

Dr. Charles Barnum Elementary School
January 8, 2021



From the principal:

We made it through our first week of school in 2021 and all seems to be going well. We are excited to have the students back in the building next week!

I hope you were all able to relax, get some time away from the screen and enjoy the break. Just a reminder, and in an effort to continue to mitigate the transmission of COVID, if you need to quarantine due to travel or if your child is not feeling well, please call the school to let us know. Your cooperation and communication are greatly appreciated.

Please remember - ATTENDANCE COUNTS! Whether you are in-person or learning from home, we are taking attendance each day. If your child is home for quarantine, they can still participate virtually and be counted present when they meet the virtual expectations for the day.

Our community meeting will be Wednesday at 1:00 pm. We will be recognizing the January Superpower - Gratitude.

There are some good reminders in the newsletter so be sure to take the time to read it. As always, if you have any questions, please reach out.

Seth Danner, Principal
sdanner@groton.k12.ct.us

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ★ **Jan.11: Cohort A returns to the building**
- ★ **Jan. 13: Community Meeting 1:00 PM (virtual)**
- ★ **Jan. 14: Cohort B returns to the building**
- ★ **Jan. 18: No School - Martin Luther King Day**

COVID Mitigation Strategies

Please continue to practice these strategies when you leave your house. We want all of our CB families to remain safe and healthy.

Wear a mask when you are not able to social distance!



Wash your hands often and for 20 seconds. You can even sing the alphabet song while you wash!

Social distance - that means stay 6 feet away from the people around you.



If you are not feeling well, stay home!

Virtual Expectations

All students, when not attending school in person, are virtual learners.

Attendance is taken based on participation. Participation means:

- 1) Log in to your SeeSaw or Google Classroom every day**
- 2) Watch all assigned lessons and complete all assigned school work by the end of the school day**
- 3) If you are unable to complete your work due to illness, call the office**

For more information, see the attached Virtual Expectations Document.

Teacher Communication

Communication is important, especially this school year! Virtual learning has brought with it a whole lot of unanswered questions and our teachers and school staff are here to help.

Student ↔ Teacher Communication:

Google Classroom is where students can ask teachers questions and where the teacher can respond to them.



Parent ↔ Teacher Communication:

Email and the Remind App are the two ways for parents to communicate with their child's teacher. This maintains the integrity and confidentiality of adult conversations. Remind codes can be found by grade level at: <https://www.grotonschools.org/charlesbarnum>



You can always contact the school with any questions:
860-449-5640.

Attendance Matters. You Matter.



Charles Barnum Elementary School

If your child will be absent from school or is unable to participate virtually for the day, you must call the school to report the absence at: 860-449-5640

PTO NEWS

BOARD MEMBER NEEDED!

PTO is still looking for someone willing to fill the role of Vice President. If you would be interested, please email:

Seth Danner at sdanner@groton.k12.ct.us
or the PTO at cbpto@outlook.com

The **SchoolStore** fundraiser continues through the end of the school year.

To register your child:

Go to: www.schoolstore.net

School ID: 12459

Ideas, comments or questions? Share them with the PTO at:
cbpto@outlook.com

VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION

PE, Art, Music and Library are a part of your child's normal school day. Participation is being tracked and incomplete work will be reflected in the grades for each of these classes.

If there is a concern regarding participation, please contact the school.

Barnum's Super Power for December: **Humor**

Three Ways to Keep on the Funny Side:

- **Bring it Home** - Take time to laugh at home. Find times to tell jokes and play with your family. It is a great way to connect.
- **Work it Around** - When you laugh with your friends you build greater friendships. Make sure all are included in the fun.
- **Get Your Vitamin L** - Did you know that laughing is good for your health? It improves your energy level and lowers stress.



Connecticut State Department of Education Professional Support Series for Families

Please see below and join as we learn together and grow together.

Series 21 – January 4, 2021

Don't miss the second in our series of conversations with families.

