



# BOSTON COLLEGIATE

September 19, 2022

Dear Boston Collegiate Families,

We welcomed families of our Lower School and High School families to our Sydney and Mayhew campuses, respectively, last week for our Back to School Nights. Thank you to those who were able to join us! For those unable to attend, please access the slides here: [Lower School](#) and [High School](#).

Our partnership for the 2022-2023 school year is just beginning. I look forward to seeing you all at our cultural events, sport contests, academic celebrations, theater performances, and family conferences.

In addition, our leadership team will offer virtual quarterly forums. These forums are designed to be informative, with members of the leadership team sharing updates and allowing for ample time for questions from the broader community. The first forum will take place via Zoom on Wednesday, October 12th from 6:00-7:00 PM (link to be provided closer to the date).

I urge all families to join us for the first meeting of our Be Connected family group. Be Connected, which will be co-chaired by Leslie Valentin, our Family and Community Engagement Manager, and a parent or guardian from our community, will meet on the first Tuesday of every month. The kickoff meeting is on Tuesday, October 4th from 6:00-7:00 PM, in-person at our Upper School campus at 11 Mayhew Street. This group will be focused on building school community through family engagement, relationship-building, and service-orientation to the students and teachers of Boston Collegiate. Please consider attending and committing to this group!

I look forward to working with each of you this year!

Warmly  
Jenna Ogundipe  
Executive Director

Warmly,

## Upcoming Events & Announcements

### Uniforms Reminders

We are aware that the uniform vendor is still out of certain sizes in specific items. We also want to remind you that we are not penalizing students for continuing to school wearing solid tops (in either white, gray, navy blue or lime green). We do know that the new shipping delivery time is October 11th so therefore, we will extend our policy of plain t-shirt until the end of the month and we will communicate to you if we need to extend it again.

### E-Sports Team

We have partnered with the BASE again this year for an E-Sports team/club for students in 7-12th grade. The BASE will host an eSports Information Session on Tuesday, September 20th, from 6:00 pm-7:00 pm at the BASE, 150 Shirley Street, Roxbury. Please feel free to stop by for more information. Space is very limited. All families interested should attend the information session.

### High School Community

- **9th Grade Retreat to Hale Reservation**  
Our 9th Grade Team heads to Hale Reservation tomorrow, Tuesday, September 20th!
- **Coffee with High School Principal**  
Come join Mrs. Monestime and Mrs. Darling for a meet and greet and to learn more about the leadership team, the High School vision and to ask any questions you may have! More details will be shared in the following newsletter.
  - September 21st from 7:00-8:00 AM
  - October 4th from 4:00-5:00 PM
- **Senior Photos will be offered to all seniors!**  
To sign up click here. They will be held on:
- **Date:** October 8, 2022 [Link to appointment slots](#)  
**Location:** Boston Commons  
**Time:** 10:00-6:00 PM, 20 minute slots
- **Date:** October 9, 2022 [Link to appointment slots](#)  
**Location:** Federal Courthouse  
**Time:** 10:00-6:00 PM, 20 minute slots

### Restorative Justice Tier 1 Training

Our community is still purposefully embedding restorative practices in our transition to shift school culture and school discipline. Our newest staff members all participated in a two-day training in Tier 1 just this past week and as of yesterday, 92% of our staff have completed this training with the remaining staff to follow this year.

We are excited to host a training for families for anyone interested, curious, nervous, or simply open to learning more. The tier 1 training on restorative practices is an in-depth introduction to what restorative justice is, how to build community based on positive relationships, and the tool of circle practice. This is an interactive and reflective opportunity. To share your interest, please [fill out this google form](#). The training, led by facilitators from the Center for Restorative Justice at Suffolk University, will be held virtually on the following dates. We ask that attendees commit to all dates as the sessions build upon one another.

- Wednesday, October 5, 5:30-8:30 PM
- Thursday, October 6, 5:30-8:30 PM
- Wednesday, October 19, 5:30-8:30 PM
- Thursday, October 20, 5:30-8:30 PM

### Middle School Student Council

We are looking for students to apply to our Middle School Student Council!

The mission of the Middle School Student Council is to empower 7th and 8th grade scholars to share their voice on initiatives in the Middle School. This group is designed to promote leadership, school spirit, ownership and stewardship within our Boston Collegiate Middle School. The members of MS Student Council will help create an inclusive school for students where our Core Values of Passion, Integrity, Scholarship, Belonging and Responsibility are at the center of the work we do.

Applications are due to Ms. Noyes on Monday, September 26, and elections will take place on Thursday, September 29. We encourage any student who is interested to apply!

