

# BETHEL PUBLIC SCHOOLS E-NEWS

*"Our Primary Purpose is to Improve Student Achievement"*



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## Upcoming Events

District School Calendar

◆ **May 25**  
Professional Learning Day  
Early Dismissal K-12

◆ **May 28**  
Memorial Day Observed  
Schools Closed

## Superintendent's News

*Christine Carver, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools*

### In This Section:

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Dear Parents, Care Givers, Staff, and Community Members:

At the Town Meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>, the revised Town and Capital budget was moved to a referendum vote on May 10<sup>th</sup>. The Capital budget includes HVAC repairs at Bethel High School and the Town budget contains our maintenance account.

Ralph M.T. Johnson and Anna H. Rockwell School

PARENT SESSION

Renovation Projects Logistics Presentation

May 22, 2018

6:30 PM

Bethel Middle School Auditorium

Dr. Carver, Superintendent of Schools, and Rizzo Construction Corp. will review the logistics of the renovation projects. Topics will include phasing of work and space, traffic plans, safety and security, strategies and measures to be used to ensure safety and minimal disruption throughout the renovations. Sponsored by Rockwell, Berry, and Johnson Schools

Next week we celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week. Our teachers routinely put others before self and work to challenge and inspire our students to see beyond the horizon a brighter future. Bethel is exceptionally fortunate to have such a highly professional, responsible, and dedicated group of teachers working in our schools. Please find a moment this week to say thank you.

The District's Wellness Committee is seeking volunteers to serve on the committee. The Bethel Board of Education recognizes that childhood obesity has reached epidemic levels in Connecticut and throughout the country. Overweight children are at a higher risk for developing severe long-term health problems, and overweight children are affected by discrimination, psychological stress, and low self-esteem. However, research indicates that obesity and subsequent diseases are largely preventable through diet and regular physical activity. Research also indicates that becoming physically active and maintaining a regular physical activity program significantly reduces the risk of obesity, and some cancers, diabetes, and other chronic diseases.

Children who eat well-balanced meals and are healthy are more likely to be successful learners in the classroom. The Bethel Board of Education supports increased emphasis on

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nutrition as well as physical activity, at all grade levels to enhance the well-being of our District's youth.

In order to respond appropriately and efficiently to these serious nutrition and health issues, the Bethel Public Schools established an ongoing District Wellness Committee to establish goals for and oversee school health and nutrition policies and programs, including development, implementation, and periodic review. You can view the Student Wellness and Nutrition Policies and other helpful information by clicking on the links below.

To view the click here to view the [District Wellness Policy](#). The committee meets approximately 3-4 times per year from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Please contact me [carverc@bethel.k12.ct.us](mailto:carverc@bethel.k12.ct.us) if you are interested or have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

**National College Decision Day 2018!**

Monday was National College Decision Day, due to that fact that the majority of U.S. colleges and universities have set this day as the deadline for students to notify them of their decision to attend.

National College Decision Day serves as a chance for our school and community to celebrate the success of the Bethel High School senior class. BHS Seniors wore with pride the t-shirt of the college of their choice on Monday.



Bethel High School Navy JROTC selected as a National Distinguished Unit with Academic Honors for the 15th consecutive year. Another impressive year of accomplishments under the leadership of cadets John Morris, Donovan Eaton, Olivia McGarry, Christiana Ruiz and Patrick Joyce.



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We are pleased to announce this year's district winners for the annual Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRR) poster contest which helps bring awareness to recycling in our communities.

This year's talented winners worked very hard, as well as staff members to make this a successful event for our students. All five schools participated. We also had four winners who received Regional Awards at the Regional Ceremony on April 25th and they are highlighted in bold.

An awards ceremony will be held at Bethel High School in the auditorium on Wednesday, May 9th at 6 PM to recognize this year's winners.

