

# Jag News

August 23, 2019

Blue Valley Schools



## Heartland Elementary School

 Facebook  @HRTJaguars

 12775 Goodman Street, Overla...

 HeartlandElementary@bluevall...

 (913) 239-6300

 bluevalleyk12.org/HRT

## Upcoming Important Dates

- 8/27: 5th Grade Band Try-outs at Blue Valley Northwest High School
- 8/29: Hearing & Vision Screening
- 9/2: No School, Labor Day
- 9/3 - 9/21: Sign-up for Parent/Teacher Conferences available in ParentVue
- 9/3: MAP Reading grades 3 & 5
- 9/4: MAP Math grades 3 & 5
- 9/5: Parents and Pastries
- \*Updated: 9/10: MAP Reading Testing, grades 2 & 4
- \*Updated: 9/11: MAP Math Testing, grades 2 & 4
- 9/12: New HRT Family Picnic
- 9/17: Picture Day
- 9/23: No School for Students: Teacher Professional Learning
- 9/28: Heartland PTO Carnival
- 9/30 - 10/3: Scheduled Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 10/3: No School for Students, Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 10/4: No School
- 10/10: BVNW Girls Basketball Clinic at HRT
- 10/21: No School for Students: Teacher Professional Learning
- 10/24: 5th Grade Field Trip to Wilderness Science Center (Smith's class)
- 10/25: 5th Grade Field Trip to Wilderness Science Center (Komatz's class)
- 10/25: 5th Grade Field Trip to Wilderness Science Center (Gafney's class)
- 10/31: Heartland Halloween Classroom Parties

## Our Playground and Fields are Being Treated this Weekend

Our playground area, including the baseball and soccer fields, will be treated this weekend to eliminate insects. There will be signs posted in the grassy areas to "Stay Off", but I wanted you to be aware that it will not be safe for children or pets to be in the area until Monday.

## Hearing & Vision Screening - Thursday, 8/29/19

Hearing and vision testing is Thursday, August 29th from 9:00am - 12:15pm. Please try to make sure your students are here at school and on time. We are still looking for a couple of parent volunteers. Please call us at 913.239.6313 or email us at [JBrady04@bluevalleyk12.org](mailto:JBrady04@bluevalleyk12.org) or [tmayers@bluevalleyk12.org](mailto:tmayers@bluevalleyk12.org).

Thank you,  
Nurse Jill and Nurse Tracie

## Does Your Child Ride the Bus? Sign up for Durham School Services Textcaster

Durham School Services will continue to provide access to TextCaster this year. This program allows you to annually register for bus route delay updates that can be sent to your mobile device or email. Please visit [www.bluevalleydurham.com](http://www.bluevalleydurham.com) to register for TextCaster. If you have any questions, please contact Durham School Services at 913-681-2492.

## Birthday Treats at Heartland

Heartland Elementary's policy for birthday treats prohibits students and parents from bringing birthdays treats from home—edible or non-edible. This is due to several factors including health, safety, and the preservation of instructional time. Birthdays are a special time for each child and as such, the school will provide recognition throughout the day and throughout the school through announcements, birthday book club from the library, classroom celebration routines, and more. If birthday treats are sent to school during the 2019-20 school year, they will not be distributed and will be sent home. Also, if you send it invitations to birthday parties, please include all students in the class, or they will not be distributed. Thank you for understanding and complying to this policy.

## Heartland's Birthday Book Club

Students at Heartland have a wonderful way to have their special day recognized for years to come. Our library's Birthday Book Club is available to students in all grades. By donating \$12 to the Library Media Center, your child will be able to choose a special book to be placed in our library collection and be the first student to read the new book.

Here's how it works. Prior to your child's birthday, he/she can come to the library and select a Birthday Book from our cart of brand new books in all different genres. A nameplate will be placed in the front of the book and your child's picture will be taken and displayed with the book in the library. This program is optional but it does provide our library with exciting new titles throughout the school year. The average cost of a library bound book is \$17.30!

You can make your donation anytime during the year by paying through this Heartland link: <https://bvpo.bluevalleyk12.org> or send in a check.

## Arrival and Dismissal Reminders

**Please do not park along 128th Street and walk to school. This creates a lot of congestion and is unsafe for our students. Please use the car line if you are traveling in a car.**

**Please only cross Goodman Street at the crosswalk with the crossing guard. This is for walkers coming from their house, not a parked car along 128th Street.**

***Arrival:*** Thank you for **not** using your cell phone while in the car line. We will have staff members outside for normal morning supervision and to assist with the car line by 8:15am. Students may enter the school building at 8:15 where gym supervision is available. At 8:25, the first bell will ring allowing all students to walk to their classroom. At 8:35, the "tardy" bell will signal the official start of school.

***Dismissal:*** Thank you for **not** using your cell phone while in the car line. All students will be dismissed by 3:40. Please stay in your car in the car line and allow children to load your vehicle on the passenger side. Students should be able to fasten their seat belt independently. Thank you for helping keep our students safe.



