



BART

a college prep charter school

Friday, August 24

Dates to Remember:

- Monday, September 3 ----- No School (Labor Day)
- Tuesday, September 4 ----- First Day of After School Programming
- Wednesday, September 5 ----- Picture Day
- Sunday, September 9 ----- Wolf Pack Can and Bottle Drive (9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)
- Thursday, September 13 ----- Family Night, (6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.)
- Friday, September 21 ----- No School (PD)
- Thursday, September 27 ----- Mountain Day! (Thursday, October 4 -- Mountain Day Rain Date)

** All dates, events, and details are listed on the [News & Events Calendar page](#) on the school's website.*

Events and General Information:

Bus Routes -- Please make sure your student arrives at their bus stop 10 minutes early. DuFour has notified us that the Pittsfield buses (Buses 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5) are at capacity. We are operating at a "no bus pass" situation for all Pittsfield buses. A "no bus pass" situation means that students must ride on the bus they are assigned to. There are no bus passes available at this time for students to ride on a different Pittsfield bus. This situation will not affect the 4:40 p.m. late buses or 5:40 p.m. athletic buses. Please note new changes made to the following bus routes:

Bus #2 - Rt 8 @ Greenwich St at 7:43 is now moving to Bus #3 7:41 a.m.

Bus #3 - Tyler St @ Cherry St at 7:31 is now moving to Bus #2 7:35 a.m.

** Changes to the Bus Routes are frequently updated in the Quicklinks Box on the [For Parents](#) and [For Students](#) pages of the school's website.*

Picture Day -- Picture Day is Wednesday, September 5. Middle school students may bring a different shirt to wear for their picture but are still required to come to school in uniform.

Wolf Pack Can and Bottle Drive -- The 2018 BART Cross Country Teams are raising money for a bus to Marlborough for the State Charter School Invite on Columbus Day. Please bring your empty cans and bottles on Sunday, September 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Adams Redemption Center on Commercial Street. If you have questions or bottles that need to be picked up, please email Coach Griffin at: benn.griffin@bartcharter.org. Thank you for considering the BART Wolf Pack!

Mountain Day is Back! -- Our much-loved tradition of scaling Mount Greylock as a school was on pause last year, but we are thrilled to bring it back for the 2018-2019 school year! Mountain Day will be Thursday, September 27, with a rain date of Thursday, October 4. BART students and faculty will be joining forces to climb and conquer Mt. Greylock when we go on a daylong hike to the top of the mountain. This day will be an opportunity for students and teachers to set a challenging target and meet the goal together. Snacks will be provided along the way and lunch will be served at no cost. After lunch we'll engage in a variety of community-building activities. Afterward, we'll return to school

via bus to wrap up the day in Advisories. Students should dress in layers with comfortable clothing and shoes appropriate for hiking. Students should also consider bringing a water bottle, bug spray, and an additional snack from home. **Students should not bring iPods or other MP3 devices or any academic materials.** If you have questions or are interested in volunteering on the day of, contact Ms. Hattaway at 413-743-7311 ext. 712 or erin.hattaway@bartcharter.org.

FREE Breakfast and Lunch! -- BART is participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program called the [Community Eligibility Provision \(CEP\)](#) for the 2018-19 School Year. All enrolled students are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school at no charge to your household each day of the school year. The [August Breakfast and Lunch Menu](#) is available on the school's website.

Back-to-School Forms Needed -- At the beginning of August, a back-to-school mailing included various forms for families to complete and return. If you have not done so already, please complete these necessary forms and end them in with your child as soon as possible. Contact [Ms. Barreto](mailto:erica.barreto@bartcharter.org) at erica.barreto@bartcharter.org if additional copies are needed.

After-School Homework Help -- Starting on Tuesday, September 4, BART's After-School Homework Help will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:40 p.m. - 4:40 p.m. The most up-to-date versions of the After School Bus Routes are posted in the *Quicklinks* box on the ["For Parents" page](#) of the BART website.

Policy Reminders:

Acceptable Technology Use Policy -- BART's policy is for student safety and applies to both middle and high school students. Students may not use cell phones or other smart-devices to call or send text messages during the school day, even to communicate with a parent or guardian. If parents or guardians need to contact students during the school day, they should either call the front desk (ext. 700) or the student office (ext. 710). We will be happy to help convey any messages and/or put you in direct communication with your student. If your student texts or calls you from their cell phone during the school hours, please call them back at the extensions above and instruct them to use the school phones as permitted.

Fragrance-Free Policy -- Recognizing that scented products may cause or exacerbate allergic symptoms, chemical sensitivities, asthma, headaches, or nausea, among other symptoms, BART promotes a fragrance-free environment. Consequently BART does not permit the use or wearing of products whose purpose is to create a noticeable scent, such as perfumes, colognes, and scented spray products such as air fresheners, and BART asks for moderation in the use of even mildly scented products such as deodorants, lotions, and body washes. Students whose use of scented products is objectionable may be asked to return home to remove them. Repeated infractions will result in disciplinary action.

Attendance Policy -- All planned and unplanned absences require a note. On the morning of an unplanned absence, a parent or guardian must call Ms. Daniels (413-743-7311 ext. 700) at the school so she can record the absence. A note is required for a planned absence or as a follow-up to an unplanned absence. Notes must come from either a parent, a guardian, or a doctor and explain why the student should be excused. Only certain documented absences may be marked as excused.

** For more information, families should refer to the [2018-19 Student Handbook](#) found on the [For Students](#) and [For Parents](#) pages of our website.*

BART Charter Public School

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