



# BART

a college prep charter school

**Winter Break**  
**Thurs, Dec 22**  
**thru**  
**Mon, Jan 2**



***Dates to remember:***

- \* *Wednesday, December 21* - Student Talent Show (2-3 p.m.)
- \* *Thursday, December 22 thru Monday, January 2* - Winter Break
- \* *Tuesday, January 3* - Classes resume
- \* *Tuesday, January 3* - Monthly SEPAC meeting (6 p.m.)
- \* *Tuesday, January 3* - Monthly CFAC meeting (6:30 p.m.)
- \* *Wednesday, January 4* - Monthly Board of Trustees meeting (6-8 p.m.)
- \* *Friday, January 6* - Parent/Guardian "Lost & Found Viewing" (2-3 p.m.)

***From the Nurse***

When a student has a fever and/or is vomiting and/or has diarrhea, they must stay home for 24 symptom-free hours that are not aided by medications like Motrin, Advil, Tylenol or a store brand.

- **Come see the Student Talent Show today!** Students will be sharing their talents in dancing, singing & more at the school-wide talent show at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, December 21. This event is open to family & friends, so we hope you can join us in the atrium for a little music and more. Bravo, everyone!
- **Progress Reports have gone home with students this week.** Check those backpacks because the first progress report of Term 2 have been sent home with students this week. This report is NOT an official report card, but will give students and parents a sense of how students are progressing in each of their courses. After you & your child review his report, please sign it & send it back to the school when students return from break on Tuesday, January 2. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress, you can contact your child's teachers after the break via email or by calling the school.
- **Plans for the winter break?** Why not take ice skating lessons?! The Pittsfield Parks Speed Skating Club will be hosting skating lessons from 11:45 to 12:45 p.m. on Monday through Friday, December 26 to 30. Skaters from 5 to 15 years old are invited to participate and skates are available at no extra charge. For more information, visit the [skating club's website](#) or speak to Ms. Pierson.
- **BART is clearing out the coatrooms.** Before students leave for the winter break today, they will be instructed to take home any & all clothing items from BART's coatrooms. Immediately following their departure, all unclaimed items will be gathered and set aside so students can have once last look for that missing glove or favorite hat upon their return to school on Tuesday, January 3. The final step of the school's purging of unclaimed clothing items will be on Friday, January 6, when parents will be invited to BART for a "Lost & Found Review." Then on Friday, January 13, after everybody has had an opportunity to look for their missing items, any remaining unclaimed clothing will be packed-up and donated to Goodwill.
- **BART goes to Washington, DC.** Students have begun to meet during the school day to begin planning fundraisers to help them travel to DC this April. The students' trip is being planned by [Smithsonian Student Travel](#) and the [itinerary](#) is packed with lots of great stops. To help with planning, here is some important [information](#) and some additional things parents should know: Here are some key points:

- *BART's Tour ID #: 1187074*
- *Cost: \$775 for students (if more than 25 people sign-up the price goes down!)*
- *Dates: Monday – Thursday, April 16-19 (spring break)*
- *Payment Plans: Students must enroll by 12/31/11 in order to be eligible for the monthly payment plan. If you are not planning to take advantage of the payment plan, the enrollment deadline will be 1/20/12 and families will need to contact the [Smithsonian's customer service department](#) (1.888.333.9756) to set up their own personalized payment plan*
- *Information: Tour packets are available in the student office*
- *Deadline: 1/20/12*

To stay informed about the many helpful fundraisers and upcoming organizational meetings being planned, we advise joining the trip's [Facebook group](#). Interested families who would like more information can either speak with a [customer service representative at Smithsonian](#) (have the trip's ID number handy!) or call or email [Ms. Nottke](#) (x132), the trip's coordinator, or with [Mr. Bridges](#) (x174), the trip's advisor.

- **Shopping at Target raises money for BART.** Did you know that when you make purchases at Target using your Target store credit card you can donate a percentage of the sale to BART? And since we're in the middle of the holiday shopping season this can really add up! Target's [Take Charge of Education](#) program is a great way to help BART & registering your card at a Target location or [online](#) is easy. Please take a moment to sign-up and start helping out your school now.
- **Next CFAC meeting will be Tuesday, January 3.** 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 monthly at the school and new members are always welcome. Parents who attend will receive a "jean's pass" for their child(ren).
- **Board of Trustees Meeting on Wednesday, January 4, 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 rule!** Huge kudos to all 13 members of the "BART Parliament" for the dances this student organization ran last week, Friday, December 16. These dances netted nearly \$450! Members of the student organization have already decided to use this money towards a student-themed activity night they will be hosting at BART later this winter. Be on the lookout for more details.

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