

# BRIDGEPORT BEARS BULLETIN

## March 2026



### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Internet Safety-

"In many ways the Internet is like a gigantic library; both have content to teach and entertain. And similar to the content in a library, not all Internet content is appropriate for children. Libraries create children's and young adults' sections in order to help youth (and their parents) identify which materials are appropriate for them. On the Internet, however, all of the content may be equally accessible. Children do not have to look hard to find inappropriate content; it is as easy as typing a word into the search bar on Google. Even blocking, filtering, and monitoring software can be overcome by a determined child. A child may also accidentally click the wrong link or misspell a web address and be led to websites with inappropriate content. That is why when it comes to dealing with Internet searches and use, adult guidance and supervision are always key."

What can parents do to prevent inappropriate Internet activity?

- ~Generate a list of expectations for using electronic devices and going online with your children. Being clear about what they can and cannot do will help them to make responsible choices.
- ~If your children have any online accounts, make sure you're aware of how the site or app works. Most websites require that children are at least 13 years of age before creating an account. Children don't always abide by that rule.
- ~If you choose to let your children use your smartphone or provide your child with a smartphone, be aware of what they are doing when they use it.
- ~Keep your computer in a high-traffic area of your home. Children should not be going online in their bedrooms.
- ~Remember that your children can go onto the Internet, YouTube or a social network on mobile devices, too. Require your children to use these devices when you are present so that you can monitor them.
- ~Learn all of your children's passwords and monitor their activities.

For more information please check out the website:  
<https://www.netSMARTzkids.org/>

*Mrs. Melissa Stande*

### IMPORTANT DATES

2nd-13th~ PARP (Pick a Reading Partner Program)

5th~ BOCES Targeted-PreK (3 year olds) Registration at Bridgeport Elem, 10:00-1:00

10th~ PTA Meeting, 6:00pm

12th~ Special Persons' Night, 5:30-7:00pm

23rd-24th~ Kindergarten & UPK Registration

March 30th-April 3rd~ Spring Break

### UPCOMING APRIL DATES

15th-16th~ 3rd & 4th Grades NYS ELA Exam

24th~ Report Cards Issued

29th-30th~ 3rd & 4th Grades NYS Math Exam

\*Please refer to the ParentSquare calendar for the most up-to-date list of events.

**Special Persons' Night!- NEW**  
**Thursday, March 12th**  
**5:30-7:00pm**  
**Bridgeport Elementary**  
**\*\*No Snow Date\*\***

We invite all special people to join students and come to our Pick A Reading Partner (PARP) fun night! During the visit, you will participate in games and activities tied to our PARP celebration.

Also, our PTA will have the Book Fair open! PTA will also be selling pizza, candy and popcorn (until gone)! Cash only for all PTA sales!

Join us for an evening full of fun!

Hello Bridgeport Families!

I would like to whole-heartedly thank all of the families who donated canned food to our school for the St. Francis of Assisi Church in Bridgeport. Our 4th grade Peace Builders will have a field trip to this church in March and will be packing boxes full of donated food for community members in need, which certainly brings this charitable program full circle!

The school counseling curriculum is moving right along and students are learning helpful skills to become successful and kind citizens. We spend a lot of time talking about coping skills, and the difference between positive and negative ways of dealing with uncomfortable feelings. Some calm down strategies include: belly breathing, counting to ourselves, positive self talk, thinking of our favorite place or memory, finding our favorite color in the room or counting items in the room. These are strategies we can use anywhere such as home, school or in the community. We discuss the benefits of using positive coping skills and how they make us feel, as well as those around us. Ask your child which calming strategies are their favorite! Next, we are learning how to solve problems, especially with peers, using a specific process called "STEP."

I will be out on Maternity leave this month through the end of the school year. A former intern of mine, Mrs. Hiltz, is taking over during my leave of absence. You may contact her regarding any counseling needs. Once she has an email set up, we will post it on Parent Square. Thank you for your continued support, and enjoy the rest of the school year!

-Mrs. Diglio

**BRIDGEPORT PTA**

Alone we can do so little; Together we can do so much!

Hello from PTA!

Meeting is on March 10th.

Book Fair is March 11th during the school day for students. It will also be open on March 12th during PARP event for families from 5:30 to 7:00pm.

Any questions or suggestions can be directed to [bridgeportelempta@gmail.com](mailto:bridgeportelempta@gmail.com).

Our next meeting is April 8th in the school library at 6PM. Thank you again for all your support.

**PTA MEETING INFORMATION****When:** March 10th- 6:00pm**Where:** Bridgeport Elementary Library**Last Meeting of the Year!**

May 12th

Volunteers needed! Any level of participation is appreciated! Join the fun!

**COMMITMENT TO CHARACTER EDUCATION****WE KNOW... WE DO... WE FEEL****Lucky You...You're Saving With Dollar Dog**

Lucky. Lucky. Lucky. That's what you are when you save with Dollar Dog through your school's in-school banking program. Dollar Dog savers learn good saving habits. Dollar Dog savers earn additional money when dividends are paid on the savings in their in-school banking account. Dollar Dog savers sure are lucky!

Not yet a Dollar Dog saver? Contact Mandy Khammar at 315.728.3318 or [mkhammar@empowerfcu.com](mailto:mkhammar@empowerfcu.com) to join. Membership eligibility required. Insured by NCUA.