Place	First Name	Last Name	School	Grade	Regional Winner
1st	Alexandra	Lombardi	Berry	3	
1st	Cooper	McNamara	Berry	1	
1st	Everly	Oberacker	Berry	K	
1st	<b>Kayla</b>	<b>Bray</b>	<b>Berry</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3rd place</b>
2nd	Eric	Pasquale	Berry	1	
2nd	Irene	Joseph	Berry	K	
2nd	Ivette	Dufe	Berry	3	
3rd	Amanda	Guimaraes	Berry	K	
3rd	Cody	Spies	Berry	3	
3rd	Mattingly	Snyder	Berry	1	
1st	<b>Jacqi</b>	<b>Pijnenburg</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3rd place</b>
2nd	Brooks	Baldwin	High	9	
1st	Lia	Kantor	Johnson	5	
1st	<b>Ryan</b>	<b>Zabala</b>	<b>Johnson</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2nd place</b>
2nd	Lola	Huseby	Johnson	5	
2nd	Phillip	Meres	Johnson	4	
3rd	Paytn	Barlow	Johnson	5	
3rd	Preethika	Shenoy	Johnson	4	
1st	Amel	Hilmi	Middle	8	
1st	Sofiane	Hilmi	Middle	6	
2nd	Isabella	Leo	Middle	6	
1st	<b>Brianna</b>	<b>Argueta</b>	<b>Rockwell</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>2nd place</b>
1st	Emma	Norman	Rockwell	2	
1st	Haley	Cote	Rockwell	3	
1st	Anna	Pesacreta	Rockwell	1	
2nd	Ariana	Goncalves	Rockwell	3	
2nd	Eric	Dispenza	Rockwell	K	
2nd	Madeleine	Galvin	Rockwell	2	
2nd	Sarah	Haslob	Rockwell	1	
2nd	Trisha	Sharma	Rockwell	2	

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3rd	Anushka	Shenoy	Rockwell	K	
3rd	Ben	Greene	Rockwell	2	
3rd	Isabella	Coe	Rockwell	3	
3rd	Julia	Bara	Rockwell	2	
3rd	Nevan	Ross	Rockwell	1	



Summer's BEST 2018 has arrived! The Bethel Public Schools will be offering many new and dynamic programs. We hope to create a summertime adventure of discovery, fun, and learning that will build knowledge and enrich your child. The goal of the summer program is to encourage children to explore new skills, talents, and interests as well as maintain and sharpen academic skills, boost academic confidence, and reinforce the value of education.

The Enrichment programs are self- funding. The cost of each program is set to cover the cost of the teacher and the materials. You will be sending your child to a fun, safe, educational program.

Registration for enrichment programs has begun. We are using Pick- a-Time for registration. The link is provided on the summer school page at [www.bethel.k12.ct.us](http://www.bethel.k12.ct.us). Save the month of July to enroll your child in a rewarding summer experience!

## [Summer's BEST Summer School Program Information](#)



*Want to be the first to know when school is delayed or canceled in bad weather? Follow me at: @BethelCTSuper* In order to enhance communication with parents, in addition to our Twitter feed, @BethelCTSuper, we have a Facebook page at [Bethel Public Schools](#) We post photos of school and district events, general communications, and school closing/delay information. Please “like” our page!

## Board of Education Policy Updates & Actions

The Bethel Public Schools, as a learning community devoted to the academic and social growth of our children, creates educational opportunities that inspire competence, creativity, teamwork, and a drive to excel. In an environment of trust and respect, high expectations for student performance are evident in the discussions, actions, and policies of the Board of Education. Board of Education policies can be found on our district website.

## [Bethel Board of Education Policies](#)

The Board of Education approved June 19, 2018 as the graduation date for the Class of 2018.

The Board of Education approved the proposed 2018-2019 School Calendar. August 29<sup>th</sup>, First Day of School, is a full day of school.

Click here to view the [2018-2019 School Calendar](#)

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## Kindergarten Registration



Kindergarten registration for the 2018-2019 school year is now open!

[Kindergarten Registration 2018-2019](#)

[PickATime Kindergarten Registration Appointment](#)

We look forward to partnering with you in your child's education!

Last year we updated our *Proof of Residency* requirements. Connecticut State Statute require that students who attend our schools are permanent residents of Bethel. Parents are asked to show *Proof of Residency* when they initially register for school and if they move within Bethel. [Registration Procedures-Residency](#)

\*\* If you have not yet registered online for Kindergarten, go to our website, [www.bethel.k12.ct.us](http://www.bethel.k12.ct.us), scroll down, and click on the "Registration" link in the maroon circle half way down the page. Select *Kindergarten Registration 2018-2019*. There, you will find instructions for how to formally register your child for kindergarten. Please call the District Registrar at (203) 830-7355 if you need help or have any questions.

