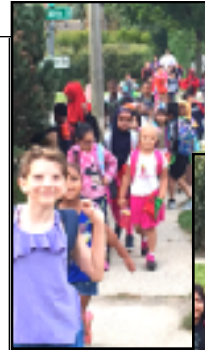
MPS Wellness Policy Change

MPS District policy prevents schools from using food for personal celebrations (such as birthdays), or as rewards or incentives.

Instead of food treats, if you choose to celebrate your child's birthday in his/her classroom here are some alternatives: • bring a pencil, sticker or seed pack for each student; • teach the class a new game; • bring a book from home to share during circle time.

Reasons for this policy:

- **We want to keep all students safe.** Many students have food allergies.
- **Let's create happy memories!** Children are more likely to remember fun experiences than a food treat.
- An important part of school is **learning to make healthy food choices.**



A FUN start to the day on Walking Friday!



Mark Your Calendar

Monday, Sep. 25 - PTO/Site Council
5 - 7pm. Combined Meeting



Friday, Sep. 29 - Welcome Back Pow-wow
4pm ALL Families Welcome! North High

Mon., Oct. 2 - After School Classes Begin
Turn in registration forms ASAP!

Fri., Oct 6 - Coffee, Tea & IB and Latino American Family Involvement Day
Time to be announced.

Mon. Oct. 9 - School Picture Day

Mon. Oct 16 - Read-a-Thon begins!



PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Tuesday, Oct. 17 - 3:00 - 7:00pm

Wednesday, Oct. 18 - 7:00am-7:00pm

See the Bancroft website, Bancroft Facebook page, or flyers for more information.

The walls are almost complete on the back (or is it the front?...) of Bancroft!





1st Grade Field Trip

IB Unit of Inquiry:
How We Organize Ourselves

Central Idea:
Citizens Transform Communities



First Graders took a city bus to visit a fire station, a community center, public murals and a community garden — and learned about the many different ways people help others.



IB UPDATE: What is an IB Learner?



The International Baccalaureate-Primary Years Program (IB-PYP)

At the center of being an IB learner is the **Learner Profile**. This is a set of attributes that describe *the kind of people we want to be!*

Because the IB-PYP focuses on the *whole person*, our students will grow to become active, responsible citizens. The Learner Profile helps us attain this goal.

It permeates the daily life here at Bancroft! You will hear these words as students and teachers talk about how we are living the **Learner Profile** and, most importantly, you will feel the sense of community we are creating!

- ❖ Caring
- ❖ Thinkers
- ❖ Inquirers
- ❖ Knowledgeable
- ❖ Open-minded
- ❖ Risk-takers
- ❖ Communicators
- ❖ Principled
- ❖ Balanced
- ❖ Reflective

Talk about these IB Learner attributes with your child!

Here are three that seem especially appropriate right now...

CARING – we are kind and respectful, and try not to hurt other’s feelings. We try to make a good difference in other people’s lives and in the world.

Who is a *caring* person you know who shows kindness and



OPEN-MINDED – we understand our own culture and history, and are willing to learn from others who are different. We listen to different points of view and learn from them.

How are you *open-minded* at home, at school, at work?



RISK-TAKERS - we think about new things and then bravely try them out. We stand up for what we believe.

How have you been a *risk-taker* in standing up for what you believe?



VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

Now that our classroom communities have settled into their learning routines, and students and their teachers have gotten to know each other better, we invite parents and guardians to **come lend a hand in the classroom, or help out in other ways around Bancroft!**

Please fill out the online MPS Parent Volunteer Form (there is a link on our website), and give Linda, our Family Liaison a call: 612-668-3574. We’ll get you set up!