

Principal's Corner,

It has been a great start to a very different school year. Remote Learning has been new to everyone, and I can say seven weeks into the year, I am very proud of our entire Bremen School community. Throughout the beginning of the year, I have spoken with the staff about the importance of PIVOTING, as we would all need this skill to be successful. As we continue to work through these new challenges, I am very proud of our students as they have accepted the challenges and worked to make the best of these learning opportunities. I know that a big part of this success is the constant coaching and assistance our families have given their children through Remote Learning. So, as I always say, we must still form a tight triangle with the student on the top, and the school and family on each side. If we continue to pull together, we will be able to accomplish the task at hand and learn from our new experiences during Remote Learning. I give you my word, as the Principal of Bremen High School, that we will continue to do our part and work with all students to the best of our ability. Keep working with us, and we will have the success we are looking for as we create normalcy for our students at BHS. Thank you!

Within this newsletter, we have put together some important information to keep you engaged and working with us to benefit your child. It is key for you to stay informed and reach out as needed to me, or the appropriate person at BHS. I would always suggest a quick email to your child's teacher with initial questions as they have the most information about classroom practices and procedures. If you still have questions, you are encouraged to email your child's counselor or dean for assistance. I assure you, we will get back to you quickly and assist you, as our main focus is to help all students be successful. At this time, we can schedule virtual meetings very quickly and involve multiple people to assist. Remember, your child should always be the first person to advocate for themselves, as this is an important skill to develop. Within this newsletter is a PPS department alpha slice according to last name so you can quickly find your child's counselor or dean.

Throughout the beginning of the school year, I have made many visits into the virtual classrooms to observe the daily teaching. I can say, it has been pretty impressive to see the shift our teachers have made to adjust their daily routines as they find ways to engage each learner. I have been very encouraged by the daily attendance, which is just above 94% for all students. Please continue to help your child stay focused and engaged throughout the day in each of their classes. Class participation is more than just signing into class. Students are encouraged to ask questions, answer questions, take notes and participate in the normal way they would when in class in person at BHS. Hopefully, this participation will allow for them to learn and retain the information being taught in class. I know that Remote Learning can be difficult, but if we focus on the positives and work to our potential, we will make this a good experience for all students.

I am looking forward to returning to school as soon as possible, but realize that our students' and staff's safety is key in this. As we continue to plan for a return to in person learning, it is important for us to continue to communicate with all families what will be needed to return safely. When we do return, students will be required to wear a face mask at all times when they are in the building. In addition, we will practice six feet social distancing within the rooms at all times. Hallway traffic will be directed so that we can maintain social distancing as much as possible. It will be very important for students to arrive at their assigned time to begin school and arrange for pick-up



immediately after school ends for the day. Finally, it will be important that all students follow the practice of not coming to school if they have any cold or flu symptoms. As we get closer to returning to in school learning, you will receive a complete explanation of procedures we will follow to allow for students and staff to remain as safe as possible while attending BHS.

Remember, Thursday, October 8th we have scheduled our fall Parent/Teacher Conferences. The conferences will all be virtual this year and information has been sent to you on how to make an appointment with the teachers you wish to meet with. The scheduled meetings will be for seven minutes to accommodate as many parents as possible. If you are having any difficulties getting signed up for an appointment, please reach out to your child's teacher or counselor for assistance. Remember, this is a scheduled day for you to get questions answered about your child's progress during this first quarter of the first semester.

We have begun our virtual tutoring program for students. The Freshmen FLC BHFLChelp@bhsd228.com, and Sophomore SLC sinsley@bhsd228.com, are all up and running during the school day. Special arrangements can be made for students that are unable to meet during the school day. If you would like to set up a tutoring time, please use the link listed above for the FLC and SLC. If you have any difficulties, please reach out to your child's counselor for assistance. In addition, our Wednesday schedule allows students time to meet with their teachers as needed during the hours of 12:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Students are encouraged to reach out and set a time to meet with their teachers as needed. We need students to take advantage of these opportunities so they can get the appropriate levels of support.

Finally, I want to thank all our parents/guardians for working with us to make this a successful start to the school year. Your continued support has allowed us to work with your child at a high level and provide a certain amount of normalcy to their year. We will continue to work with your child and help them to reach their full potential. As I stated earlier, if you have any questions, please reach out to me or any of my team at BHS so we can assist you. We want to help you throughout Remote Learning, as we work to develop a clear plan to return to school. Please continue to work with us as we support and encourage your child to be the best version of themselves.

