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PHOENIX NEWS

Soaring to New Heights

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CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL HONOR ROLL AND PERFECT ATTENDANCE RECIPIENTS!!



IMPORTANT DATES

5 / 12 / 20- NEW PARENT ORIENTATION VIA EMAIL PRE-RECORDED PRESENTATION

5 / 13 / 20- DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING AT 9 AM VIA ZOOM

5 / 14 / 20- SENIOR CELEBRATION VIA EMAIL AND POSTED PRE-RECORDED PRESENTATION

5 / 19 / 20- FINAL DAY TO SUBMIT COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

5 / 20 / 20- SENIOR SLIDE PRESENTATION VIA EMAIL AND POSTED PRE-RECORDED PRESENTATION

5 / 22 / 20- END OF YEAR AWARDS VIA EMAIL AND POSTED PRE-RECORDED PRESENTATION

5 / 25 / 20- MEMORIAL DAY- NO SCHOOL

5 / 27 / 20- FINANCE MEETING 2 PM; BOARD MEETING 5 PM VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

5 / 29 / 20- LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 9-11 GRADE

Happy Teacher Appreciation

Thank you to our Brooks DeBartolo Faculty and Staff for all they do for our students, families, and colleagues. Our BDCHS Journalism staff truly believes that these wonderful teachers make a positive impact on our lives every day. Their work is an imprint that will live on in us as we venture out of these walls and into the world.



Principal's Corner



As we enter week six of eLearning, we are planning creative ways to honor and recognize our students. For seniors, there are plans for a virtual senior celebration so that senior award recipients can be honored and recognized. We have postponed graduation to July 14th at 6:30 pm at The Straz, but we will have a graduation slide presentation to show on the evening of the original day for graduation which was May 20th. Many of our staff members surprised the Class of 2020 with a parking lot parade and seniors and their family members picked up their cap and gown, drive-thru style. It is also great to see all of the Class of 2020 yard signs and social media highlights being posted.

We will also have an End of Year Virtual Presentation on May 22nd to honor and recognize our students for various achievements from the 2019-2020 school year. Please be on the lookout for an email with links to these pre-recorded presentations.

I would like to thank everyone who took the time to show appreciation to our wonderful teachers this week. A special thank you to the Teacher Appreciation Week committee for planning and adapting during this unique time.

We wish all of our Advanced Placement students well on their upcoming AP Exams! We know they are well-prepared for the tests they have coming up soon online.

Thank you for your support and for soaring with us to new heights!

A Note From Our Board of Directors

A Note from the Directors

This month's Note from the Directors comes from the Chair of the Board of Directors.

Adapting and Persevering in the Age of Coronavirus

I do not need to tell you that we are all living in unprecedented times. From the way that we interact with one another to the way we handle the mundane like grocery shopping, everything has changed. The effects are very profound on the way Brooks DeBartolo has approached delivering the model collegiate education to our more than 600 students.

I want to thank all our students and families for adapting quickly to accommodate eLearning. What we hoped would be for only a few weeks has morphed into the remainder of the school year and the community's ability to adapt speaks volumes about each and every one of you. Each of our families are adapting to the struggles of everyone working and learning from home. I would like to thank you for doing everything you can to accommodate our current reality. I would like to shout out to the people who have poured considerable time and resources into this paradigm shift in education: our instructional staff and administration.

Turning from in-person instruction to eLearning was no small feat. Many of our administrators and teachers worked right through Spring Break and into the week of Preparing for Success to ensure everything was in place to hit the ground running. Their Herculean efforts have ensured that we can continue to provide the best education to our students. On behalf of myself and the rest of the Board I would like to say that we are eternally grateful for their efforts.

To Our Seniors

To all our seniors who have seen their senior year festivities and celebrations interrupted: please know that the administration and your advisors are working to make top-notch virtual events to celebrate your accomplishments, while continuing to plan for in-person events in the summer, conditions permitting.

The Future

I have hope that the current situation will improve and that each of you continue to focus on the bright futures that await you on the other side of this difficult time.

"We could learn a lot from crayons; some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, while others bright, some have weird names, but they all have learned to live together in the same box." -Unknown

Together we will get through this and soar to new heights.

Sincerely,

Cynthia R. Vasquez
Chair, Board of Directors

Collegiate Signings

Congratulations to Boys Volleyball player Grant Howat on earning an athletic scholarship to Campbellsville University in Kentucky. If you recall we also had another Boys Volleyball player who committed to attending CU, Mason McKinney. Snaps to Coach Cookie Mitchell. Go Tigers!



Cameron Williams has decided to continue playing Basketball while getting a college education at Trinity Baptist in Jacksonville, Florida. Go Phoenix!

Please follow our Athletic social media pages at @BDCHS_Athletics on Twitter and Instagram. You can find us at BDCHS_Athletics on Facebook

Phoenix in the Arts

Allison Boroff and Gahyun Kim both received top honors in the 14th Congressional District Art Competition!



Allison's artwork titled *Nosferatu* won the award, 2nd Place Overall, with a prize of \$100 sponsored by the Tampa Museum of Art. Gahyun's artwork titled *Colorful Momentum* won the award, 3rd Place - Water Media, with a prize of \$75 sponsored by the Florida Watercolor Society.



Athlete of the Month: Emma Leonard



Congratulations to **Emma Leonard**, our February Student Athlete of the Month. Emma has played Varsity Softball at Brooks DeBartolo and Golf at Wharton for four years. Emma qualified for Golf Regionals this season. Emma maintains a 5.6 District GPA despite her busy schedule playing two varsity sports and reigning as President of Student Government.

“Emma has been an amazing Student Government President this year! She is so reliable and sees things through to the end,” explains SGA Sponsor Ms. Walsh. According to Head Softball Coach, Dean Hale, “She is the ultimate team player and thinks more about her teammates and their team than she does herself. Emma was a two year Captain and she will be greatly missed.”

Executive Internship Success

Haley Vantoorenburg interned with the USF Paleontology department this year through our BDCHS executive internship program. Ms. Vantoorenburg has authored an article in the journal ‘Time Scavengers’. It was published as of April 27th, 2020. Here is an excerpt from the blog:

“I can not say when I first became interested in paleontology and geology, but this internship experience has only helped my interest grow. . . . As a high school senior, this has been an extremely influential experience to me.”

Here is the link to the full article: <https://timescavengers.blog/2020/04/27/interning-at-a-paleontology-lab/>



Congrats to Our Golden Quills Winners!

For the second annual Golden Quills awards, our hosts, the English National Honor Society, headed by Mrs. Rinard, had to get creative. With school being out, and virtual education being the our new normal, the ENHS decided the show must go on.

The fantastic judges, ranging from English teachers to BDCHS alumni, read and scored all the entries in a blind reading. Over fifty kids entered their work this year. The virtual ceremony was held on Thursday, April 16th through Google Meets. Students, faculty, administrators, and parents all gathered to hear student readings and celebrate our young writers.

Prizes were given to the top three in each genre: fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. A final, grand prize, was given to our overall Golden Quills winner, Maggie Gamson for her short fiction piece, "Little Red Shirt."

