



Buzz Aldrin Middle School The STEM Magnet

173 Bellevue Avenue
Montclair, NJ 07043
www.montclair.k12.nj.us



Principal's Bulletin February 18th, 2024

Buzz Aldrin Mission Statement:

We believe that all students can learn, achieve, and grow, in a safe and secure environment.

- **Buzz Aldrin PTA Fundraiser! We want and need your support!** Please see the attached flyer for our annual big PTA fundraiser. Additionally, hard copies of the flyers were distributed to all students on Friday. Please ask your child for a copy! We appreciate all the support and generosity from our PTA board and our generous parents. We hope to see you there dressed in your best 80s gear!
- **Yearbook Purchasing:** Yearbooks are currently available for purchase and are on a first come first served basis. Please visit www.jostensyearbooks.com or call 1-877-767-5217 to order your copy! If you have any questions please contact our Yearbook Advisor, Ms. Eden: jmintz@montclair.k12.nj.us
- **Buzz Aldrin PTA Meeting:** Please join us for our Buzz Aldrin PTA meeting on Tuesday, February 20th at 7 pm in Room 101.
- **MFEE Information:**
 - Help win a \$1,000 grant for Buzz Aldrin! [The Montclair Fund for Educational Excellence \(MFEE\)](#) is our town's local education fund that supports *all* Montclair students, teachers, staff, and caregivers. Buzz Aldrin students receive social/emotional support and innovative teaching tools through MFEE grants, teachers boost their learning through out-of-the-box Professional Development grants and Teacher Learning Communities; and families get resources and support through events like [Life After High School](#) and programs like Navegadores Escolares. Your donations - no matter how small - fuel all of this work! From now until February 28th, any donor who gives \$20 and above will be entered in a lottery to award a \$1,000 grant to their favorite school. Two winners will be chosen! Bradford and Renaissance won \$1,000 last year; it's Buzz Aldrin's turn! Be sure to "credit" Buzz Aldrin's [team page](#) when donating. Even better, right now there is a 1:1 match happening on all donations! While you're there, check out all of the ways that your donations boost learning at Buzz Aldrin. Donate here: <https://givebutter.com/c/mfeeforthem2024/members/buzzaldrinmiddleschool>

- [The Montclair Fund for Educational Excellence \(MFEE\)](#), in partnership with Montclair High School, is bringing back its award-winning mini-conference, [Life After High School](#). On February 24th from 10am-1pm, 8th-12th graders - and their caregivers - will gather at Montclair High School's George Inness Annex for this free, one-of-a-kind opportunity to connect and learn. Unlike a traditional college or job fair, Life After High School looks to leverage Montclair's amazing community members and alumni to share "wisdom nuggets" or small takeaways that will inspire adolescents through high school and beyond. There will be over 10 workshops on topics such as how to lean into your interests, how relationships can guide you through tough times, how to put yourself out there when you don't think you can, how to harness your superpowers (like ADHD) to lead you to success and being okay with uncertainty. Caregivers can take a separate track of workshops geared towards creating connection and supporting their teens. Read about the speakers and register today: <https://www.mfee.org/lahs>.
- **Buzz Aldrin Restorative Justice (RJ) Parent Night:** Please save the date and RSVP for Buzz Aldrin's Restorative Justice (RJ) Parent Night. RJ Parent Night will be held on Thursday, February 29th from 6-8 pm. This event is for parents only, and it is a great opportunity for the Buzz parent to experience the power of RJ circles. Please see the attached flyer for more details and to RSVP by February 22nd. We hope to see you there!
- **Buzz Aldrin PTA Updates:**
 - **Throwback 80s Party Spring Fundraiser: *Purchase your Early Bird tickets before 2/19!*** Break out those legwarmers and tease up your hair! The Buzz Aldrin's PTA Spring Fundraiser Is going back to the 80's. Join Buzz parents and teachers for a totally radical night of drinks, dinner, and dancing to support our STEAM magnet. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and our goal is to raise \$15,000 and we want to raise half the money by February 19. We need your support!
<https://buzzaldrinpta.memberhub.gives/throwback80sparty>
 - **When?** Friday, March 22nd from 7-10pm
 - **Where?** St James Church Parish Hall, 581 Valley Road, Montclair
 - Featuring 80s tunes from DJ Cotter, Dinner & Drinks, and a Silent Auction. Adults only. 80s costumes encouraged!
 - **Can't make the fundraiser but still want to contribute?** Please make a donation or buy a ticket for a Buzz teacher!
 - **We would love some help!** We are in need of silent auction item donations and volunteers to help run the event. Contact Jennifer Escobar or Lauren Moore at the Buzz PTA.
 - **After School Enrichment (ASE) Programs:** start February 12 - March 25. Registration is live NOW for Chess, Basketball, Street Art, CPR/First Aid, Babysitting Safety, and Financial Literacy:
<https://buzzaldrinpta.memberhub.com/store?limit=21&live=true>
 - **We need parent volunteers to help ASE!** Parent volunteers are needed to help assist instructors. No experience needed. Contact Jennifer