## Circle of Friends

### Pre-School Screening

Are you concerned that your child may be experiencing difficulties or delays with talking, play skills, problem solving skills or making their needs known?

If so, you and your child (3-5 years old) are encouraged to participate in a Circle of Friends screening. While meeting the staff to discuss your concerns or ask questions regarding your child's development, your child will take part in informal play activities that include songs and motor activities.

The preschool team includes the Supervisor of Special Education, Preschool Special Education Teachers, Speech/Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist and School Social Worker.

Screening dates for the 2017-2018 school year are: Wednesdays from 10:00-10:45 AM, **May 30, 2018**

If school is closed because of inclement weather, the pre-school screen will be cancelled.

Pre-registration is appreciated but drop-ins are welcomed.

For more information, please contact Kate Coffey at [203-794-8679](tel:203-794-8679).



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## Bethel Central PTO Membership

The Bethel Central PTO was established to bring together the 5 school PTOs and also allow families with children at multiple schools to only pay one set of membership dues and automatically become a member at all the schools their children attend.

In September, the Bethel Central PTO kicks off the Bethel Central PTO membership drive with their annual Phone Book sale\*, where for the price of your membership you get a copy of the 5 school phone book. But the opportunity for membership doesn't end after their Phone Book drive ends. You can become a member of the PTO all year!

All proceeds from Bethel Central PTO memberships get put to use in the district. Here are a few things that the Bethel Central PTO is able to provide:

- Scholarships for our Bethel High School Senior Members on their way to college.
- A Bus Driver Appreciation Breakfast to say thank you to our bus drivers.
- Support for Parent University
- Support for Post Prom activities

If you would like to join the Bethel Central PTO, please use the link below and fill in the form to get started. Thank you for your support!!

<https://sites.google.com/view/bpspto/home>

\*Phone books are only available for sale during the initial September fund drive.

## Family-School Partnership

The Family School Partnership Committee and Bethel Schools Parent Network Facebook Pages!

<http://www.bethel.k12.ct.us/cms/one.aspx?portalId=547022&pageId=1148834>

## Bethel Education Foundation

Click here for the [Bethel Education Foundation Newsletter](#).

## School Newsletters/Blogs

**Comedy NIGHT**  
Hosted by the Rockwell PTO

Student Art Work will be up for Auction!

Host: Erica Spera  
Feature: Tony Liberati  
Headliner: Andy Pitz

Live at Armando's  
Saturday May 19, 2018  
Doors Open at 7PM, Show starts at 8PM

\$40 Per Ticket, or \$50 at the door  
Includes buffet dinner, soda, desserts, coffee and live comedy show.  
Gratuity & Beverages Not Included.  
Armando's 47 Stony Hill Rd Bethel, CT 06801

Purchase tickets online by sending payment of \$40 per ticket to: [parentnetwork@bethel.k12.ct.us](mailto:parentnetwork@bethel.k12.ct.us) (include name and # of tickets in subject) or send check/cash to school with your student. Checks can be made out to Rockwell PTO

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name & Email: \_\_\_\_\_ # of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40 = Total: \_\_\_\_\_

[Click here for flyer](#)

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## Berry School News

[Berry School Newsletter – Dandy Lines](#)

## Rockwell School News

[Rockwell School Newsletter – Peek at the Week](#)

## Johnson School News

[Johnson School Newsletter – The Jaguar Journal](#)

## Middle School News

[Middle School Newsletter – Tiger Times](#)



## High School News

[BHS News](#)

### AP Testing at Bethel High School

The scholars of Bethel High School will sit for their Advanced Placement tests starting on Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup> and ending on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Students should get plenty of rest, eat a well-balanced breakfast, stay hydrated, and arrive on time for the exam. For test security, all cell phones will be collected prior to testing and returned once all tests are collected. We wish our young scholars the best of luck during this period time. For questions about AP Testing, please contact Dr. Reine Issa at [issar@bethel.k12.ct.us](mailto:issar@bethel.k12.ct.us).

