



# BUHS NEWSLETTER

October 2016

## Welcome Back!

### Building Hours

Classes at BUHS are scheduled to run from 8:45 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. each school day. The building is open at 8:00 a.m. each day. Please do not drop your child off before 8:00 a.m. We do not have staff to supervise students before that time.

### Changes at BUHS

For the 2016-2017 school year, we've restructured the administrative team at BUHS. **Steve Perrin** returns as Principal and we welcome back **Chris Day** as Assistant Principal for Grades 9 and 11. **Kate Margaitis** is serving as Assistant Principal for Grades 10 and 12. This change improves the alignment of the administrative team with the counselor assignments. We've retired the names Purple and White Houses to avoid confusion, but we are certainly open to new House titles!

### Important Information About Attendance

Please be sure to call the Attendance Office (451-3419) by 8:30 a.m. if your child will not be attending school on that day. For all students, we now ask that attendance questions be directed to Andrea Goggin at 451-3419.

### Late Arrivals

Students are allowed only six (6) excused tardies (with either a note or a phone call from a parent or guardian) per semester. After that time, the late arrivals are unexcused unless medical or other official documentation is provided. A phone call or note is not adequate to excuse any late arrival beyond the excused six. The same limitations apply to 18 year olds, only they may write their own notes up to 6 times. Students with more than 6 excused absences will be referred to administration.

We appreciate your support in minimizing the time your child misses from class and school. Students should bring a note from a parent or guardian to the Attendance Office the morning of their appointment and will then be given a pass to be released from school. If a phone call is made instead, students should still obtain a pass from the Attendance Office.

### Demographic Information

The phone number we have on file is the number we will be using for any automated calls, which are the calls that advise you of school closings and other important information. Please let us know if your phone number has changed and needs to be updated!

### SBAC

The Smarter Balanced Assessment window has been released by the VT Agency of Education. The State of Vermont requires that all 11th grade students participate in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) assessments in English Language Arts and Math. The window for testing is March 14th to May 26th, 2017. In the next few months, we'll be releasing a schedule for the testing. That schedule will be constructed to create the best possible testing environment for our juniors so that they may focus on demonstrating their ELA and Math accomplishments.

### Proficiency Based Instruction and Assessment

For the previous three years, we have been planning our transition to a proficiency based model for instruction and assessment. Proficiency based learning is the practice of instructing and assessing students based on pre-determined expectations of what the student will know and be able to do.

This year, we're beginning the transition with some changes in the way we instruct and assess. This is what students and parents will see this year:

- All BUHS courses now separate out academic grade reporting from participation. Grades reported to students and parents are solely based on content and skills acquired.
- Every ten days, the teacher will report on your student's Habits of Work using a school-wide rubric. This includes the categories Collaboration, Work Completion, Participation and Behavior.
- All BUHS departments now use a retake and revision policy for some assignments. These policies do require that a student demonstrates investment in learning and reviewing materials, but it is a great way to continue growing as a student.

### New Faces at BUHS

We are excited to welcome **Brian Wuoti** as our new Mathematics Department Head. Mr. Wuoti brings a wealth of experience to our Math Department and will be sharing a lot of new instructional strategies with the rest of the faculty here at BUHS.

We also welcome BUHS graduate **Jaclyn Penson** as our new Certified Athletic Trainer. Jaclyn has done a great job jumping right into her new role here at BUHS!

### March 2016 Elks Students of the Month



*Chellby Ellison;  
Rachel Pennell;  
Christol Long;  
Emma Case*

## Parent Portal











### Getting Started with the Parent Portal

BUHS believes that students are more successful when parents taken an active role in their student's educational experience. Parents can log into Power School and see their child's progress. Parents can log in to see assignments, grades, attendance and more. To access the system, go to <http://powerschool.bu6.org>, or click on the link on the BUHS home page.

**The process for logging into the Power School Parent Portal is as follows:** To access the Portal, parents must create an account for themselves, using an account name and password they choose, and link at least one student to that account using an access ID and password that BUHS will provide. Parents of students new to BUHS District #6 this year have been sent a letter with that ID and password. If your child is not new to the district and you've never set up an account but would like to do so now, you may contact your child's administrative office, and they will be happy to provide you with that information. For security reasons, the office will not give out passwords over the phone, but will mail a letter to the home address of record.

Here's a quick introduction to what the Parent Portal looks like:

#### Navigation

	<b>Grades and Attendance</b>
	Grade History
	Attendance History
	Teacher Comments
	School Bulletin
	Class Registration
	Graduation Progress
	My Schedule
	School Information
	Test Scores

The main navigation page contains a menu like this one on the left. Most items are self-explanatory. The most frequently used are:

**Grades and Attendance** - you can see grades for currently enrolled courses, and also click through to see individual assignments, if the teacher has published them. You can also see attendance totals for current courses, and click through to details for those courses. Totals may not reflect all days of the current week. This section is also where you can see the Habits of Work assessments teachers have made. Aggregate HOW scores can be seen in the Standards tab in this section, and the scores on each discrete assessment can be seen by clicking on the child's current grade in a class. This brings up a screen showing the scores on each assignment given in the class and each HOW assessment.

