

Welcome to Beal Early Childhood Center

News on the Beal Front: [December 5, 2016](#)

In this issue:

1. A note from the Principal
2. Special Town Meeting tonight!
3. Warming Up Winter
4. *Meal Magic* Program
5. PTO update and upcoming events
6. Kindergarten 2017-2018
7. News from the nurse
8. Upcoming Dates and Events

1. A note from the Principal

I hope everyone is enjoying our first snowfall of the season as we continue through this very busy stretch between Thanksgiving and December breaks. The next three weeks leading up to December Vacation will be very busy and exciting at Beal, as teachers and staff have planned many great learning experiences related to the holiday and winter seasons. This is also the time of year where we continue to work on the developing an understanding of community, both here at Beal and in a the greater context of Shrewsbury. One place where this is evident is in our “Warming Up Winter” drive, where the Beal staff and students are collecting new gloves, mittens, hats, and socks for those who could use support in keeping warm this winter. The deadline is **December 16th** for those who are still looking to participate. ***Tomorrow, Tuesday, December 5th** is our first early release day across the district. Staff will be engaged in various projects that allow them to grow their craft and collaborate with peers to continue their journey as lifelong learners. Please note below the schedule for Beal with specifics to dismissal procedures. Please don’t hesitate to reach us at (508) 841-8860 with any questions about early release days.

Early Release days at Beal affect the following programs:

-**Full day Kindergarten and Grade 1 - 12:30 p.m. dismissal** (There will be a three hour difference in transportation times. Please allow extra time for differences in midday traffic patterns.) There are no lunches provided on early release days.

-1/2 day a.m. Kindergarten- **no change in dismissal**

-1/2 day p.m. Kindergarten- **no school**

-**Beal Extended Day**- open for operations beginning at 12:30 p.m. **Only students scheduled for that day of the week may attend the After School program.

Sincerely,

Chris Girardi

Phone: (508) 841-8865

Email: cgirardi@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

2. Special Town Meeting tonight!

Tonight there is a Special Town Meeting to determine whether to provide \$1.2 million in funding for the feasibility study phase for the project, in order to move to the next step of the Massachusetts School Building Authority's (MSBA) required process. Slightly more than 50% of this cost would be reimbursed by the MSBA. A second cable television show regarding the Beal building project was recorded in late October and can be viewed online [here](#).

3. Warming Up Winter

The Beal Community is "Warming Up Winter" by collecting new gloves, mittens, hats and socks for infants, children, teens and adults. Now that the cold weather is approaching, the need for these items has greatly increased. All items will be donated to local charities and school children in need. Please send donations to school with your child by **Friday, December 16th**. Thanks in advance for your donations and continued support!

4. Meal Magic Program

Thank you to all for a successful first week of the *Meal Magic* Program. Students and staff are doing an excellent job transitioning to this online payment system. The following blurb is of families who have questions about unused meal tickets."Any unused Full Price Elementary School Tickets can be credited at face value to your child's account. Please send your tickets to : Food Service Department, 64 Holden Street, Shrewsbury, Ma. 01545. Include a note with the tickets as to whose account you want credited. Tickets can not be credited by the cashiers. Tickets can only be credited at the Food Service Office. All tickets can be used at the schools until they run out if you choose not to add to your child's account. Additionally cash can be used for all transactions."Questions? Call Beth Nichols- Food Service Director- 508-841-8819-

bnichols@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

5. PTO update Please join us on Thursday, December 15th from 4:00-5:00 p.m. for our December PTO Meeting. This will be a special joint meeting with Beal School Council to discuss agenda topics related to the Beal Building Project, the Beal Family Dinner, and much, much, more! Childcare will be provided. Please note that there is no PTO Meeting on the originally scheduled date of Tuesday, December 20th.

The Beal PTO is actively looking for new members to join our dedicated team. Please read the following letter for more information.

[Beal PTO member letter](#) Below are a couple of great fundraising opportunities for those out and about and looking for a little nourishment...

-Buffalo Wild Wings fundraiser

All friends, family and supporters of Beal PTO are invited to participate in their fundraising event this Wednesday, December 7, 2016. Everyone is invited to gather at Buffalo Wild Wings in Shrewsbury (476 Boston Turnpike) for lunch, dinner, or a snack. On this day, 20% of purchases* accompanied by the certificate below will be donated to the Beal PTO. [Buffalo Wild Wings Information](#)

-Holiday Cookie Extravaganza- Beal PTO will be holding a Cookie Extravaganza for Beal staff on Tuesday, December 20th. Please consider donating baked goods, including your recipe, as the PTO will be creating a recipe book of all cookies and pastries! Please use this [Sign Up Genius link](#) to sign up for the Holiday Cookie Extravaganza.

6. Kindergarten 2017-2018

If you have a child that will be eligible to attend kindergarten in the fall of 2017 (must be 5 years old by August 31, 2017), please send an email to Diane Abbott, our Registrar with your child's information so she can check that your child is on the incoming kindergarten database. Her email address is dabbott@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Information required:

Student First Name

Student Last Name

Date of Birth

Gender

Address

Phone Number

Parent's Name

Parent's Email Address

Name of preschool child is attending (if applicable)

For more information, please visit our website: <http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov>.
Click on *Student Registration*/ Click on *Kindergarten Information 2017-2018*.

7. News From the Nurse

* Please remember to send shoes or sneakers in your child's backpack if they wear their boots to school. They will need to change out of their boots for comfort while inside and cannot walk around in their stocking feet. This is especially important on gym days, as boots are not allowed on the gym floor and they could end up sitting out during gym class activities.* With the exception of intensely cold, wet, or windy winter days, the children will go out for recess. They need to have mittens, gloves and hats with them every day. Take note of your child's teacher's newsletter for details about snow pants and boots.

~Jill Wensky

Beal Nurse

508-841-8870

8. Important dates

Tuesday, December 6th- Early Release Day for staff professional development

Thursday, December 15th- Joint Beal School Council and PTO Meeting- 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Monday, December 19th- Trimester 1 report cards sent home

Monday, December 26th-Monday, January 2nd- December Vacation- **No school**

Tuesday, January 17th- Beal PTO Meeting- 6:30 p.m. in the Beal gymnasium

Tuesday, February 7th- Early release day

Monday, February 20th-Friday, February 24th- Presidents' Day and February Vacation- **No School**