



BART

a college prep charter school

**Deadline to
register for
the DC trip
has been
extended!**



Dates to remember:

- * *Wednesday, January 25* - "No Name-calling Day" @ BART
- * *Thursday, January 26* - Spanish dinner outing (5:30-6:45 p.m.)
- * *Friday, January 27* - Early dismissal (12 p.m.)
- * *Wednesday, February 1* - Deadline for DC Trip
- * *Wednesday, February 1* - Monthly Board of Trustees meeting (6-8 p.m.)
- * *Thursday, February 2* - Monthly CFAC meeting (6:30 p.m.)
- * *Thursday, February 2* - Monthly SEFAC (6 p.m.)
- * *Friday, February 3* - Middle School Dance(6-8 p.m.)
- * *Friday, February 3* - High School Dance (8:15-10:15 p.m.)
- * *Friday, February 10* - Early dismissal (12 p.m.)
- * *Friday, February 10* - Blood Drive (Organized by the Class of 2012) (1-6 p.m.)
- * *Friday, February 17* - Activity Night (Organized by the Student Govt) (6-8 p.m.)

Stay informed about snow days

BART will make every effort to make decisions regarding snow delays and cancellations by 6:30 a.m. Announcements will be posted on the [BART Facebook page](#), broadcast on TV stations WNYT (Albany channel 13) and WTEN (Albany channel 10), as well as on radio stations WBRK, WUPE, and WBTN.

Washington DC Trip Updates:

- **Deadline for BART's trip to Washington, DC has been extended to February 1.** Students are meeting during the school day to plan 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 additional things parents should know:

- *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: The enrollment deadline is today (Jan 20) & families 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*
- *Revised Deadline: February 1!*

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 [Mr. Bridges](#) (x174), the trip's advisor.

Upcoming Events & Field Trips:

- **BART ART to be displayed at Norman Rockwell Museum.** Ten BART students have had work selected for exhibition in the [26th Annual Berkshire County High School Art Show](#) at the [Norman Rockwell Museum](#) in Stockbridge. The exhibit will include paintings (watercolor and acrylic), digital images, drawings, and photographs; all art will be on display February 4 through March 6, 2012. BART is very proud of our student artists & hope that everyone will come to see the exhibit: Casey McKeever, Dyllan McLear, Dalton Lampro, Anna Berti, Kati Clark, Carlin Sweeney, Caitlin Moriarty, Jamie Kaczowski, Ashley Volf and Maxx Poirot.
- **BART's next Shadow Day.** Shadow day for students interested in enrolling at BART will be on Tuesday, February 7. Students interested in grades 7, 8 & 9 for this school year or the upcoming school year are invited from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Students interested in enrolling in grade 6 for the 2012-2013 school year are invited to visit the school from 12 to 3 p.m. Preregistration is required and can be completed by calling Monique Nottke at 413-743-7311, x132. The deadline to transfer mid-year or apply for the 2012-2013 school year is February 15.
- **Class of 2012 to host blood drive.** On Friday, February 10, the BART Senior Class will be hosting a blood drive in conjunction with the American Red Cross in the school's atrium. Donors will receive a voucher for free tax preparation for the month of March courtesy of [Liberty Taxes, Inc.](#) There are currently open seats for willing donors during the 3-6 p.m. time slot. Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-registration would help us prepare and better serve you during your donation. Registration can be accomplished [online](#) or by phone at 1-800-733-2767. If you would like to know more or have any questions, just ask a BART senior or [Mr. Griffin](#) (743-7311, x150). We hope to see you there!
- **Student Government to host Activity Night @ BART:** On Friday, February 17 from 6-8 p.m. the BART high school student government will host *Activity Night @ BART*, turning classrooms into entertainment-themed rooms featuring an X-Box game room, dance parties, carnival games, volleyball and more. All of the rooms will be planned, staffed and managed by members of the BART Student Government. Guests will be required to purchase tickets to participate in the different games or activities. All money raised will go toward the student government fund which helps pay for dances, student-led activities, and other student-led events throughout the year at BART. Mark your calendars and look for more information as the event draws closer.

Area Programs

- **Free fun at MASS MoCA.** [MASS MoCA's Annual FREE Day](#) will be on Saturday, February 11, & will include art-making, tours of the galleries and free gallery performances - and a Mermaid Parade in the morning! It is going to be a great day of family activities that will be free from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

New @ BART

- **The Youth Health Service Corps come to BART.** On Monday, January 30, The Youth Health Service Corps (YHSC) will begin a new high school after-school program at BART. The mission of this program is to educate youth about health careers, service learning, and academic and civic engagement. The program will be held on Mondays from 3:30 to 4:30 and will run through March 12th (or later if snow days occur.) After students complete the program, CPR training will be scheduled, and then students can begin volunteering and/or taking part in area community service projects. Contact [Ms. Robertson](#) for more information.

Important Information from our Nurse

- Ms. Skidmore (our school's nurse) has found that a number of students are carrying their own medications in their pockets or backpacks throughout the day & would like to remind parents about the school's health policies. Please review BART's medication policies (per the Department of Public Health) and help your child observe them:

1. *The school nurse (RN) is the only person authorized to administer medication in school. Other designated personnel may be authorized to give medication when on a field trip or in a life-threatening situation. Parents may come to school to give medication to their children in the absence of the nurse. A Registered Nurse is present in school every day from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.*

2. *All prescription medication(s) given at school, need(s) written authorization from a physician and the parent/guardian.*

3. *All over-the-counter medications need written authorization from the parent/guardian.*

4. *All medication must be brought to school by an adult and must be in its original pharmacy-labeled container. **No baggies or envelopes can be accepted.***

5. *With the exception of asthma inhalers and EpiPens (and those only with signed permission from physician and parent/guardian), **no student may carry medication of any kind** (prescription or over-the-counter, this includes cough drops).*

6. *Medication left behind will be discarded after five school days.*

7. *In the event of a one or two-hour delay, please give morning doses at home before child comes to school, as if there were no delay.*

Your opinion counts! How to vote for *MA Teacher of the Year*.

The Massachusetts Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education is seeking nominations for the 51st annual **Massachusetts Teacher of the Year Program**. The Teacher of the Year should be an exemplary educator who demonstrates professionalism, leadership, excellent communication skills, and an outstanding and measurable commitment to student achievement and to the teaching profession. Anyone (students, parents, colleague, etc.) may submit a nomination. To do so, send a letter or email to **Deborah J. Walker of DESE**, by Friday, February 3, explaining why you feel the teacher deserves to be considered.