



BART

a college prep charter school

**Mountain Day
Thursday, Oct 6**



- **Dates to remember:**

- * Tuesday, October 4 - SEPAC meeting (6-6:30 p.m.)
- * Tuesday, October 4 - CFAC meeting (6:30-7:30 p.m.)
- * Wednesday, October 5 - Cross-country meet at Wahconah High School
- * Wednesday, October 5 - Environmental Science field trip (8:15-11:30 a.m.)
- * Wednesday, October 5 - Board of Trustees meeting (6-8 p.m.)
- * Thursday, October 6 - Mountain Day
- * Friday, October 7 - Half Day (students dismissed at 12 p.m.)
- * Monday, October 10 - Columbus Day (No school)
- * Tuesday, October 11 - Picture Re-take Day (8:30-10:30 a.m.)
- * Wednesday, October 12 - PSAT testing
- * Friday, October 14 - NYCB workshop

- **Principal dancers from the New York City Ballet will teach BART students again.**

Once again, we are excited that our students have been chosen to participate in a workshop with two of the principal dancers from [NYCB](#). This year's workshop will reference *Libeslieder Walzer* (choreography by Balanchine & music by Brahms). BART is excited and flattered to be given this opportunity.

- **Introducing BART's new speaker series: *How Today's Education Impacts Tomorrow's Career*.** Throughout the first week of every month BART will present a series of speakers to talk with students about education, careers, and where the two meet. Corraling local business professionals, artists, and other experts in their field, students will learn first-hand about the application of education to various careers and how primary and secondary education directly impacts the day-to-day life of career-minded adults. Next week students will get to meet:

- *Lloyd Wynter* - Financial Advisor for Morgan Stanley. Mr. Wynter recently moved to the Berkshires with his family and has worked in finance field since graduating from college. His success is because of the educational opportunities that were provided to him.
- *Gillian Jones* - Our own "North Adams Transcript" photographer. She has worked at the paper for 20 years and also teaches at MCLA. Ms. Jones is doing what she loves and puts her all into it.
- **Seats still available in grades 7, 8 & 9.** But maybe not for long after everyone hears that BART is the only school district in all of Berkshire County to be "high growth" in both ELA and math for the third year in a row. If you know a family that would like to discuss transferring their college bound student to BART please suggest they call or email BART's Enrollment Counselor [Monique Nottke](#) (743-7311, ext 132) as soon as possible.
- **Champlain College will be joining BART students for lunch.** On Monday, October 3, a representative from [Champlain College](#) will be at BART for a special lunchtime meeting for all interested 11th and 12th graders who would like to learn more about this exciting and innovative college in Burlington, Vermont.
- **CFAC @ BART to hold first meeting of the school year on Tuesday, October 4, at 6:30 p.m.**
The [Community and Family Advisory Council](#) (CFAC) is a group of energized & creative-thinking parents who plan upcoming special events and programs at BART. Meetings are held at the school on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. and new members are always welcome. The first meeting of this year will be held at BART on October 4. Agenda items include electing CFAC officers, planning up-coming events and reviewing the success of the recent school-wide fund raiser. Parents who attend will receive a "jean's pass" for their child(ren).
- **BART Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) to meet on Tuesday, October 4, at 6 p.m.**
Are you a parent of a child receiving special education services? Perhaps you would like more information about special education services? Would you like to meet and talk with other parents of children receiving special education services? Then please attend the monthly SEPAC meetings that take place at BART the first Tuesday of every month and be a part of the substantive discussion that can help your child succeed in school.
- **Cross-country meet on October 5.** The BART Cross-country team is preparing to enter its fifth dual meet of the season on October 5, at Wahconah HS in Dalton. The girls' race is set to begin at 4:30 p.m. with a full BART team scoring against Drury HS, Pittsfield HS, and Monument Mount Regional HS. The boys' race will begin at 5 p.m. or at the conclusion of the girls' race. BART is still waiting to field a full team for boys but will try to score against Pittsfield HS and Mt. Greylock Regional HS if the numbers swing in their favor. Come on out to Wahconah HS and support your cross country runners. They have been working very hard the last five weeks! Next on deck: Wahconah HS again on October 12th! Try to make one or both!
- **Field trip for BART students in grade 7.** On Wednesday, October 5, grade 7 students will travel to Troy, NY, to visit [Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute](#) and [The Children's Museum of Science and Technology](#). It will be a fun and educational day full of college life and hands-on science! Students need to have their field trip [permission slip](#) signed and returned to advisors as soon as possible.
- **Grade 11 Environmental Studies students to begin a year-long field project of the Hoosic River.**
Students will begin carrying out various water quality assessments of the Hoosic River and its tributaries on October 5, including macroinvertebrate monitoring and general water quality monitoring with sensing probeware. The students will be presenting their data and research findings to the BART community and the local community in the spring. Students should bring sunscreen, bug repellent, a change of clothes (including socks), raincoat, water & a light snack. They should also wear sturdy shoes for hiking & wear layered clothing for mixed weather conditions. Jeans will be allowed. [Permission slips](#) need to be signed & returned to the school as soon as possible.
- **Board of Trustees Meeting on Wednesday, October 5, at 6 p.m.** BART Board of Trustees meetings are held at the school and parents are always invited to sit in and observe some of the behind-the-scenes work that shapes our school and keeps it running.
- **BART students will be coming 'round the mountain on Thursday, October 6.** Nature will be our students' classroom on October 6, when we go on a daylong school wide hike the Cheshire Trail from Adams all the way up Mt. Greylock. This day will be an opportunity for students & teachers to set a challenging target & to support one another as we meet our goal together. Snacks will be provided along the way and lunch will be waiting at the top. Students should wear their black BART shirt, a sweatshirt or long sleeved shirt for warmth and shoes & socks appropriate for hiking. Students will be allowed to wear jeans. 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. Parents and guardians who would like to join us for the hike or meet us at the summit should email [Ms. Pierson](#). Signed [permission slips](#) must be returned to the school no later than Monday, October 3.
- **PSAT's administered to students in grades 10 and 11 on Wednesday, October 12, at 8:00 a.m.**
This test is the "practice" test for the SAT's, which all BART students must take to graduate. Taking the PSAT's is the best first step for preparing for the SAT's and future college admissions. There are also [scholarship opportunities](#) available to juniors who do exceptionally well on the test. Students in grades 10 and 11 have received PSAT "Student Guides" with helpful information and practice tests. They have been asked to prepare at home and will be given time in their advisories to familiarize themselves with this important test. Parents & students can find more information and practice material [online](#). Good luck Sophomores and Juniors!
- **College Savings Night, Thursday, October 13, at 5 p.m.** Please join us on October 13 when BART welcomes Julie Sheilds-Rutnya and Angelina Mancini from the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority ([MEFA](#)) to speak about the importance of, and how to start saving for a college education. Our visitors will assist you in setting up a college savings accounts and "BART Scholars" will be able to make their initial deposits with their scholarship award. No matter how old your child is, now is the time to start saving for the future! Please RSVP to [Barbara Robertson](#) or 743-7311, x127.
- **Progress Reports need to be signed & returned to the school.** By now parents should have reviewed, signed & returned to the

school their child's progress report that went home last week. Parents who have not returned this to the school yet should do so as soon as possible. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress, please email or call your child's teachers at the school. They would be happy to talk with you.

- **Make BART's For Parents page your home page.** Many important documents & links can be found in the Quicklinks box on the [For Parents](#) page of our [website](#). Families can always look to the [website](#) for much of the information they will need throughout the school year.

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