



Buzz Aldrin Middle School
The STEM Magnet
173 Bellevue Avenue
Montclair, NJ 07043
www.montclair.k12.nj.us



Principal's Bulletin

September 30th, 2022

Buzz Aldrin Mission Statement:

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

- **Growth Mindset Advisory Information:** This week, our students participated in an advisory on Growth Mindset. Students learned about the differences between a fixed mindset versus a growth mindset, the importance of creating a growth mindset, and ways to change various scenarios from a fixed mindset perspective to a growth mindset. Studies show that many successful people in life had a growth mindset throughout their lives and careers, which have attributed to their success. If you would like some conversation starters to use with your child, please see some questions below:
 - What is a growth mindset? What is a fixed mindset?
 - Why is it important to have a growth mindset when it comes to challenging tasks in life?
 - What is one example where you can take a fixed mindset statement and change it into a growth mindset statement?
- **Buzz Aldrin Townhall Meeting:** As I promised, we are holding a Virtual Townhall meeting regarding the student behavior uptown. The Townhall meeting will be held on Monday, October 3rd, from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. All community members are welcome to attend, and this includes parents, local merchants, and I've invited a representative of the Montclair Police Department to join the conversation. The purpose of the meeting is to work together collectively to help address the behavioral concerns that we received from the local businesses based on Friday afternoons.
 - **Meeting Topic: Buzz Aldrin Town Hall Meeting**
 - **Date:** Monday, Oct 3, 2022 @ 6:30 pm
 - **Zoom Link:** <https://mpsdnj.zoom.us/j/86123677604>
 - **Meeting ID:** 861 2367 7604
 - **Passcode:** 306266
- **Buzz Aldrin Theater Club Announcement:** Buzz Aldrin is proud to announce our 2022-2023 Musical Production of Disney's ❄️ Frozen Junior. Join us, as we bring the magical land of Arendelle to life, onstage. This production features all of the memorable songs from the animated film, plus a few new songs written for the Broadway production. *Frozen Jr.* expands upon the emotional

relationship and journey between siblings. When faced with danger, the two discover their hidden potential and the powerful bond of solidarity. With a large cast of beloved characters and filled with magic, adventure, life lessons and plenty of humor, *Frozen Jr.* is sure to thaw even the "coldest heart!" This production is exuding with catchy songs, show stopping lighting and amazing special effects. Never will both cast / crew and our audience have this much fun being part of this type of enchanted fairytale theater magic.

- **Disney's Frozen Jr.** is for anyone who enjoys all aspects of theater. We are looking for ALL students who want to be a part of this musical to join us. We support students' involvement in other clubs/sports etc. and will accommodate schedules when possible.
- **Auditions:** Friday, October 7th @ dismissal
- **Production:** April 2023
- To join or for more information, please email Karen-Ann Kaelin-Panico, our Theater Director, with any questions. Please include your child's name, grade, and house to be invited to our Google Classroom at kpanico@montclair.k12.nj.us

- **Stage Crew Announcement:** Do you love theatre and productions, but would rather work behind the scenes? Our Stage Crew students learn about (and become responsible for) controlling the sound, lighting and sets backstage for all plays, assemblies, chorus, and band events in the auditorium. Our Stage Crew kids are the backbone of our productions! Returning members of our Stage Crew will be invited to regular "meet ups" soon. All new students that would like to join us, please email Mr. Buonocore or Mr. Reissig at dbuonocore@mpsdnj.us or freissig@montclair.k12.nj.us with your name/house/grade and you will be added to the Stage Crew Google Classroom where you will find more information regularly about our club!
 - Advisors: Mr. Buonocore & Mr. Reissig

