Wishing you a Safe, Healthy, Relaxing Winter Break!

From your Blendon Bulldog Family

DECEMBER 2020

12/18: **LAST DAY OF CLASSES** & 2nd Grading Period

12/21-1/4: **NO SCHOOL**
Winter Break

1/5: **FIRST DAY OF CLASSES** & 3rd Grading Period

1/5: **Cohort B** Attends In-Person

1/8: **Grade Cards Available***

1/11: **Cohort A** Attends In-Person

1/18: **NO SCHOOL**
MLK JR DAY

2/12: **NO SCHOOL/INSTRUCTION**

2/15: **NO SCHOOL**
PRESIDENTS DAY

2/19: **NO SCHOOL/INSTRUCTION**

**Available online via the Parent Portal on PS.*

WCS District Website:
www.wcsoh.org

WHO'S WHO AT BLENDON:

- **Principal: Kendall Harris**
- **Asst Principal: Fred Tombaugh**
- **Secretary: Tina Showalter**
- **Registrar: Kathy Hayman**
- **Attendance: Jodi Dixon**
- **School Counselors:**
  Marcia Childs
  childsm@wcsoh.org
  All 8th Grade & 6th Grade Girls

  Amy Weinrich
  weinrica@wcsoh.org
  All 7th Grade & 6th Grade Boys
- **Resource Officer: Matt Ware**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

Dear Blendon Families,

I hope that our Blendon families will join me in reflection upon the successes of the year and all that our students have achieved in spite of unprecedented challenges we have faced in the midst of the pandemic. Teamwork has new meaning as our teachers, staff and families continue to work together for the benefit of our students.

While many things have looked quite different from what we are used to, we are still proud to celebrate our Blendon traditions and even add some new ones. We recognized over 350 students for our **Quarter 1 Renaissance Celebration** with certificates and prizes. Students in the WVA learning model received their recognitions in the mail. Teachers and staff continue to look out for those students who stand out each month and are nominated to be **Students of the Month**. We are proud of all members of our **National Junior Honor Society** who helped collect over 2000 granola bars for WARM to use as part of the Westerville student meals that they send home. They also collected homemade Thanksgiving cards for WARM to give out as part of their Thanksgiving Blessing Event. Our school counselors made a point to embrace **World Kindness Day** this year reminding staff and students that we all can ***"Be the 'I' in Kind",*** because even a small act of kindness can go a long way.

Even our Athletic Teams have risen above challenges to have productive seasons! With the Blendon's Cheer teams promoting that Bulldog Pride, our Cross Country, Volleyball and Football teams were able to have a successful and rewarding Fall season. Our Winter athletic teams look forward to being able to resume practices soon in Basketball and Wrestling and compete again this January with our Cheer teams once again at the helm.

When school is in session, you can always stay on top of what is happening at Blendon by reading our **Daily Announcements,** available on our school webpage and sent out via **SchoolMessenger** using your most current email address listed in **PowerSchool**. Over Winter Break, I encourage you to be on the lookout for email/ text communications coming from Blendon or the school district via **SchoolMessenger** in case of any important updates regarding our return in January. Updates are also always posted on the **District Website**.

At this time the **Cohort Calendar** indicates that **Cohort B Students** will return to the building on **January 5, 2021** when we begin Semester 2. Students in **Cohort A** will work remotely the week of January 5 and we expect to see them again in the building on **January 11, 2021.**

As a reminder**,** the United States Department of Agriculture has extended free meal benefits to all students through the end of the 2020-21 school year. That means school meals students eat at school will be free for the entire school year. To receive free meals during virtual instruction, families **MUST** complete the Westerville City Schools **Opt-In Form** for Weekly Meal Bags. The form only needs to be filled out once and can be canceled at any time by emailing Food Service at: thomasrl@wcsoh.org. Click **HERE** for more details pertaining to Food Service.

A quick note about State Testing… although we cannot be sure of what the new year will bring, please keep the April 2021 testing timeframe in mind before scheduling medical appointments or vacations. Detailed information about testing schedules is available on our school website under the **Office of Assessment & Alternative Education** section. To stay up-to-date on Ohio's new State Tests, you may wish to visit the following **Ohio Department of Education** link: **http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing**.

In closing, a huge thank you to our Blendon PTO for consistently going above and beyond to make things a little brighter and always to benefit our students and staff; and we are especially thankful for all of our wonderful Blendon families who play the most important role in helping our students to achieve goals and be successful. I hope everyone will enjoy the winter break, finding ways to regroup and refresh while appreciating time with family in safety and good health. We look forward to returning in 2021 with renewed hope, ready to embrace new opportunities to serve our community and support out students.

Best Wishes for a wonderful break and a Happy New Year!

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER...

Sign up for **e-Communications** through the district website to receive information directly regarding school closings & delays in the case of inclement weather!

School Hours for Delays:
1-Hour Delay: 9:15am-2:20pm
2-Hour Delay: 10:15am-2:20pm
Any delay would result in a shortened class schedule, however dismissal would remain the same.