A Place at the Table: A Parent-to-Parent Conversation about the Importance of Attendance and Supporting Our Kids in School

Join us at our virtual Kitchen Table, and let's have a chat about how we can partner together to help our kids learn and grow and be successful in school. This time together will offer families and key school partners the chance to learn about meaningful strategies and key resources to help connect students with learning.

We will talk about:

- Challenges we share in keeping our children connected to school and engaged in learning;
- Words we are hearing to describe this new way of teaching, such as "in-person," "hybrid," and "remote" learning, that we want to understand better, and discuss the expectations for students; and
- How we, as parents and caregivers, can talk with teachers and school staff to plan, solve problems, and be true partners in our children's learning and success.

Parents and caregivers will have the opportunity to ask questions, share strategies and routines that might help them, and get new information to explore.



Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2021

Time: 5:30–7:00 p.m.

Register: <http://ctserc.net/parentstable>

(After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.)

Live co-presenter translation: Spanish, Portuguese, and Arabic

Presenters:

SERC



Nitza Diaz
Education Consultant, SERC



LeTanya Lawrence
Education Consultant, SERC

Hartford Public Schools



Nuchette Black-Burke
Chief Engagement & Partnerships Officer
Hartford Public Schools



Distance Learning Expectations for Academics and Attendance: **Students in Grades K through 5**

Daily Academic Expectations (School day begins at 8:55)

1. Login to your Seesaw OR Google Classroom
 - please check for initial assignments at the beginning of the school day.
2. Attend or watch assigned lessons and complete required assignments by the end of the school day or as arranged with your teacher
3. Independent reading for 20-40 minutes (independently or with an adult).
4. Communicate with your teacher!
5. Specials - *All students have four Specials per week - PE, Art, Music, Media*
 - Check your Specials daily to see if you have an assignment and when the assignment is due. For example, you may have Art and Music on Mon/Tue one week and then Art and Music on Thu/Fri the second week.

Daily Attendance Expectations (School day begins at 8:55)

- *Students who are in Full Distance Learning and Hybrid Students (when home).*
1. In order to be marked in present for the school day, students must log-in and complete required assignments by the end of the school day.
 2. In-school students: Attendance will be taken in school
 3. Virtual students: Attendance will be based on completion of daily academic expectations (*only attending a live zoom session without work completion is considered absent*).
 4. Absent Days - If you are virtual and unable to complete assignments due to illness, please contact the office. The same applies if you are in-person and not able to attend school for the day.

Completing your assignments

1. Try your best!
2. Ask questions and review teacher feedback
3. Turn-in completed assignments on time!
4. Communicate!

These expectations are subject to change and will be modified/communicated as needed.



CT

Connecticut's students need veterans.

Everything You Need to Know to Become a Teacher in CT

Network with teachers, administrators, and district hiring officials

Small group and one-on-one discussions
will focus on:

- Q & A about teaching;
- Developing a customized step-by-step process to become a teacher;
- Translating prior experience or education towards a teaching certification;
- Employment opportunities before and after becoming a teacher; and
- Leadership and professional growth opportunities.

**Wednesday, January 27, 2021
6:00–7:00 p.m.**

This is a virtual meeting. A Zoom link
will be sent prior to the meeting to all
registered attendees.

REGISTER

<https://tinyurl.com/ycl24kdg>

For more information, contact Melissa
Michaud-Maltese at melissa.maltese@ct.gov
or 860-713-6754, or Kimberly Audet at
kimberly.audet@ct.gov or 860-713-6829.

*This session is open to all service members
and veterans interested in pursuing a
teaching career.*

Facilitators:



*Sal Escobales is the Recruitment and
Placement Specialist and teacher
union president for the Consolidated
School District of New Britain*



*Ken Henrici is the
superintendent
of Regional School
District 11.*



*Laurie LePine, pHCLC,
SPHR & SHRM-SCP, is
Director of Human
Resources, Groton
Public Schools.*

Follow the Connecticut Troops to Teachers program
at the Connecticut State Department of Education:



@EducateCT



@ctdepartmentofeducation

Learn more about the Troops to Teachers Program Office
at www.proudtoserveagain.com, and follow them at:



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