



**Buzz Aldrin Middle School**  
**The STEM Magnet**  
173 Bellevue Avenue  
Montclair, NJ 07043  
[www.montclair.k12.nj.us](http://www.montclair.k12.nj.us)



**Principal's Bulletin**  
**September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Buzz Aldrin Mission Statement:**

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

- Thank you to our amazing teaching staff for hosting a wonderful Virtual Back to School Night for our Buzz families. On behalf of the Buzz Aldrin staff, we are grateful for the positive feedback we received from many families. It was a true success and we thank all of you!
- National Hispanic Heritage Month is honored from September 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup> every year, during which Hispanic Americans are recognized and celebrated for their contributions and influence in American history and its achievements as a nation. Every morning, Señora Pichardo makes announcements to provide our students with information and historical context about this special month. Thank you!
  - In Señora Savoia's Spanish classes, students will identify Spanish-speaking countries around the world and identify the geographic locations of these countries on a map. Students will also research famous Hispanic Americans and create a Google Slides presentation for one famous person.
  - In Señora Romero's Spanish classes, students will conduct research projects about various Spanish-speaking countries. They will study each country's location, famous landmarks, climate, major cities, currency, historical figures, culture, music, food, customs, and traditions.
- Reminders & Updates for Parents/Families:
  - Masks are required at all times while in the building. If students fail to wear their masks in school, he/she/they will be sent home.
  - Please make sure your child has a water bottle with him/her/them each school day.
  - Students are required to bring their fully charged Chromebooks to school each day. We are also encouraging students to bring their Chromebook chargers to school.

- Please complete a free/reduced meal application if you would like to do so. The online form is available at <https://www.nlappscloud.com/> and hard copies are available in the main office. You may also visit the Department of Agriculture's website to access an application in a language other than English or Spanish (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/translated-applications>).
- Again, please **DO NOT** drop off or pick up your child in the front of the building or in a location where they must cross the street. Grownups need to remain in their cars, and be sure not to block the staff parking lot while waiting for their children. Students should not cross the street at any location other than the designated crosswalks. Parents should not stand in the staff parking lot to pick up their children. This is a safety issue. Despite the number of times this is written in my communications, this is still an issue. Please abide by the school's rules.
- Students are not permitted to leave school early and return on the same day. Please refrain from making appointments for your child during the school day.
- **Parents are not permitted to drop off belongings, lunches, materials throughout the day.** We will not accept materials dropped off during the school day. Therefore, it is essential that you make sure your child has all the necessary materials he/she/they would need prior to entering school for the day.
- The health forms must be completed by 7:00 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This must be done in order for students to attend classes. If students do not complete the health forms, they will need to wait in the auditorium until they can complete one themselves. This results in a loss of valuable instructional time.
- There are no visitors permitted in the building at any time.
- Please encourage your child to leave their desk shields (dividers) in their lockers. We do not have enough extras to provide loaners for all those who forget.
- All students must have their masks on at all times. If possible, please send your child to school with an extra mask in case the original mask is misplaced or damaged. If students cannot follow the mask policy, they will be sent home.
- Parents are not permitted to ask teachers for remote instruction without prior approval granted from building administration. Remote instruction can only be granted for COVID-related reasons.

- Side Door Announcement: Are your children looking for something to do on Fridays after school? Side Door is open beginning Friday, September 24, and there will be lots of outdoor activities and games, plus free food! It's located a short walk from Buzz Aldrin, on Cooper Ave. You don't have to register to go, and it's FREE! For more information or to pre-register your child, go to [sidedoormontclair.org](https://sidedoormontclair.org). Activities will be outdoors, but masks are required. Please see the attached student and parent flyer.
- Did you know? The MPS website is multilingual! We have many families in Montclair for whom English is not their native language, and the administration wants everyone to be included and well-informed.

The MPS website can be easily and automatically translated into the following languages: Spanish, French, German, Italian, Cantonese, Korean, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Russian, and Hindi. To use this function, simply go to <https://www.montclair.k12.nj.us/> and click on "Language".

- Attention all SEPAC Members: The first SEPAC meeting of the school year will be held this Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. The meeting is a Parent Support meeting and is open to our SEPAC members who are parents and caregivers.
  - Topic: SEPAC Parent/Caregiver Meeting  
Time: Sep 27, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)  
Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4206600639>  
Meeting ID: 420 660 0639
- Students have been or will be taking the Renaissance Learning STAR assessments in their Math and ELA classes. Renaissance Learning (RL) is a way for teachers to administer a norm-based diagnostic assessment to help guide instructional practices for each student and each class.
- We are pleased to announce this year's Buzz Aldrin Musical Production is Disney's *The Little Mermaid Junior*. The production will be both exciting and a visual delight. The fairy tale about a mermaid living in an undersea country. The production is full of catchy songs and enchanted fairytale theater magic. *The Little Mermaid* is for anyone who enjoys all aspects of theater. We are looking for ALL students who want to be a part of this musical and join our theater family. We support students who part of other clubs/sports/extracurricular activities. Auditions will be held in mid-late October and our production is tentatively in April 2022. For more information or if you are interested in joining, please email Ms. Karen-Ann Panico at [kpanico@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:kpanico@montclair.k12.nj.us).
- The Yearbook Club is looking for members! Please join our Google Classroom for updates about our first meeting! The classroom code is lofsl2f.

**Next Week's Schedule of Days**

- Monday, September 27 - F Day
- Tuesday, September 28 - A Day
- Wednesday, September 29 - B Day
- Thursday, September 30 - C Day
- Friday, October 1 - D Day

**Please mark your calendars:**

- Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> - Virtual PTA Meeting @ 7 pm
- Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> - Board of Education @ 7:30 pm
- Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup> - Schools Closed, PD for Teachers
- Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup> - Abbreviated Day Schedule, Curriculum Thursday

***“Be yourself; everyone else is already taken.”***

— **Oscar Wilde**

***“It always seems impossible until its done.”***

— **Nelson Mandela**