



Berlin Brothersvalley High School

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www.bbsd.com



Principal's Corner

With nearly one quarter of the 2019-20 school year complete, I would like to thank all of our wonderful students, staff, and community members for a successful start! Our District is fortunate to have such a supportive community! This overwhelming support is shown in many ways including support of our performing arts programs by attending concerts and events, the support of our athletic programs, and the pride that is possessed by so many in the Mountaineer Community. YOU are what makes our district an amazing place for our students to grow and learn. WE thank you for all you do to support our students, staff, and programming.

Brian Thompson
BBHS Principal

Red Ribbon Week
October 21-25

End of 1st Marking Period
Tuesday, October 29

School Picture Retakes
Tuesday, October 22

Veterans Day Assemblies
Monday, November 11

BBSD Foundation Dinner
Thursday, November 14

BBHS Parent Teacher Conference Nights
Tuesday, November 19
and Thursday,
November 21 from
3:30-7:00

For up-to-date information, visit www.bbsd.com. Be sure to like BBHS on Facebook and download the "Berlin Brothersvalley Schools" App on your mobile device!



BBHS Students Observe Open Heart Surgery

Article submitted by Mrs. Erin Karwatsky

Reading about the human body and medicine in a textbook or classroom is one thing, but experiencing it in person is quite another matter, as thirteen BBHS students can now attest.

On October 8th, 2019 a small group of Biology II and Anatomy and Physiology students traveled to Allegheny General Hospital to participate in a unique opportunity to observe West Penn Allegheny Health System's Open Heart Surgery Observation Program, coordinated by The Gerald McGinnis Cardiovascular Institute. From an observation deck above the operating table, our students were able to view a real-time triple bypass surgery and a MAZE procedure to correct atrial fibrillation of a 50 year old male patient. During surgery, Ms. Patricia Wolfe, CVI program coordinator joined our students and provided a step-by-step explanation of what was happening in the operating room below.

"It was the experience of a lifetime!" exclaimed junior Adrianna Guindon, who is considering a career in nursing.

"Not only was it incredible to watch the surgery, but it was also exciting to watch the students' faces as they witnessed why science is so crucial." said teacher Mrs. Erin Karwatsky. "This experience will definitely prove to be a pivotal experience in the academic lives of our students, particularly those who are considering a career in medicine."

Allegheny General Hospital is the only hospital in Western Pennsylvania with a functioning observation room above an operating room. Mrs. Karwatsky already has a waiting list for students (and chaperones!) for next year's trip.



Pictured Above: BBHS Biology 2 and Anatomy & Physiology students pose for a picture at The Gerald McGinnis Cardiovascular Institute at Allegheny General Hospital.

Fall Sports Wrap

As the leaves continue to fall and daylight shortens, the conclusion of the fall sports regular season becomes reality. Here is how our student-athletes fared in competition:

Boy's Soccer: First year coach Heath Montgomery and his youthful Mountaineer Men's Soccer team enter the last game of the season with a record of 5-11-1. The Mountaineers have shown tremendous growth in playing quality soccer over the final stretch of the season.

Girl's Soccer: With one game remaining on their regular season schedule, Coach Jake Zorn's young Lady Mountaineer squad has a record of 5-10-1.

Football: With two games remaining in the regular season, Coach Paul's Mountaineer squad sport a 7-1 record and are a lock to make the District 5 AA Playoffs. The first round playoff game will be played on Friday, November 1 with a site and opponent to be determined.

Volleyball: State runner-ups one season ago, Coach Will's Lady Mountaineers boast a perfect 17-0 record with one regular season game to play. The Lady Mountaineers will face off against North Star in the WestPAC Conference Championship game on October 22 at 7:00 at Shanksville HS. With the #1 seed in the District 5 playoffs, the Lady Mountaineers will begin their playoff quest at home with a first round playoff matchup on Thursday, October 24 with a time and opponent to be determined.

BBHS also had students participate in Varsity Golf and Girl's Tennis through cooperative agreements with Shanksville-Stonycreek High School.

Best of luck to all Mountaineer teams and we hope you will continue your support of our students and athletic programs.

Parent-Teacher Conference Nights

Berlin Brothersvalley High School staff will be available from 3:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 19 and Thursday, November 21 to meet with parents/guardians. Parents/guardians wishing to meet with their child's teacher should contact the teacher directly by email or by calling the BBHS office at (814) 267-4622 to make an appointment to meet on one of the designated evenings.

If you have a child in the middle school or elementary, you should contact your child's

teacher or building office for information on parent-teacher conference times. It should be noted that parent-teacher conference nights are not the same throughout the district.

If you have any questions regarding parent-teacher conference nights or how to schedule a meeting, please contact the BBHS office.

BBSD Students Attend IUP Invitational Choral Conference

Article submitted by Mrs. Katie Spiri

On Tuesday, October 8, 12 students from Berlin traveled to Indiana University of Pennsylvania to participate in their annual Invitational Choral Conference. The students arrived early in the morning and were handed their packet of music to be

rehearsed all day for a performance later that same evening! The singers were active in intensive

rehearsals in same-gender choirs, which gave them an opportunity to sing in split part voicings with fellow high school musicians from the region and collegiate choral students.

The women's and men's ensembles worked with guest conductors from Georgia State University and Indiana University of Pennsylvania. It was an exciting opportunity for the students to work with these conductors! The day was full of singing, even during the three hour round trip caravan ride to and from the day's festivities.

