



Buzz Aldrin Middle School
The STEM Magnet

173 Bellevue Avenue
Montclair, NJ 07043
www.montclair.k12.nj.us



Principal's Bulletin
November 26th, 2023

Buzz Aldrin Mission Statement:

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

- **Thanksgiving Food Drive:** Thank you to our generous families who've signed up for and donated various goods and materials for our annual Thanksgiving Basket drive. Thank you to Ms. Brower, the PTA board, Mr. Santos, and staff members for all your efforts in ensuring we had another successful year of our annual Thanksgiving Food baskets. We certainly couldn't do it without you. Many of the families were so grateful for the thoughtfulness and abundance of food that was provided. Thank you so much for all your help and hard work.
- **District Workshop:** The District is hosting a workshop, "[Navigating Parent-Teacher Conferences](#)," Mon., Nov. 27, 6:30-8 pm, Charles H. Bullock School. The event will include strategies to engage families to ask key questions that will support their children in achieving success at school. See flyers in [English/Spanish](#) and [register to attend](#).
- **Attendance Information:** Student attendance and tardiness is an issue with some of students. Effective as of Monday, October 23rd, student attendance has been closely monitored, as there are quite a few students who are chronically late. This is not only disruptive for the student who is late, but also to the class as well. Parents—we appreciate your help and support in ensuring you're your children get to school on time each day. Students with ten tardies will receive an afterschool detention will be issued.
- **Important Information Regarding Student Attire:** We continue to have serious concerns over students dressing appropriately for middle school, especially with footwear. Slides, Crocs, flip flops, and any shoes without a backing are not permitted, as they do not have a back to the shoes. This presents a serious safety issue. As a school, we have been lenient, but we can no longer allow this. Recently, students have fallen in the stairwell and outside, and several of these students were not wearing the required footwear. Additionally, this is a safety requirement for when we conduct safety drills. Moving forward, referrals will be issued for inappropriate footwear, as indicated in the Code of Conduct.

- **Marking Period 1 Report Card Grades:** Marking Period 1 Report Card grades are now viewable in Genesis. Please ensure that you regularly check Genesis to stay updated on your child's academic performance.

- **Buzz Aldrin PTA Updates:**
 - **Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive for Buzz Families:** We wanted to thank all the Buzz Aldrin staff, PTA volunteers, and parents who gave so generously to the Thanksgiving Food Drive! Buzz Aldrin staff were able to deliver 50 beautiful Thanksgiving baskets to Buzz families this week. Special thanks to Ms. Brower and her team for coordinating everything and working so hard to create amazing baskets, Mr. Santos and Mr. Jennings for the extra help with delivering the baskets, and Ms. Gandhi for her support too!
 - **Funds2Orgs Fundraiser:** it's time to clear out your closets! The PTA is collecting your gently worn, used, or new shoes to send to developing countries. This is also a fundraiser for the PTA. More details upcoming. We start collecting on November 13 until mid-January.
 - https://funds2orgs.com/?gclid=CjOKCQjw4vKpBhCZARIsAOKHoWRnu8p8zWIPLER7CKQpjXQzXkgyWjRsF8tteyBxtZO_vTO4W3cKi6saAnrTEALw_wcB
 - **Next PTA Meeting:** November 21st at 7pm ONLY on Zoom. Please join parents and teachers to learn more about what is happening at school this fall. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87064291360?pwd=QkFGckx4dnUxUGo5Wkl1Ql1TNDlZUT09>
 - Meeting ID: 870 6429 1360
 - Passcode: 913640
 - **Ice Skating at Clary Anderson: Save the date for our popular ice skating events!** December 30th 1:15pm - 2:45pm and March 9th 5:15pm - 6:45pm. FREE! Buzz students only. More details to come.
 - **Looking for Parent Coordinators for PTAC's Reflections Art Contest!** We are looking for 1-2 volunteers to help promote this art contest with Buzz teachers and students (categories are Visual Art, Photography, Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Musical Composition, and Special Artist). This year, the theme is "I am hopeful because...", and entries are due Dec. 8. Please contact Jennifer Escobar, PTA President at jen.escobar3@gmail.com for more information.
 - **Parent Volunteers needed!** The PTA is looking for parents for Events and Fundraiser committee volunteers. Contact PTA President, Jennifer Escobar at jen.escobar3@gmail.com if you are interested.

- **Board of Education Strategic Planning Community Forum:** Your voice matters! If you haven't done so already, please [register to attend](#) one or more of the Board of Education's Strategic Planning Community Forums. We encourage you to participate in these important conversations to create a shared vision for

the future of Montclair Public Schools. The second meeting is coming up on Wednesday, November 29th at 6:30 pm.

- **Thanksgiving break:** I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Next Week's Schedule of Days

- Monday, November 27th - D Day
- Tuesday, November 28th - E Day
- Wednesday, November 29th - F Day
- Thursday, November 30th - A Day
- Friday, December 1st - B Day

Please mark your calendars:

- Wednesday, December 6th - Abbreviated Day Schedule
- Thursday, December 7th - Abbreviated Day Schedule
- Monday, December 18th - PTA Cookie Exchange

“Do what you can to show you care about other people and you will make our world a better place.”

— **Rosalynn Carter**

“You have to have confidence in your ability, and then be tough enough to follow through.”

— **Rosalynn Carter**