

Our school year flies by so fast with many events and activities planned for the students and by the students. Thank you for all of the feedback that we have received since the beginning of the first quarter.

It was a great turn out for **Parent-Teacher Conference Night, All-County Band that was hosted at BMC and the Concerts**, . Once again, neighbors and friends gathered to enjoy the accomplishments of our students and each other's company. Our hallways were lined with students' art work and our teachers were on hand to meet with you. It is always so important to get together to discuss our students' achievements and to set plans to be more successful.

It will soon be the beginning of a **new semester**. This is an excellent time to review goals with your children and set new ones if the old goals have been attained. Helping our children to be organized is an important piece to their success. Insisting that students come in early to meet with teachers and to ask for help is another way to help your child be successful. Setting a goal or two is far better than making a resolution. Perhaps our students can set goals for their learning. Looking at last quarter's grade report to decide which course(s) needs more attention or making a plan to improve attendance at school are always good places to start. Making commitments and keeping them is a good step towards learning responsible behavior. Please make the commitment now to have your children participate in taking the New York State Assessments in Grades 3-8. We have all witnessed the negative impact that the Opt-Out Movement has had on student perseverance and endurance.

“Monitoring homework; making sure children get to school; rewarding their efforts and talking up the idea of college are parent actions that are linked to better attendance, grades, test scores and preparation for college,” according to Patte Barth, director of the National School Boards Association's Center for Public Education.

Our students continue to be involved in extracurricular activities that our faculty and staff take careful time to plan and prepare for them. It has been a very successful fall in that respect. Our Debate Team demonstrates their knowledge in public speaking, debate and National and World Issues. Our music students participate in wonderful Band and Choral events in the County under the direction of Mrs. Childs, Ms. Spinner and Mr. Jadlos. The Senior Play will be presented in January on the 20th and 21st this year. Mrs. Gayla LePage has agreed to return to direct the Seniors and to ensure a successful production. Our fall sports teams did well and we have much to cheer about at Brushton-Moira Central School. As the basketball season gets underway, we will continue to cheer!

With the winter season upon us, it is extremely important to be cautious when entering the school parking area. Please use the Student Drop Off Area at the Southern entrance of the school. The bus circle is a fire lane and must be kept open. Please use extra caution to keep all of our students, faculty and staff safe.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year! We move into **2018** with the renewed theme of **BMC HAS G.R.I.T!**