



COMMUNITY CONNECTION



Trunk or Treat November 2nd It's never too late for a little Halloween fun.

Decorate your trunk or Donate some candy, treats, or prizes. Fill out the Google form attached and let us know how you can help this community event happen.

Trunk or Treat RSVP

Currently, we have 14 families signed up and 42 people attending. There is still time to RSVP. We want to plan for candy, food, and drinks accordingly, so please RSVP no later than 10/30/24. **We are excited to host this super fun event! We could still use donations of candy, water, juice boxes and pizza.**

RESEARCH WEEK- YOU ARE NOT GOING TO WANT TO MISS THIS!

Plans for Research Week are coming together, and we want to share details about our event that will happen on Friday, November 22nd, for parents and families. This event will be one you will not want to miss. On this day, we'll welcome families not only for student presentations, as usual, but we're also hosting parent information sessions before student presentations. All families are encouraged to attend these sessions, not just families of upper school students. The presentations will provide families with critical information about supporting their children with their education and life journey after BBA and graduation.

Our first speaker, **Missy Wrigley**, has worked with **SERC** and their **Transition Initiative**, helping families prepare for post-school success. She emphasizes starting transition discussions early, ideally in upper elementary or middle school.

Our second speaker, **Jennifer Sullivan**, owner of **Fast Forward College Coaching**, specializes in executive functioning and metacognition. Her insights apply to students from kindergarten through college. She is also offering a free webinar on note-taking on November 10th.

Various community resources will be available for parents to explore during student presentations.

These sessions are a valuable opportunity for parents to learn how to support their child's future. Given busy schedules and travel distances, we're sharing this information early.

Attached is a flyer with event details, speaker bios, and a schedule. **Please RSVP as soon as possible so our speakers can prepare accordingly.**

RSVP link: <https://forms.gle/PKVpcPPqkL7PXYP17>

Research Week
Fall 2024



Please join us at Ben Bronz Academy for...

Since 2008, **Missy Wrigley** has worked as a consultant with SERCs Transition Initiative with a primary goal of ensuring all student with disabilities obtain the skills needed to successfully achieve their post-school goals. She has served as co-facilitator of the CT State Transition Task Force and she is a frequent collaborator with the CT State Department of Education and key stakeholders across the state to support the development of effective transition planning and services. She brings a wealth of information to inform and guide parents and families of students of all ages on the process of transition planning.

From kindergarten through high school, executive functioning skills are essential for mastering skills and tasks that allow students to demonstrate their learning. As academic demands increase, students who struggle with executive functions may experience frustration and decreased self confidence. Metacognitive strategies can complement practical executive functioning tools to help students better manage their learning processes, increase confidence and motivation, and improve overall performance.

Jennifer Sullivan is the owner of Fast Forward College Coaching, an accomplished author, and a provider of executive functioning support to students both in-person and virtually. She offers families, students, and schools guidance and information on using metacognitive strategies to support executive function and performance in a traditional school setting and beyond.

Both presentations are appropriate for families with students of all ages. Please join us if you can!

Research Week

Family Information Sessions and Student Presentations

Friday November 22, 2024

- 8:30 - 9:30 - Missy Wrigley - Transition Planning
- 9:40 - 10:40 - Jennifer Sullivan - Executive Functioning
- 10:45 - 12:00 - Student Presentations
 - Resources from various CT organizations will be set up at tables during this time for parent and family access.
- 12:30 - Student Dismissal for all students

RSVP

To help with planning for our guest speakers, please RSVP by Wednesday November 13th.

RSVPs can be submitted via Google Form by clicking [here](#).

If you are attending student presentations, you may choose to leave at 12:00 with your student. All remaining students will be dismissed at 12:30 for our early dismissal day.