### Heartland Elementary Traffic Flow for Drop-Off and Pick-Up Line

Please follow the route marked with arrows. Please pull all the way up to the front of the line or all the way up to the car in front of you— students will walk to your car. Please do not get out of your car!  
This will allow the line to move as quickly as possible. Thank you!



## Terracycle

Heartland is really going green with an additional recycling program. You wouldn't believe how many snack wrappers get thrown into the garbage every day. Not anymore at Heartland. Students and staff are recycling these wrappers with Terracycle. It's free and fabulous for our environment. Please send any snack wrappers (think granola bars wrappers, chip bags, and any other shiny food wrappers) with your child to school so they won't end up in the landfills. Questions? Email Mrs. Aitken at [swelter@bluevalleyk12.org](mailto:swelter@bluevalleyk12.org).



## New Absence Reporting Feature in ParentVue

Good news! You can now use your BV ParentVue account to report full day student absences. Log in on [BV ParentVue](#) and complete three basic steps.

1. Select the child who will be absent.
2. Select the drop down option that describes the absence.

3. Please utilize the "notes" section to share extra information for the staff, if needed  
Need help? [Click here](#) to review *step by step instructions for reporting a student absence on the internet version.* (The absence reporting option is not yet available on the ParentVue mobile app.)

Phone options will continue to be available at all schools for reporting any attendance information as well. To report an absence at Heartland Elementary School via phone, please call 913-239-6305.

## Emergency Drills Guide for Heartland Families

We continue to make school safety a top priority at Heartland Elementary School. Whether there is a medical emergency in the building, a weather emergency is imminent or an intruder is suspected, we want to ensure students and staff know what to do and where to go in an emergency situation.

This year, schools across the state will be implementing an enhanced emergency drills schedule in response to updated state regulations created in collaboration with various state emergency management agencies. The enhanced schedule aligns with our focus at HRT on school safety and prepares us to respond effectively and efficiently to emergencies.

Throughout the year, students and staff will be participating in a variety of emergency and lockdown drills. We spend time talking with students about what to expect during each type of drill. We also encourage families to engage in conversations with their child about what to do in the event of an emergency or safety situation.

## PTO News

- **JOIN** the PTO: Support your PTO by becoming a member. Membership is \$25 per family. Log on now at [Heartlandpto.org](http://Heartlandpto.org). Register now and get some great benefits:
  - Instant access to this year's online school directory. Directory is ONLY available to PTO members.
  - Latest news on PTO and Heartland events
- **Take Stock Fees** is our PTO's primary source of funds. Last year, Take Stock Fees paid for...
  1. Admission and bus fees to class field trips.
  2. Funds given to each teacher for classroom supplies
  3. Multiple grants awarded to teachers to enrich the classroom learning experience
  4. Water Bottles and Shaved Ice at Field Day
  5. Operating expenses of school clubs and JagU
  6. Family Social
  7. Teacher Appreciation and Recognition
  8. and more!
- Click [here](#) for the **full calendar** of more fun events in store for this school year!



- **Volunteer Opportunities!** Heartland is a community of people who come together to make it the best elementary school experience possible. This doesn't happen without your help! Get involved! We are currently seeking help filling several volunteer positions including: Community Concerns, Paw Prints, 5th Grade Farewell Chair, and more. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact PTO President Elect, Nayelli Bowers @ [nayellipalazuelos@yahoo.com](mailto:nayellipalazuelos@yahoo.com).

## Subscribe to the New District Calendar Today

Don't miss an important date next school year! Subscribe to the new district-wide calendar to ensure you have the latest calendar dates for the 2019-20 school year and beyond.

- **Subscribe:** Simply go to the [district's calendar web page](#) and subscribe to an Apple, Google or Outlook calendar.
- **Download:** Prefer a one-page, downloadable format? We have you covered. Simply select a [PDF school year calendar](#) and download.

*\*Please note the 2018-19 subscription-based calendar will not be updated beyond the current school year. To receive any future calendar updates, you will need to subscribe to the new district calendar by following the instructions above.*

## Nut-Safer Snacks at Heartland

\***Daily Snacks:** Thank you for your support of our nut-safer snack plan at HRT. As a reminder: we are continuing to ask that ALL daily snacks (i.e. snack time) for ALL students must come from the nut-safer food list as we have a significant number of students with life-threatening nut allergies. (click below for the link) If a student's snack is not from this approved list, it will be sent home (and an alternate snack will be provided the first time) so we can help increase the safety for our students as a whole. Our continued focus this year, as an entire school, is to remain consistent on the daily snacks for student snack time in the classrooms—following the nut-safer list.

\***Party Treats:** Parents will need to observe the nut-safer list for the parties as well. Parents can definitely mix foods from the list to create party items—ex: mixing candies and cookies (from the approved list) to make a cute treat!

Please click [HERE](#) to access the Nut-Safer food list.

## Student Personal Device Policy

To read the entire Blue Valley Technology Guidelines for Elementary Students, click [here](#).