- **Buzz PTA Updates:**
 - **OCTOBER 21ST WINE & WHISKEY NIGHT**
Join Buzz parents, caregivers and teachers at this relaxed backyard party. Your ticket includes tastings of wine and whiskeys, non-alcoholic beverages and food. Come meet your friends, make new ones, listen to some chill music and learn something about wine and/or spirits. Montclair (address provided to ticket holders).
 - TICKETS: <https://buzzaldrinpta.memberhub.com/store/items/780877>
 - **AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT coming soon-- and a request for help!**
Thank you to everyone who filled out the survey about after school interests. We will definitely be offering classes in chess, financial literacy, CPR and basketball. We are also exploring art classes and fitness classes of some type. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN TEACHING OR CO-TEACHING CLASSES IN YOGA, BODYWEIGHT EXERCISES OR SOME OTHER FITNESS DISCIPLINE, please email ptapres@buzzaldrinpta.org.
 - **Courtesy note: SIDE DOOR OPENS FRIDAY, SEPT 30th from 2:15 -5 PM**

Side Door is a FREE program at Union Congregational Church (176 Cooper Avenue) that welcomes middle school students after school on many Fridays. Kids engage in a variety of mostly outdoor activities, including basketball, 4-square, crafts and board games. There are also special and holiday events (not religious). Pizza, water and snacks are sold for a nominal fee. Volunteers from MHS, MSU and the community serve as mentors and chaperones. *Ellos tienen voluntarios de habla hispana!*

- You can pre-register at www.unioncong.org/children-youth/side-door or your child can simply go on Friday-- a form will be emailed to you. Questions-- email sidedoor@unioncong.org

○ **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- 10/1 Latin Fusion Night 6-8 pm
- 10/18 PTA Meeting 7 pm and Discussion about "Tips for Middle School Success" (IN PERSON ONLY!)
- 10/21 Wine and Whiskey Night 7:30 pm (registration coming soon)
- 10/28 Spooktacular Dance (details coming soon)
- **QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, IDEAS? We want to hear from you!**
Email ptapres@buzzaldrinpta.org

● **Message from the School Nurse:**

- Students who are 11 years of age prior to the start of school are required to submit proof of State mandated immunizations.
 - Proof of a Tdap and Menactra (meningitis) must be submitted to the school nurse.
 - Failure to provide the required documentation will lead to an exclusion from school.
 - Please contact our school nurse, Ms. Eva McGorry with any questions or if you need assistance with this matter. Her direct line is 973-509-4221 and her email address is emcgorry@montclair.k12.nj.us.
- Yom Kippur, also known as Day of Atonement, is the holiest day of the year for Jewish people. Its central themes are atonement and repentance. Jewish people traditionally observe this holy day with a 25-hour period of fasting and intensive prayer, often spending most of the day in synagogue services. Yom Kippur completes the annual period known in Judaism as the High Holy Days (or sometimes "the Days of Awe"). For those who observe Yom Kippur, have an easy fast. The district will be closed on Wednesday, October 5th for Yom Kippur.
- **Week of Respect:** Each year, school districts across the state of New Jersey honor the Week of Respect during the first week in October. During this upcoming week, our students will participate in various activities and advisories on the importance of creating a respectful and safe learning environment. The staff and students will also participate in a "Week of Respect Spirit Week" with themed days to promote unity. Please see the list of themed days below.

Week of Respect Spirit Week:

- Monday, October 3rd – Wear Blue
 - Wear blue – the official color for the World Day of Bullying Prevention
- Tuesday, October 4th – Wear White
- Thursday, October 5th– Wear favorite sports team gear
- Friday, October 6th – Comfy Clothes Day
 - Wear your favorite comfy clothes, sweatpants, or lounge outfit

Next Week’s Schedule of Days

- Monday, October 3rd – F Day
- Tuesday, October 4th – A Day
- Wednesday, October 5th – Yom Kippur, District Closed
- Thursday, October 6th – B Day
- Friday, October 7th – C Day

Please mark your calendars:

- Saturday, October 1st – Latin Fusion Night @ 6 pm
- Monday, October 3rd – Buzz Aldrin Virtual Townhall @ 6:30 pm
- Wednesday, October 5th –Yom Kippur, District Closed
- Monday, October 10th – Schools Closed, Professional Development Day
- Tuesday, October 18th – PTA Meeting @ Buzz Aldrin - 7 pm

“I don’t measure myself by others’ expectations or let others define my worth.”

— **Sonia Sotomayor**

“The point is not to pay back kindness, but to pass it on.”

— **Julia Alvarez**