Questions?

elessard@benbronzacademy.org

860-236-5807

Presented by Fast Forward College Coaching

INTRODUCTION TO NOTE TAKING TECHNOLOGY IN COLLEGE

Presenters:



Amy Rowe, M.S. Ed.
Northern Arizona University, AZ



David Mahdavian, M.S. Ed.
Gateway Technical College, WI

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10
7:00PM EST**



REGISTER NOW

In this FREE presentation via Zoom, parents & educators will learn :

- Differences between note taking expectations in high school & college
- Considerations when choosing note taking technology
- Overview of various note taking hardware & programs
- Role of college disability support offices in providing note taking accommodations

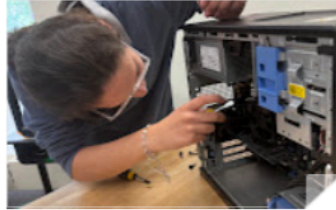
3 WAYS TO REGISTER:

- 1) Scan the QR code above
- 2) Email: lauren@fastforwardcollegecoaching.com
- 3) Visit: www.fastforwardcollegecoaching.com

For college success resources, visit: www.fastforwardcollegecoaching.com

If it isn't broken... take it apart and put it back together.

Upper School students have been busy in the Makerspace taking apart old computers by removing all of the inner parts. The next steps will be to put it all back together and get them working again. No doubt, these students are motivated and up to the task.



HOUSE OF THE DRAGON

Thanks to the Clevenger family for donating the newest member of the BBA family, a Bearded Dragon. She has currently set up her lair in one of the science rooms where she can provide some first-hand experience and learning for our students. While she comes to us with a name, the students will vote on an alias for her while she is here at BBA. We hope she doesn't mind.

...well, the bearded dragon anyway.



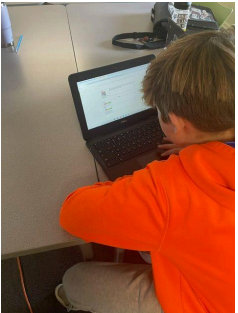
Art Club Unleashes Creativity: From Tie-Dye to Sculptures!

Our Art Club has begun and is already bursting with creativity, taking on exciting new projects that blend color, texture, and imagination. Students dove into the club's start with a tie-dye session, designing their own one-of-a-kind shirts that are as unique as their creators. The explosion of colors was just the start! They will use the Cricut machine to add iron-ons of their names to their shirts as well.

Next, our young artists channeled their skills into sculpting by crafting intricate, three-dimensional works of art. But they didn't stop there—each student then painted stunning close-ups, 2D portraits of their sculptures, capturing the fine details and unique features of their creations.

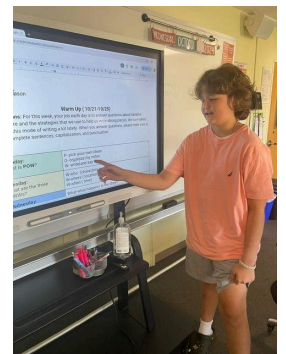
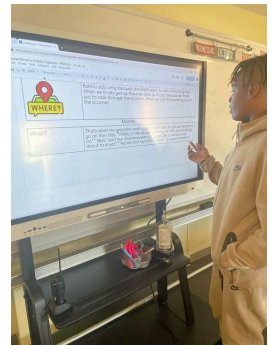
Each artist had the chance to present their sculptures alongside the detailed, close-up paintings they created. In these presentations, students described the inspiration behind their sculptures, the techniques they used to bring their vision to life, and how they translated the three-dimensional forms into striking 2D artwork. This process encouraged them to think critically about their work, practice writing across the curriculum, and communicate clearly and confidently. Presenting their sculptures and paintings allowed them to refine their public speaking skills, express their creative choices, and gain valuable feedback from their peers.

Mastering the Magic of Narrative Writing



Narrative writing is a powerful style that allows writers to tell a compelling story, whether based on real events in chronological order or imagined scenarios crafted by the author. The goal is to captivate readers, painting vivid pictures with words and pulling them into the story.

