



The Blue Raider Read

Information from the desk of Principal David Lanczycki



DECEMBER 1, 2018

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 4

Upcoming Events:

12/3 Special Town Meeting –
6:00pm PAC

12/4 School Store Open -
5:30pm

12/4 Wellness Night - 6pm
PAC

12/4 Friends of Music
Meeting – 6:30pm Lib

12/5 SB Athletic Booster Club
Meeting -5pm Lib

12/5 School Advisory Council
– 6pm Main Office Conf.

12/5 PTO Meeting – 7:00pm
Lib

12/16 School Store Open -
2 – 3:30pm

12/16 Vespers Concert –
2:30pm PAC

12/17 Polar Express Pajama
Movie Night – 6pm PAC

12/18 School Store Open -
5:30 – 7pm

12/20 Show Choir Holiday
Show Performance – 7pm
PAC

12/21 Last Day Before
Vacation – Full Day of School

Principal:

David Lanczycki
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Welcome to the Blue Raider Read!

The holidays are a full time for everyone. Sometimes the true meaning of the time gets lost in the hustle and bustle. It is about thinking about others. While this is something that we should be doing everyday, this time of year brings it forward. The greatest gifts are often not tangible. Something as simple as a smile or a kind word can change the direction of a person's day. We are focused on the positive and cultivating the behaviors that bring about a better tomorrow. All of the following passages help us to move in that direction.

Our Speaker...

In January, we will be holding assemblies for all of the classes with the topic being about positive social interactions. We are finding here at SB that we have wonderful students that have learned to look out for others and support other students. Ironically enough, the interactions within peer group needs some help. There is a sense that it is ok to say anything to a "friend" no matter how hurtful and they should not take offence to it. We promote honesty but mean spirited banter that is hurtful can have repercussions while unintended are no less serious.

Tom Thelen is a National Honor Society Speaker, Y.M.C.A Leadership Summit Speaker, FFA Conference Keynote Speaker, 4-H Conference Keynote Speaker, National Association of Student Councils Speaker as well as other countless speaking sessions. He is working with us to tailor his message to the needs of SB. We will be having students do some surveys that we will forward to him in order for him to get a feeling of the culture in our building.

This is not a one step process and move on. We will be working on looking at, acknowledging and modifying aspects of our culture that need to be adjusted. To be clear, not every student is negative or saying hurtful things but we want to empower others to support those students in need and use techniques that will allow us to teach better ways to interact with each other. Negativity and mean-spiritedness is an indicator of some sort of internal strife of the person delivering it. If we can get to the bottom of that, we may be able help change the path that they are currently on.

Social Media...

On February 4, 2004, a young man names Mark Zuckerberg launched a website as a Harvard sophomore called "thefacebook.com". The idea came from the sheets of paper distributed to freshmen of Harvard giving profiles of students and staff that the college as a way to help to make connections between people. My how things have changed. Now Facebook is used to celebrate birthdays, find out if the trash pick up is being adjusted or to sell an item. While Facebook has made advancements with security and created a system to monitor inappropriate posts and comments, it has not been able to create an algorithm to check facts of comments. A person can literally say anything no matter how outrageous and it is up to the reader to do the leg work to fact check. Add to the fact that most people want to believe that people are honest/informed by nature. This formula is the breeding ground for rumors and innuendos.

For those of you that do not know me, I am a very direct communicator. I like to

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Attendance: 508-324-3124

Guidance: 508-324-3119

Central Office: 508-324-3100

www.somersetberkeley.org

MCAS Dates:

ELA: March 26-27

Math: May 21-22

Science: June 4-5

Late Buses:

Late buses are offered on Monday thru Thursday at 3:45pm. There is one bus for Berkley students and one bus for Somerset students. Please be advised that the Berkley late bus drops students off at the Berkley Common.

Parking Passes:

Forms are available to be picked up in the Main Office. Parking spots are available first come first serve as long as you have a parking pass. Parking passes are \$50 for the year.

Senior End of the Year Events:

May 24: Finals Begin

May 31: Prom

June 7: Graduation 5pm

consider myself “tactfully blunt”. If you ask a question, I will give you my best answer that sometimes includes me informing people that I just can’t comment on matters due to confidentiality. My request to all of you is, if you have a concern, please reach out to the school and not to social media. Please realize that you may not be receiving accurate information. The tidal wave that develops is not positive for anyone. It slows us down from being able other matters that need our attention. Thank you in advance for your help.

“Case” in point...

