

## Welcome to Bronco U: A Place for Higher

Learning! We are excited to welcome all new and returning students to Barbara Bush Middle School. We are proud to be an International Baccalaureate World School that believes in service learning, global understanding and high achievement for each student. How can parents help us?

First, we are encouraging all of our IB Scholars to be more organized this year with turning in homework or late assignments. Every student received a white Bronco folder to take unfinished assignments home AND to bring them back to turn in the next day. Have you looked in your student's folder to see what might be in there? There is a calendar for writing down test dates and project due dates, as well as the bell schedule for your reference. Help us to help your Bronco stay organized!

Second, Parent Self Serve is the district's way of keeping you informed about your student's grades and academic progress. Be sure to sign up for an account by going to <u>www.cfbisd.edu</u> and clicking on the "Parent" tab for directions on how to sign up. Additionally we encourage you to engage in conversations with your students about what they are learning in class and what <u>goals</u> they have for their <u>own</u> academic achievement.

We are excited to welcome new staff members to BBMS and would like to introduce them to you throughout the year. First we welcome Ms. Carey Murawski, PE teacher and Girls Coach.

Coach M was born right here in Dallas\_and\_ attended Mary Immaculate Catholic School through 8<sup>th</sup> grade before graduating from R.L. Turner High School. (That's right – she came back to CFB to teach!) Coach M graduated from the University of North Texas with a major in Kinesiology and Minor in English. When she is not busy working, Ms. Murawski enjoys competitive softball, singing, cooking/baking, working out, reading,



watching movies, spending time with her family and friends, and taking walks with her puppy.

When asked about teaching, she replied "I became an educator to be able to help students like my teachers helped me. I want to be able to show teens that the world is at their hands, and they can be anything they want to be."

Are there any obstacles you've had to overcome in your life?" I had to overcome the death of my sister when I was 13 years old (she was 15). She also had juvenile diabetes which was a big struggle for her, and for our family."

What do you like most about BBSM so far? "I love the community at BBMS. All of the staff has been so welcoming and helpful. I couldn't ask for a better group of people to have the pleasure of working with every day!"

What advice for future success would you give to our International Baccalaureate Scholars here at BBMS? The best advice I can give is to never give up. Life will try and knock you down over and over, but it's in how you decide to <u>react</u> that determines the outcome.



Exciting things are already under way in 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science! Broncos have explored Helicopter Designs to see which ones will land closest to their targets, and they have listened to a Texas Game Warden talk about his career in science and animal protection.



All Language & Literature classes have jumped right in to Readers & Writers Workshop, and are already learning about the new cool books in the library. All students have also learned about their online Google accounts and how to access any assignments that their teachers have put online for them.

At IB World Schools, the social studies classes are known as "Individuals & Societies." The sixth graders are jumping right into a Project Based Learning Unit where they learn about land forms, map features, and the uses of different types of maps all while creating their own world.

International Baccalaureate scholars strive to exhibit the Learner Profile in every class. These are shown to the right. IB scholars also strengthen their own learning skills called "Approaches to Learning." We want students to know how they can best learn new ideas. These "Approaches" include Communication skills, Self Management skills (like Organization), Information Literacy skills, and Reflection skills. We will discuss all of these with your Broncos during Advisory class, which they visit each Wednesday from 3:00-3:20. During Advisory, we ask students to think about and write about how they are striving to reach their goals. Please talk with your students about their Advisory Lessons!

## Upcoming **Events** to put in your calendar:

"Meet the Teacher Night", Sept. 14, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Principal/Family Coffee, Sept. 8:15-8:45 a.m.

8<sup>th</sup> grade visit to Ranchview for *Homecoming*, Sept. 16, 9:15-10:15

## Using the IB Learner Profile

Inquirers Knowledgeable Thinkers Communicators Principled Open-minded Caring Risk-takers Balanced Reflective





Theater Students are practicing introductory speaking skills by sharing "artifact boxes". These boxes contain items important to them, and allow them to demonstrate some creative thinking skills!