This month, our students are diving into this form of writing in their classes, honing their skills, experimenting with creative techniques, and using the Self-Regulated Strategy Development (SRSD) teaching method. Students are introduced to graphic organizers with guiding questions to help them break down the steps into manageable parts and organize their ideas. Modeling, repetition, scaffolding, and feedback are part of our everyday practice in writing. Students also explored attention-grabbing strategies with the support of their mediator to help them develop engaging openings and thought-provoking questions to hook their readers from the start.

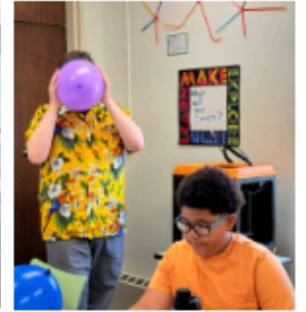
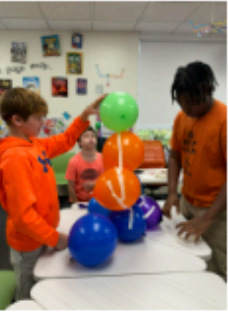


Buddy Bonds: Building Friendships, One Challenge at a Time!

The Student Buddy Program is back for its second year and more popular than ever! This exciting initiative focuses on building friendships and fostering connections through supportive mentorship, engaging interactions, and fun challenges.



Recently, our Buddies teamed up for the exciting Balloon Tower Challenge, where laughter and creativity took center stage. Armed with only masking tape, they worked together to build the tallest freestanding balloon towers. There was plenty of collaboration, some friendly competition, and lots of hot air—both figuratively and literally!



School Messenger SMS Opt-In Campaign

Please take a moment to opt- into our School Messenger Text option. This will be critical as we move into winter and communicate closures. Simply text Y or Yes to 67587 or scan the QR code from your mobile device. If you have not yet signed up for your PowerSchool Access, please look in your emails for an email from Matt@benbronzacademy.org with your login information and instructions.

SMS Text Opt-In



Parents and Guardians

You can take advantage of our Text Messaging Service

Our school utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.

You can participate in this free service* just by sending a text message of "Y" or "Yes" to our school's short code number, 67587.

You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with "Stop".

We recommend saving this short code and Caller ID to the contacts on your phone. This will help prevent any 3rd party call blocking systems from interfering with your receipt of important messages sent by the school or district.

SchoolMessenger is compliant with the Student Privacy Pledge™, so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone.



Opt-In from
your mobile
now!



Just send "Y"
or "Yes" to
67587.

Visit to Boys and Girls Club in Hartford

On October 24th, our Hartford students enjoyed an exciting visit to the Boys and Girls Club in Hartford. The trip offered them a unique opportunity to explore the facility and learn about the various resources and activities available. During the visit, students interacted with the dedicated staff, who introduced them to the club's programs designed to support youth development in a positive, engaging environment.

In addition to learning about the valuable resources available, students had a chance to participate in recreational activities, which added an element of fun to the day. As you can see from the pictures, the students had a fantastic time, gaining new experiences and forming connections within the community.

This visit was a great opportunity for our students to explore new interests and broaden their horizons while seeing firsthand the impactful work of the Boys and Girls Club.



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Ben Bronz is signed up for Box Tops for Education this school year. This program allows you to raise money for student activities while buying products you already buy.

Please download the Box Top for Education app to your phone. Register and select Ben Bronz Academy, then open the app and scan your receipts when shopping.

Email Jim -- jimw@benbronzacademy.org -- with any questions or technical issues.



2024-2025 School Year Calendar

Upcoming events:

October 29, 2024
 November 2, 2024
 November 12, 2024
 November 18-22, 2024
 November 22, 2024

 November 25, 2024
 November 26, 2024
 November 27-29, 2024

Parent Engagement 7:30 Virtual -Topic **PowerSchool**
 Trunk or Treat- Set up @ 6:00
 HSA 7:30 pm Virtual [Meeting link](#)
 Research Week
 Research Week Presentations & 12:30 dismissal for students
 (Professional Learning for Staff)
 12:30 Dismissal- Parent conferences 1-6
 12:30 Dismissal- Parent conferences 1-4
 Thanksgiving break

Next issue: 11/08/24