If the teacher has entered this information, it may also tell you if an assignment is late or incomplete, or if the student has been exempted from the assignment.

**School Bulletin** - contains all the morning announcements.

#### Other notable pages:

**Test scores** - will contain Accuplacer results if you've taken one through the career center. Otherwise not used at present.

**Class registration** - currently contains your course requests for this year. In the spring, this will be used to request classes for next year.

**Attendance history** - a day by day view of attendance, as opposed to grades and attendance, which contain totals only.

## Important 1st Semester Dates at BUHS

### October

1	SAT
6	Early Release-Parent Conferences
10	NO SCHOOL
14-15	Fall Play Performances
19	Photo Re-take Day
19	PSAT
20	Senior Photos Due
20	NHS Induction
22	ACT
28	Diversity Day

### November

4	End of First Marking Period
5	SAT
9-10	Early Release
11	NO SCHOOL-Veterans Day
16	BUHS Fall Concert
21-22	NO SCHOOL-Teachers' In-Service Days
23-25	NO SCHOOL-Thanksgiving Recess

### December

3	SAT
9	Progress Reports Mailed
10	ACT
16	Independent Study Proposals Due
22	Early Release
23-30	NO SCHOOL-Holiday Recess

### January

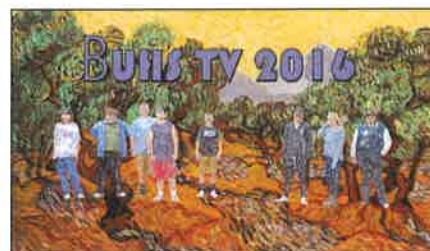
2	NO SCHOOL
10	Chorus A Cappella Concert
12	Band Chamber Ensembles Concert
16	NO SCHOOL-Martin Luther King Day
19-20	Final Exams
20	End of First Semester
21	SAT
23	NO SCHOOL-Teachers' In-Service Day
24	First Day of Second Semester

### Student Assistance Program (SAP)

The Student Assistance Program (SAP) is designed to address the issue of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use. The purpose of this program is to identify and help students and their families who may be experiencing issues related to alcohol, tobacco or drug problems. The SAP works closely with existing in-school services to make appropriate referrals so students can get the help they need. Participation is completely confidential and anyone can make a referral. You, as parents, know your children the best. You may be the first to notice behavior or attitude changes that indicate drug use. Teachers, administrators, counseling staff and parents can make referrals to the SAP, and students can refer themselves. The only mandatory referrals are made when a student violates the school's substance use policy or athletic code of conduct. Please contact Hanako Jones in the SAP Office at 802-451-3452 if you have any questions, concerns or would like services for your child.

### BUHS TV

The BUHS TV crew will be broadcasting again this year on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Be sure to check us out on YouTube. Pictured



are Samuel Baker-Gentry; James Wood; Jesse Martin; Zachary Smith; Liam Styles; Ryan King; Analynn Whaley; Danielle Winter

## Enhanced Teen Driver Safety Program

On Saturday, October 22nd at 10 a.m. in the BUHS Multi-Purpose room, the Driver Education Department, along with Windham County Sheriff Deputy Michael Roj, will offer an Open House to inform current students' parents/guardians of the Enhanced Teen Driver Safety Program. This program is unique, the only one of its kind in New England. We will start to build the important relationship between the instructors and parents/guardians and to inform you of all the resources you have in making your students' driving experience crash-free.



## No Child Left Behind

As a parent of a student at BUHS, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct your child. Federal law allows you to ask for certain information about your child's classroom teachers and requires us to give you this information in a timely manner, if you ask for it. Specifically, you have the right to ask for the following information about each of your child's classroom teachers:

- \*\*Whether the Vermont Agency of Education has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.
- \*\*Whether the Vermont Agency of Education has decided that the teacher can teach in a classroom without being licensed or qualified under state regulations because of special circumstances.
- \*\*The teacher's college major; whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
- \*\*Whether any paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please call Mr. Perrin, Principal, at 802-451-3409.

## News from the Colonel Yearbook

Colonel 2017 yearbooks are now available to order, either by credit card online at [Jostensyearbooks.com](http://Jostensyearbooks.com) or by cash or check (made out to BUHS Yearbook) for \$50 in Room 202 at BUHS. Options for name embossing, photo pockets, plastic covers, etc. are only available online. The 2017 yearbooks will be distributed at BUHS in May. The 2016 Spring Supplement (covering all Spring 2016 events and teams) is now available in room 202 for those individuals who have purchased a 2016 book, as are a few remaining copies of the 2016 Colonel yearbook. A reminder to Seniors: If you are submitting a professional headshot for the Senior section, it must meet all specifications and be in our hands by October 20th. Otherwise, we will be using your school ID photo for your Senior headshot.