Escobar at jen.escobar3@gmail.com if you can assist on any of our ASE days.

- **Funds2Orgs Fundraiser:** Wow! Thank you for the amazing response to our fundraiser. Buzz students collected so many shoes! More details upcoming about how students can volunteer to distribute them to Funds2Orgs and how much money we are able to raise.
- **Buzz Family Ice Skating Event:** March 9th from 5:15 pm - 6:45 pm at Clary Anderson Arena. Free for Buzz students! Sign up before 3/8! <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/1011829654068/true#/invitation>
- **Set Design Painting & Prop Club - Mary Poppins Jr. - The Musical:** Our evening Set Design Painting/Prop Club (SDPP) sessions are in progress! We are accepting sign-ups and space is limited. Our beautiful rendering designs are in the process of being painted and brought to the stage. We will continue to make each of them come alive in color and 3D. Welcoming all families interested in joining us! All participants will receive community service hours. This is also a great way for parents to join us and their child as part of the Buzz Aldrin Musical Theatre Family! Break out your painting clothes and come join the fun! FOR MORE INFORMATION ON DATES & TO REGISTER your student for an email invite to our google classroom: Please email Karen-Ann Kaelin-Panico Theatrical Producing Director / Set Design Director kpanico@montclair.k12.nj.us. Thank you for supporting the BAMS Theater Department!
- **General Reminders:**
 - **Cell Phone Use:** Students are not permitted to use their cell phones throughout the school day. This is stated in the school's code of conduct. Consequences will be issued for those who violate this rule.
 - **Dress Appropriately for Weather:** Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the winter weather conditions, particularly outdoor recess.
 - **Attendance Information:** Student attendance and tardiness is an issue with some of students. Students with ten tardies will receive an afterschool detention will be issued. Additionally, attendance records affect your child's ability to attend/participate in end of the year events/field trips.
 - **Student Attire:** We continue to have serious concerns over students dressing appropriately for middle school, especially with footwear. Slides, Crocs, flip flops, and any shoes without a backing are not permitted, as they do not have a back to the shoes. Referrals will be issued for inappropriate footwear, as indicated in the Code of Conduct.
- **Presidents Day:** On Monday, the district is closed in honor of Presidents Day, a day that pays tribute to our country's past president and celebrates their contributions throughout history. This date was originally created in honor of

President George Washington's birthday on February 22nd. It has since been changed to the third Monday during the month of February.

Next Week's Schedule of Days

- Monday, February 19th - District Closed
- Tuesday, February 20th - E Day
- Wednesday, February 21st - F Day
- Thursday, February 22nd - A Day
- Friday, February 23rd - B Day

Please mark your calendars:

- Monday, February 19th - Presidents' Day, District Closed
- Tuesday, February 20th - PTA Meeting @ 7 pm
- Thursday, February 22nd - Curriculum Thursday, Abbreviated Day Schedule
- Thursday, February 29th - R&J Parent Circle Night @ 6 pm

“Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.”

— **Harriet Tubman**

"Obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it."

— **Michael Jordan**