



BENNIE DOVER JACKSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

# BDJMS NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2010

DATES OF INTEREST

## GREETINGS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Over the past few weeks, I have assumed the role of interim principal of Bennie Dover Jackson Middle School (BDJMS). The former principal, Tracy Barber, moved with his family to Louisiana on the 1st of the year. As an alumni of the New London public school system, I am proud to return to the building where I attended junior high school to work with such a talented group of students and staff. As we move forward into the new year together, I would like to acknowledge the compassion that our BDJMS family has shown in the face of the tragedy that struck Haiti.

I am deeply moved by the care and concern that our students showed for one

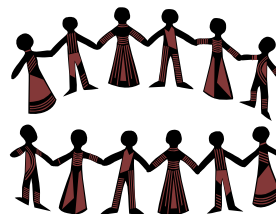
another during this crisis. Almost immediately after the news broke, several of the students asked me what they could do to help. Another student approached a young lady whom he didn't normally speak with and asked her if she had heard from her family in Haiti. She responded that she had not, and he told her, "I'm here if you need a friend." One of our staff members offered to stay after school and listen to anyone who 'needed an ear' during this (or any) difficult time.

This outpouring of compassion for one another demonstrates that the BDJMS community has special talents and that we care deeply for one another. As we go about our days, I hope that

we can each find time to tell the students how fortunate we are to be a part of this great community and to share appreciation of each other.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work with you and your child and am looking forward to the months ahead. The way that you and your student is treated is critically important to me. So, if you have had a particularly good experience with one of our staff members, please let me know. Likewise, if you feel that you did not get the level of customer service you deserve, I hope that you let me know so that we can continue to improve.

~Alison Ryan



## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

A committed group of teachers meets monthly to plan events of interest for BDJMS parents and students. Last month, this committee planned a night of cookie making. This month, BDJMS families are invited for dinner and free tickets to the February 4th

New London High School basketball game. If you are interested in planning school wide events to help bring us closer as a community, please consider joining the Parental Involvement Committee. Your input is important to us. If you are interested in working with

this committee, please leave your name with Ms. Haggerty (437-6480) or with one of the teachers at the Feb 4th event.

Together we can make a difference!

### NO SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 15-19TH

### EARLY RELEASE (DISMISSAL IS AT 1:00)

FEBRUARY 9TH  
FEBRUARY 23RD

### BREAKFAST WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT

FEBRUARY 3RD  
COME ANYTIME BETWEEN  
6:30-7:00

### REPORT CARDS

JANUARY 29TH

### PARENTS' NIGHT

6:00 AT New London High School  
on FEBRUARY 4TH

*Enjoy pizza and drinks before  
watching a NL basketball game*

### PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 10TH AT 2:30

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FAMILIES OF THE STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

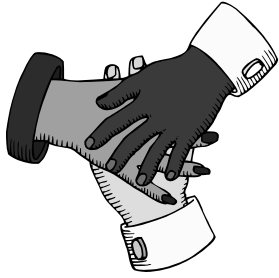
**GRADE 6:**

**NIGEL DEJESUS**

**GRADE 7:**

**JULIO ALVAREZ**

## CHILDSIGHT: PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH GLASSES



In the United States, over 2 million children suffer from uncorrected eyesight. Without eyeglasses, these students are unable to clearly read the board or see classroom presentations. As a result, an organization called ChildSight is helping students at BDJMS determine if they need glasses and then provide glasses to these students.

The ChildSight organization provides free vision screening for students. This screening

happens at BDJMS. Once a student has had his/her eyes examined, a decision is made about whether the child needs glasses. If the child does need glasses, he/she is able to pick out a pair of frames. This year, over 130 students will receive eyeglasses

This is our fourth year working with ChildSight. As a result of this program 91% of students report that the new eyeglasses helped them in school.

For more information about the ChildSight Program, please visit [www.hki.org](http://www.hki.org)



## BRIGHT SMILES: DENTAL CARE AT BDJMS

Mobile Dental is a program that started 6 years ago under the Bright Smiles grant to bring dental care to students in New London. Pam Tracy, a dental hygienist travels to all of the public schools in New London (K-8) with professional dental equipment. This year she will provide cleanings for over a hundred students at BDJMS.



In order to receive these services, students must not have been to the dentist in over a year or be clients of the Community Health Center. If you have any questions about how to get your student enrolled in this program, please call the care coordinator at 447-8304 (ext. 8055).

For more information about the Community Health Center please visit [www.chc1.com](http://www.chc1.com)

“WE CANNOT ALWAYS BUILD A FUTURE FOR OUR YOUTH, BUT WE CAN BUILD OUR YOUTH FOR THE FUTURE.”

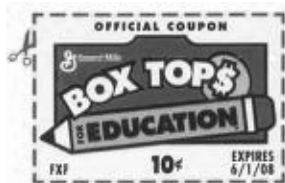
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

## BRING IN BOX TOPS & CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS

### Box Tops for Education

What we need:

Cut out any box top logo that looks like this:



We receive \$0.10 for every label that is returned to school. Box tops can be found on over 100 different products such as Cheerios, Kleenex and Hamburger Helper. This money can be used to buy a variety of school supplies. For more information visit, [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com)

All labels or boxtops are used to get materials or equipment that will benefit our students.

We also collect the labels off of any Campbell Soup product.



For more information on this program visit:

[www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com)