## Visual and Performing Arts Academy

On Saturday, September 10th, students from the VPA Academy volunteered at the Day of Caring sponsored by the United Way. After a delicious breakfast provided by the Brattleboro Elks, students traveled to Harlow Farm in Westminster where they gleaned kale for several hours. The kale will be sent to the Vermont Foodbank and distributed to local food shelves. A fun time was had by all! Students who participated were **Kaitlyn Fenstermaker, Sebastian Paquette, Alissa Walkowiak and Sarah Gallagher** and VPA Academy Coordinator **Karen Trenosky**.



## BUHS Athletic Booster Club

The Booster Club needs new members or it will close down in January 2017. Volunteers are needed at all levels! Please come to our next meeting and find out how you can participate. Meeting details: Tuesday, October 11th, 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the BUHS Community Service Room. If the Booster Club closes down, these are some of the activities and programs that will no longer happen at the High School:

- \*\*No food at Friday night football games (we run the Colonel's Den)
- \*\*No food at the soccer and field hockey games
- \*\*No sport camp/event scholarships
- \*\*No senior athletic scholarships
- \*\*No BUHS Sports Program-showcasing athletes and their teams
- \*\*No 50/50 raffle at games (50% proceeds support a specific athletic team)
- \*\*No financial help with capital improvements (i.e., financed and built the girls' softball dugouts)
- \*\*No more monetary donations to support equipment purchases
- \*\*No more support for Letter Jackets for athletes
- \*\*And the list goes on....

The Booster Club has been supporting athletics for over 30 years! Please help us keep this tradition alive. Please come to a meeting or email us at [buh boosterclub@wsesu.org](mailto:buh boosterclub@wsesu.org) to let us know how you can help support BUHS athletics.

## VSAC Offers "Paying for College" Workshops For BUHS and WRCC

Vermont Student Assistance Corp. offers free workshops at local high schools to help families plan how to pay for college and training after high school.

The "Paying for College" presentation (October 5th at 6:30 p.m. in the BUHS multi-purpose room) provides students and their parents/guardians with information on financial aid and other resources available to pay for college. Among the topics covered are: types of financial aid; ways to apply; how family contribution is calculated; how financial aid is awarded; student and parent loans; how to compare college costs and alternative payment options.

The Financial Aid Forms workshops (October 25th at 4:30 and 6:00 p.m. in BUHS Computer Lab Room 123f) provide students and the parents/guardians with assistance completing the forms (FAFSA-Free Application for Federal Student Aid, and the VT Grant Application). If possible, prior to the Forms Workshops, obtain a Federal Student Aid ID for the student and one parent. Use these tips/directions: <https://ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/attachments/050415FSAIDReplaceHowToCreateFSAIDGuideATTACH.pdf>

## BUHS Players

The BUHS Players will present "Chekhov X2," two one-act farces by Russian playwright Anton Chekhov, on Friday, October 14th and Saturday, October 15th at 7 p.m. in the BUHS auditorium. "The Marriage Proposal" features **James Wood, Joslynn Wright** and **Mycroft Stone**, and "The Boor" features **Liam Reynolds, Theresa Underwood** and **Scarlett Schapp**. Both plays are under the direction of **Bob Kramsky**. Admission is \$5.00 For more information, please call BUHS at 451-3762.




Change Service Requested

### Summer Abroad Programs

The Experiment in International Living provides summer abroad programs for BUHS students who want to connect deeply and engage meaningfully with the richness and complexities of another country. In summer 2016, 11 BUHS students participated in programs in ten different countries around the globe. The Experiment offers need based financial aid and students can apply for scholarships from the Janeway Family Foundation, Merchants Bank Scholarships and Key Bank Scholarships.

If applying for a Vermont need-based scholarship, the deadline is February 1st, 2017. Applicants should go to <https://www.experiment.org/pn/apply/apply-now/> to start their online application. Students and parents may contact Marni Goodman at [marni.goodman@experiment.org](mailto:marni.goodman@experiment.org) for more application and financial aid details.

 **BUHS on Facebook:** In an effort to communicate more effectively with our students, parents and community members, BUHS has a FaceBook page. "Like" the page to get up-to-date information regarding important dates, events and other general information.

## Welcome Class of 2020!



### Foods Class

Mrs. Cormier's Foods class visited a farm to harvest basil for pesto and also got to pick vegetables and eat fresh from the garden.



BUHS student Anthony Martinez

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