



Buzz Aldrin Middle School
The STEM Magnet

173 Bellevue Avenue
Montclair, NJ 07043

www.montclair.k12.nj.us



Principal's Bulletin
February 18th, 2022

Buzz Aldrin Mission Statement:

We believe that all students can learn, achieve, and grow, in a safe and secure environment.

- **Advisory Information:** We continue to honor and celebrate Black History Month. Today, our students participated in an advisory discussing Black youth and Black youth movements as part of this month's Black History Month activities. Students watched a video that highlighted the various contributions Black child activists have made in creating social change. They viewed Amanda Gorman reciting "The Hill We Climb" and had various discussions talking about the personality traits that are required to be catalysts of change.
 - Here are some discussion questions below to help facilitate conversation with your child:
 - What did you think of Amanda Gorman's poem?
 - What impact have young Black Americans had in order to better the world for the Black community and America overall?
- **Poetry Slam:** On Tuesday, February 15th, the students had the opportunity to attend a slam poetry event in the Buzz Aldrin auditorium. They learned how to participate in a crowd, they viewed many talented poets perform, and they had an uplifting morning celebrating different voices in poetry. Special thanks to Mr. Fess for organizing the event. If your child is interested in joining the poetry club, please have them sign up via the Google Form posted in their classroom. This is a great way for the students to creatively express themselves!
- **SATp Update:** On Wednesday evening the SATp committee met. Staff shared antiracist initiatives that are happening within the school and looked for parental feedback. Please stay posted for the next meeting - everyone is welcome to attend! Special thanks to Ms. Bernheim, Ms. Cool, Ms. Grassi and Ms. McDonald for volunteering to lead this work.
- **NJHS Happenings:** Thank you so much to everyone who donated to the National Junior Honor Society "Souper Bowl" this past week! With your help, we are able to donate 368 cans of soup and over \$100 to Toni's Kitchen.

- We are no longer issuing loaner Chromebook devices to students. Students will be responsible for bringing their own charged devices to school. Additionally, we are not accepting parent drop-offs for any items other than Chromebooks.
- **Yearbooks:** Yearbooks are now on sale! To order your copy of the yearbook please visit <https://www.jostens.com/yearbooks/students-and-parents/about-yearbooks>, or reach out to Mrs. Mintz (jmintz@montclair.k12.nj.us) with any questions. Please see the attached Yearbook flyer.
- **Set Painting Club - The Little Mermaid Jr. - The Musical:** - Our evening Set Painting / Props Club sessions are quickly approaching. We are now accepting sign ups and space is limited. Our Set Design Elective class will be ready to pass us our beautiful designs in the next two weeks. We will begin to make them come alive in color beginning in February. All participants will receive community service hours. Break out your painting clothes and come join the fun! **FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER your student for an email invite to our google classroom:** Please email Karen-Ann Kaelin-Panico Theatrical Producing Director / Set Design Director kpanico@montclair.k12.nj.us Thank you for supporting the BAMS Theater Department!
- **Attention 8th grade art students:** If you are interested in submitting a portfolio to apply for Art 1 Honors at Montclair High School, please email Ms. Leard at aleard@montclair.k12.nj.us for more information. There is a Google Classroom to join, and there will be a Zoom Q & A session in February. Portfolios are due mid-April, so if you think you might be interested, don't delay!
- **MFEE Update:** Please see the following message from the MFEE: The [Montclair Fund for Educational Excellence \(MFEE\)](#) is our town's local education fund that supports *all* Montclair students, teachers, staff, and caregivers. Buzz Aldrin students receive social/emotional support and innovative teaching tools through MFEE grants, teachers boost their learning through out-of-the-box Professional Development grants, families get resources and support through MFEE Programs like [Learning Circles on Race](#), [PEEPs/Little PEEPs](#), and [Navegadores Escolares](#). Your donations - no matter how small - fuel all of this work! MFEE's Annual Appeal is in its final weeks, and your donation to MFEE can win up to \$2,000 for our school!
From **now until February 28th**, any donor who gives \$20 and above will be entered in a lottery to award a \$1,000 grant to their favorite school. [Be sure to "credit" Buzz Aldrin's team page when donating.](#) This will enter Buzz Aldrin in a SECOND lottery to win an ADDITIONAL \$1,000 grant. While you're there, check out all of the ways that your donations boost learning at Buzz Aldrin. Donate here: <https://givebutter.com/mfeeforthem2022/buzzaldrin>
 - Check out how happy last year's appeal winners were when they received the news! Watch [video](#).
 - MFEE is continuing its [PEEPs program](#) and still has space for new students. If you are interested in having your child participate, please click on the link above

- **Presidents' Day:** Originally created to celebrate George Washington's birthday, this federal holiday celebrates the contributions of America's past and future presidents. Enjoy your three-day weekend.

Next Week's Schedule of Days

- Monday, February 21st – Off
- Tuesday, February 22nd – E Day
- Wednesday, February 23rd – F Day
- Thursday, February 24th – A Day
- Friday, February 25th – B Day

Please mark your calendars:

- Monday, February 21st – Presidents' Day, District Closed
- Wednesday, February 23rd – BOE Meeting @ 7:30 pm – Buzz Aldrin Presentation
- Thursday, February 24th – Curriculum Thursday, Abbreviated Day Schedule

“For there is always light, / if only we're brave enough to see it. / If only we're brave enough to be it.”

—Amanda Gorman

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”

—Barack Obama