### Next Generation Science Standards Field Test for all BHS Juniors on May 21-22

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) has required that all juniors across the state take the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) test this spring. The NGSS Assessment Field Test is necessary to evaluate new items aligned to the NGSS for use on future test forms. This new test is replacing the legacy CAPT science assessment. Please note that since the science test is a field test, there will be no district, school, or student results reported.

The NGSS Field Test is an untimed assessment that will be administered on computer. The assessment will require students to use information, observations, and data to think and act like scientists. Questions will challenge students to show a deeper understanding of their scientific knowledge by making sense of the natural world and solving problems. Sample NGSS assessment items are available at <https://airsience.tds.airast.org/student>. Students can try these before the field test.

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The field test will be administered to Grade 11 students at Bethel High School on May 21-22 with make-ups on May 23-25. Most students will take the assessment on their Chromebooks in their science class. Additional supports are available for students with special needs, as determined by an individualized education program (IEP) or 504 Plan. Students will receive two hours of community service for participating in this field test.

To find more resources specifically for parents and guardians, including ways to help your child with the new science standards at home, please visit <https://www.nextgenscience.org/>. If you have any questions about the NGSS Field Test, please contact Ray Turek, the Science Dept. Chair at [turekr@bethel.k12.ct.us](mailto:turekr@bethel.k12.ct.us) or Mari Lerz, Assistant Principal, at [lerzm@bethel.k12.ct.us](mailto:lerzm@bethel.k12.ct.us).

**Mark your Calendars! - Bethel High School Freshman Orientation will be held on Wednesday, August 22nd**



### Attention Bethel Alumni!

Have you joined the Bethel Alumni Association? Anyone who attended or graduated from Bethel High School is invited to join the Bethel Alumni Association.

Please contact Rich Bellesheim at [jeanrich@aol.com](mailto:jeanrich@aol.com)



### The 5th Annual Bethel Community Tag Sale

**When:** Saturday, May 5th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
(rain date is 5/6)

**Where:** The upper parking lot of Bethel High School  
( [300 Whittlesey Dr, Bethel, CT 06801](https://www.google.com/maps/place/300+Whittlesey+Dr,+Bethel,+CT+06801) )

Proceeds will benefit the class of 2020

Checks should be made out to: The Class of 2020 Student Activity Fund

Vendor set-up: 7:45 a.m.-9 a.m.

Open to the public: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (no early birds, please)

For more information or questions, visit <https://goo.gl/forms/0jGtDH5OID4b9zb53>  
or contact:

<p>Kristen Ricciardone <a href="mailto:ricciardonek@bethel.k12.ct.us">ricciardonek@bethel.k12.ct.us</a> 203-794-8600 ext. 328</p>	<p>Andreia Dovale <a href="mailto:dovalea@bethel.k12.ct.us">dovalea@bethel.k12.ct.us</a> 203-794-8600 ext. 317</p>
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### Spanish & Portuguese - Newsletter Highlights Youtube:



[Newsletter Highlights \(Spanish\)](#)

[Newsletter Highlights \(Portuguese\)](#)



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## Music News!

The Music Department would like to invite all community members to attend one or more of our concerts. You'll find all events on the schedule on our full [calendar of events for SY1718](#) Mark these dates now!

Please join our Facebook group!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/bethelmusic/>

And check out our website!

<https://sites.google.com/view/bethelmusicdepartment>



## BETv – Comcast Channel 97

BHS Spring Orchestra Concert is LIVE tonight at 7PM

<http://devos2.bethel.k12.ct.us/show?video=c96fd1d9e925&apg=13639a4f>

Berry School Celebrates Earth day with some music

<http://devos2.bethel.k12.ct.us/show?video=a84d0653ba86&apg=4d17c1b509fc>

Johnson has it's Spring Band Concert too!