Here is a great example of how social media can create unsubstantiated hysteria. Let me be very clear, the two aspects of the Case Rally that were changed was not allowing for negative commentary about the other classes to be included in the scripts and that we wanted to celebrate all of our seniors that work hard and participate in extracurricular activities in the fall season. Both of these changes come from a movement to change the culture that we feel needs to be made to increase positivity and celebrate all of our students.

No, we are not getting rid of the rally. No, we are not changing the name. No, we still are allowing the public to attend. No, we have not changed the format of the skits. No classes were “disqualified” from this years rally. These are just a few of the examples that caused local Facebook pages to explode with comments. A few people drop uninformed comments, mix in holiday stress with a pinch of a need for attention and the negativity stew is complete. This caused a lot of heartache for some of our students and staff that never needed to exist.

Our Case Rally this year was outstanding. The skits were well done, the artwork was phenomenal, the choreography was spot on and there was so much student support of each other. My favorite moment of the rally included a moment where one of our young actors became a little nervous and started to doubt herself. The entire school started to cheer her on and you could see her regain her confidence and move forward. It was a beautiful moment of helping and supporting each other when they are in need. That is what we are all about. That is what it means to be a Blue Raider. I am so proud of our students when these moments occur and they step up to show all their true character.

Need your Help...

We have sent out the call to everyone to fill out our NEAS&C survey to help us with our Accreditation process. At this time, we have 32 respondents. To those people thank you so much for your help and support. We need about 30% of our parent/guardian population in order to allow for the data to be valid. We have 1041 students which means we need 312 respondents. Below is the link to the survey. This survey will need to close by **December 11, 2018**. Please continue to help us show the world what a great place SB is.

Family Survey

<https://surveys.neasc.org/s3/NEASC-CPS-Family-Survey?id=43>



Families in Need

Every year the SBRHS Staff and Community participate in an Adopt-a-Family Holiday Program. Departments and groups adopt not only one of our students but an entire family to purchase gifts to make the holiday season a little brighter for families in need. We deliver these gifts during the week before the December vacation.

If you would like to donate toward the program or know of a family that is in need, contact me here at the school. We thank you in advance for your generosity. Every child deserves to have holiday memories that will last a lifetime.



Congratulations to the 2018 MIAA State Champions Somerset Berkley Field Hockey Team



2018 DIVISION 1A NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Congratulations!

Somerset Berkley Regional High School
"Blue Raider" Marching Band



THE INDOOR TRACK SCHEDULE FOR PUBLIC USE FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2018 IS AS FOLLOWS:

DAY	DATE	TIME
Monday	December 3 rd	8:00p.m.-8:30p.m.
Tuesday	December 4 th	8:00p.m.-8:30p.m.
Wednesday	December 5 th	8:00p.m.-8:30p.m.
Thursday	December 6 th	8:00p.m.-8:30p.m.
Monday	December 10 th	8:00p.m.-8:30p.m.
Tuesday	December 11 th	CLOSED-HOME BASKETBALL GAME
Wednesday	December 12 th	8:00p.m.-8:30p.m.
Thursday	December 13 th	8:00p.m.-8:30p.m.
Monday	December 17 th	8:00p.m.-8:30p.m.
Tuesday	December 18 th	CLOSED-HOME BASKETBALL GAME
Wednesday	December 19 th	8:00p.m.-8:30p.m.
Thursday	December 20 th	8:00p.m.-8:30p.m.
Monday	December 24 th	CLOSED-HOLIDAY
Tuesday	December 25 th	CLOSED-HOLIDAY
Wednesday	December 26 th	8:00p.m.-8:30p.m.
Thursday	December 27 th	8:00p.m.-8:30p.m.
Monday	December 31 st	CLOSED-HOLIDAY

Watch the SBRHS Promo Video by Blue Raider Studios on YouTube

NEWS
The Breeze
sbrhsbreeze.org
The online news for the students and staff at Somerset Berkley Regional High School

#TEAMGALAPAGOS 50/50 FALL RAFFLE

Raffle will run from November 1st to December 11th
Tickets are \$5.00 each and can be bought until the day of the drawing from students or chaperones.

Drawing: December 11th @ 2:30 PM

Proceeds are to benefit the cost of transportation and help defray trip costs for our students! Please see Mr. Talbot in the Science Office or Mrs. Camara-Araujo in the World Language Office if you have any questions or if you would like to help support our students

Thank you for your support!

Be sure to check the display case outside of the Guidance Office for Community Service Opportunities