Stay Healthy and Remember at Bremen, **"We Have Pride."**

DR. K

Dr. Dave Kibelkjs

Bremen Graduate, Class of 1984



Message from Matthew Meany – Associate Principal

I would like to say thank you for working with our students and faculty as we navigate through our new normal. Our goal is to make sure that all students find success. My name is Matthew Meany, and I will be serving in the capacity as the Associate Principal for the 2020-21 school year. I am currently in my 16th year at Bremen High School and in District 228.

When visiting BHS, please remember to bring a state issued photo ID. Each person will be required to self-certify with our Covid-19 questionnaire prior to entering the building. If you do not feel well, have tested positive over the last (14) days, or have been exposed to a person that has tested positive, please do not come up to BHS. All information can be given over the phone or sent through email. Our #1 priority is to continue to remain safe, healthy and continue to practice social distancing at BHS. All individuals are required to wear a mask when in the building as well as on school grounds if six feet of social distancing is not permitted when outside.

We will be hosting our first ever virtual Parent/Teacher Conferences on **Thursday, October 8th from 12:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.** Please continue to be involved in your student's academic progress by checking the Parent Portal for up to date grades. More information regarding the conference schedule will be sent to you in the coming weeks as well as be available online. This is a great time to meet your child's teachers and be able to ask questions about your student's classes and curriculum.

If you have any questions or concerns throughout the course of the school year, please contact me directly at 708-396-8102 or at mmeany@bhsd228.com.

Important Upcoming Dates

- Thursday, October 8th - Virtual Parent/Teacher Conference - No School
- Friday, October 9th - Staff Institute Day - No School
- Monday, October 12th - Columbus Day - No School
- Wednesday, October 14th - SAT Testing for Seniors - Graduation Requirement
- Tuesday, November 3rd - Election Day - No School
- Wednesday, November 11th - Veterans Day - No School

Message from Jessica Rucinski – Assistant Principal Teaching & Learning

Our Academic Assistance Centers are fully operational and here to help your child succeed! We have tutors available to assist in all subject areas every day of the week. Tutoring hours are Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday from 11:00 a.m.-2:10 p.m. and on Wednesday from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Freshman students should email our Freshman Learning Center (FLC) at BHFLChelp@bhsd228.com to request assistance and Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors should email Ms. Insley and our Student Learning Center (SLC) at sinsley@bhsd228.com. We also have bilingual tutors available for our EL students in both learning centers. We have shared this information with all students, but it always helps to have extra encouragement from parents and guardians. We want all of our students to be able to advocate for themselves so that they can take advantage of these opportunities!

Extracurricular Activities

Remote Activities have begun! Our sponsors have been working diligently to generate creative ways for our students to get involved in a remote fashion. We hosted an informational Google Meet for students on September 16th and shared information regarding the activity offerings that are currently available. The presentation of current offerings can be viewed on Google Slides by clicking [here](#). Our goal every year is to help each of our students find their niche here at Bremen High School. I encourage you to ask your child about their involvement in extracurriculars and take



a look at the slideshow with them. If you have any questions related to activity offerings and extracurricular involvement, please let me know. Activity meeting dates and events can also be found on the calendar on our Bremen website.

Brave of the Week Program

Each week our goal is to honor students that are going above and beyond in their Remote Learning endeavors. It means a lot to our students to be recognized. Congratulations to the students and their families that have been recognized thus far.

Senior Portraits

Prestige Portraits will be photographing our Seniors this year during the month of October. Senior students will receive a postcard in the mail with a scheduled personal appointment date and time for their photo session. Photo sessions have been scheduled to take place at Bremen High School between October 5th and October 21st, with strict adherence to safety protocols as they pertain to COVID-19. If you have not received a postcard in the mail with your appointment time, please contact Mr. Lynch at mlynch@bhsd228.com or call Prestige Portraits at (630) 910-6800, option 5.

Reserve your copy of the yearbook today!

Yearbooks can be ordered now at the following website: yearbookordercenter.com. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Lynch at mlynch@bhsd228.com.

Message from Ed Sterling – Assistant Principal of PPS

Welcome back to the 2020-2021 school year. As different as it seems, it is still a year that your child will grow closer to the adult they will become. Remember, we are here to assist you and your child to make this their best year ever. As the Assistant Principal of Pupil Personnel Services, I work with staff and students in a number of areas. Specifically, our office addresses scheduling, attendance, discipline, scholarships, college and career readiness, and AP programming. Our number one priority is to prepare students for the rigors of life after high school by instilling mindsets and practices that lead to life-long success. To help us best meet the needs of your students, we remind you of the following practices:

1. If your student will be absent, please remember to call the attendance line at (708) 396-8109 with your student's name, ID number, and the reason they are absent. This will excuse the student from school and prevent him or her from needing to meet with a dean. You may also call this number if you are requesting an early release for your student. The attendance line has a 24 hour voicemail, in which you can leave your request and information. If your student is going to be absent three or more days, you can contact your student's counselor regarding a homework request.
2. We encourage our students to meet regularly with his or her counselor. If your student would like to meet with a counselor at any point during the year, he or she can go to the Bremen website and select "counselor sign up" to request a meeting. The counselor alpha slices according to last name are listed below along with their extensions:



Freshmen	Sophomores	Juniors and Seniors
[A-C] - Mr. Flood	[A-D] - Mr. Flood	[A-De] - Mr. Flood
[D-Ho] - Mrs. Cheatham	[E-La] - Mrs. Cheatham	[Df-Hi] - Mrs. Cheatham
[Hu-Mu] - Mrs. Bylut	[Lb-O] - Mrs. Bylut	[Hj-Mon] - Mrs. Bylut
[Mv-Sam] - Mrs. Rauch	[P-Sam] - Mrs. Rauch	[Moo-Sal] - Mrs. Rauch
[San-Z] - Mrs. Bonebrake	[San-Z] - Mrs. Bonebrake	[Sam-Z] - Mrs. Bonebrake

Counselor

Bill Flood
Carla Cheatham
Jen Bylut
Anna Rauch
Kristine Bonebrake

Phone #

(708) 396-8124
(708) 396-8114
(708) 396-8115
(708) 396-8117
(708) 396-8116

3. Finally, it is important to keep us abreast of any changes in your student's contact information. Please remember to update our office with any changes in your phone number(s), e-mail address(s) or home address. This will help expedite proper communications.

Stay involved and check your child's homework every day!

By the end of grade school many parents stop checking their children's homework. They worry that they can't remember how to multiply fractions, or because they never took that course in science. And because they can't correct their child's homework, they stop asking about it. But checking on homework is still important. All you really need to do to stay involved with homework is to take an interest in what your child is learning. Here's how:

- Check your child's grades in PowerSchool Parent Portal (Mrs. Zylman, (708) 396-8107 for assistance).
- Set aside time every day to ask about your child's homework.
- Ask your child to tell you about what he/she learned in school today.
- Praise neat and completed work.

Remember, your daily interest will encourage your child to work hard and complete his/her homework every day.

Remote Learning Tips for Parents

1. Set (and keep) a schedule

The closer this is to a "school schedule," the easier it will be on everyone.

2. Provide an environment conducive to learning

Locate a bright & quiet location away from the TV and their phone.

3. Make sure your child attends every virtual class

Attendance is key to success in school. Whether we are at school, or attending remotely from home.



4. Make sure all work is completed

Check PowerSchool to see grades and contact the teacher if you have any questions.

5. Use school resources

Contact your child's counselor to assist your student in getting hooked up with tutoring.

6. Organize their learning environment

Or help them organize their learning environments (both physical and digital).

How this happens depends (as with everything else on this list) on your circumstance.

7. Help them find their own motivation

You know your child better than anyone.

8. Gamify the learning

Offer points, levels, or privileges based on earning good grades, completing assignments, or showing improvements.

Message from Eric Washington– Athletic Director

Greetings from the Athletic department. It has been a different kind of start to the school year as our student-athletes continue to build a winning culture on an adjusted field of play and in the Remote Classroom. Currently, Boys and Girls Cross Country, Boys Golf, Girls Swimming and Girls Tennis are competing in intra-district contests with their sights set on IHSA Regional and Sectional tournaments. It's been great to see our student-athletes back on campus and having fun with their teammates and coaches.

Did you know the IHSA requires that all student-athletes pass a minimum of five classes per week in order to remain eligible to compete in athletic contests even during Remote Learning? Continue to stress to your child the importance of starting out strong academically by attending their Google classes and not falling behind early. Encourage them to seek academic assistance sooner than later. We continue to have high expectations for our student-athletes whether they are in the building or remote learning. Our focus remains the same: All student-athletes pass every class.



We miss our *Students* and look forward to their return!

Remote Learning Schedule

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri		Wednesdays	
Period 1	8:30 am - 9:10 am	Period 1	8:30 am - 8:55 am
Period 2	9:20 am - 10:00 am	Period 2	9:00 am - 9:25 am
Period 3*	10:10 am - 10:50 am	Period 3*	9:30 am - 9:55 am
Period 4*	11:00 am - 11:40 am	Period 4*	10:00 am - 10:25 am
Period 5*	11:50 am - 12:30 pm	Period 5*	10:30 am - 10:55 pm
Period 6*	12:40 pm - 1:20 pm	Period 6*	11:00 am - 11:25 am
Period 7*	1:30 pm - 2:10 pm	Period 7*	11:30 am - 11:55 am
Period 8	2:20 pm - 3:00 pm	Period 8	12:00 pm - 12:25 pm