<http://devos2.bethel.k12.ct.us/show?video=edf6324e3174&apg=4d17c1b509fc>

Check out our full line up here

<https://sites.google.com/bethel.k12.ct.us/betv/home>

Remember if you don't get us on Comcast cable, Channel 97, you can still see all our programming streaming live at

<http://dv2.discovervideo.com/play/?id=xw3838k&player=291&type=flash>

Or want to watch when you want to watch? Go to our video On Demand page at

<http://devos2.bethel.k12.ct.us/show-videos?g=4d17c1b509fc&page=1&filter=vod>

## BPS Flickr Page



Check out the new photos on the Bethel Public Schools Flickr page! Dan DeBlois, District Photographer, will post photos from various school events open to the public. Sports, Concerts and Musicals are some examples on Flickr throughout the school year. Follow @DanDeBlois to be notified when they photos are posted. Go to [flickr](#) and take a look. New spring sports photos, STEAM Expo, Decision Day, and Freshmen Community Service Day

## Parks & Recreation

[Summer Camp Flyer](#)

[Summer Programs Brochure](#)

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## Community News & Events



### BETHEL WRESTLING CAMP

Monday, June 25th thru Friday, June 29th, 2018  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

GP Room  
Bethel Municipal Center  
Grades K thru 8  
\*All levels of experience welcome\*

Cost \$100, second child \$75  
Current wrestlers that sign up a friend will be able to register for \$80, with the same deal going to their friend

Wrestling shoes and Headgear recommended but not required  
For more info, questions and to sign up  
go to the BYWC website:

[www.BethelYouthWrestlingClub.com](http://www.BethelYouthWrestlingClub.com)  
Sign up prior by June 1st and get a free T-shirt!

## BETHEL FAMILY FEST

**FOOD TRUCKS - MUSIC - HEALTH FAIR - GAMES  
TOUCH A TRUCK - LOCAL VENDOR SHOPPING  
AMBER ALERT - KIDS CORNER WITH INFLATABLES - SPORTS**

Join us for a fun-filled day  
as we raise money to  
benefit:  
Hero Project &  
Neighbors Helping  
Neighbors

**05.05.18**  
12PM-4PM | SATURDAY  
DANBURY SPORTS DOME

**\$5 PER PERSON OR  
\$20 PER FAMILY**  
(UP TO 6)

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## Families in the Digital Age

Join state educational leaders and members of the FBI's Technical Investigation Unit as they share tools and insights on these important topics:

- Keeping your children safe online
- Protecting your family's devices
- Talking to your child about Internet safety
- Preventing and addressing online bullying
- Applying social networking best practices
- Exploring technology careers for your kids

**May 15, 2018, 6:30 PM**

**Brookfield High School Auditorium**

**45 Long Meadow Hill Road**

**Brookfield, CT 06804**



**To register visit**

<http://bit.ly/BPSDigitalForum>



Brought to you by Brookfield Public Schools

In Partnership with  
Connecticut  
Education  
Technology Leaders



**CTETL**  
CONNECTICUT EDUCATION  
TECHNOLOGY LEADERS

And Technical Investigation Unit of Southwest Connecticut

**Where you eat, shop, and play all make our community our home! When you shop locally you are making an investment in Bethel, in your schools, in your neighbors, and yourself.**

Shopping locally is a great opportunity for you to support the merchants that support our schools, our sports, and other school clubs and organizations.

Check out the chamber's **Bethel Bucks program**. Bethel Bucks are gift certificates that can be used to purchase many products like groceries, toys, gifts, photography. They are even redeemable at the Bethel Park and Rec. department. They are available in \$5.00, \$10.00, \$20.00, and \$50.00 denominations. They make great teacher gifts too! Purchase Bethel Bucks at the Chamber Office or by emailing [Heather@BethelChamber.com](mailto:Heather@BethelChamber.com) or [info@discoverbethelct.com](mailto:info@discoverbethelct.com).

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## **Nondiscrimination Statement**

The Bethel Public Schools do not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, genetic information, protected veteran status or any other basis prohibited by law. The Bethel Public Schools provide equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding the Bethel Public Schools nondiscrimination policies should be directed to:

### **Title IX District Coordinator**

Dr. Kristen Brooks  
Assistant Superintendent  
1 School Street  
Bethel, CT 06801

### **Section 504 District Coordinator**

Mrs. Susan Budris  
Director of Special Education and Pupil Services  
1 School Street  
Bethel, CT 06801