### 5th Grade Math Reflex

Math Reflex is a fun and interactive way for students to learn and master their math skills. Parents can track their child's progress by creating a parent account, click [here](#). Students must get 3 green lights a week in the 5th grade.

## Health

### COVID Testing at School

Boston Collegiate is offering symptomatic testing only for COVID on site this year.

- Students must have one of the major symptoms of COVID (Cough, fever, moderate/severe muscle aches, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell) OR at least 2 of minor symptoms of COVID to be tested by a member of the nursing team.
- A member of the nursing team will call prior to testing any student.
- If you would like to complete the consent form your student for symptomatic testing, please complete the consent form: [English](#) or [Spanish](#)

### Health Paperwork

Our Nursing team needs your student's updated health information. Thank you to all the Families that have already completed this paperwork!

REQUIRED: An Updated Health Emergency Card - [English](#) or [Spanish](#)

REQUIRED: Updated Physical Examination and Immunization Records:

- Physical/Immunization record paperwork may be turned into the health office in person or emailed to [jryan@bostoncollegiate.org](mailto:jryan@bostoncollegiate.org) or faxed to 617-265-1176, att: Jen Ryan.

If your child is taking prescription medication during school hours, we **must** have a [form](#) or letter signed by the prescribing clinician and parent. This includes:

- Epi-Pen
- Inhaler (including [asthma clarification form](#))
- Any other prescription medication to be administered in school (e.g. Ritalin, Adderall).
- [You can download the medication form here.](#)

# LATINX HERITAGE MONTH

September 15th - October 15th

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE CULTURE COMMITTEE



Dear BCCS,

Latinx Heritage Month begins on Thursday, September 15th! We hope you will save the date and join us on Thursday, October 13th at 5:30pm in the Commons for our Latinx Celebration! The event will have a potluck component so if your interested in bringing a dish, [please fill out this form](#).

During the month, Latin music will play while students arrive to school, bulletin boards of prominent Afro-Latinx people will go up, and of course, we will hear about and showcase the different Latinx experiences that exist in our school community.

In the past, it was called Hispanic Heritage Month but language has since evolved to be more inclusive of the diverse experiences of Latinx people. Language is an important tool for identity and for community. Please see the resource below to learn more.

Happy Latinx Heritage Month!

## Resources to Check Out:

- [The Latin American History Podcast](#)
- [Books for to Read](#)
- [Latinx Owned Restaurants in Boston](#)
- [Virtual Exhibit at National Museum of the American Latino](#)
- [Additional Resources](#)

**Hispanic?**  
**Latina?**  
**Latino?**  
**Latinx?**  
**Afro-Latinx?**

### What Should I Say?

**Hispanic** and **Latino** are used interchangeably, however:

- **Hispanic** refers to those who speak Spanish or use descendants from Spanish-speaking countries
- **Latino** refers to the people from Latin America. This, geographically, not language. Not everyone in Latin America speaks Spanish
- **Spanish** is a romance language, meaning it derives from Latin, and much of Spanish are considered other words or phrases
- **Latino** uses the **A** at the end to refer to women
- **Latina** uses the **O** at the end to refer to men, or a group of men and women

**Latina** is a gender-neutral term to refer to someone of Latin American descent

- Unlike "latino" or "latina," the term **Latinx** does not refer to any specific gender
- The word has been included in English dictionaries such as Oxford and Cambridge but not in the Royal Spanish Academy (RAE). **Latinx** is mostly used in the United States

**Afro-Latino** or **Afro-Latina** refers to people from Latin American countries with African ancestry, or Black Latinx

**Chicano** or **Chicana** is a chosen identity for people of Mexican descent born in the United States

In addition to these terms, many people prefer to identify themselves by their ancestry of origin. For example: Cuban, Mexican, Colombian, Peruvian, etc.

National Museum of the American Latino

Just in case the image link isn't clickable, [use this link](#).

We are looking for Boston Collegiate community members to be a part of our Latinx Heritage celebration by participating in our "Yo Soy" Campaign. If you're interested in sharing who you are and why you are proud to be Latinx, [please record your response on this flipgrid](#).

## Be Connected

Please join us for our first Be Connected meeting on Tuesday, October 4th at our Upper School campus at 6:00 PM. The purpose of this group is to make connections across families 5-12 to build community. At our first meeting, we plan to dig into connection-making, strategize about this group's purpose for the year ahead, and to get a schoolwide update from our Executive Director.

## Enrichment

Auditions for *Matilda*, the 5th-8th grade musical, will take place this week! Please note that there is a change to the dates that were included in the previous family newsletter. Auditions will now take place on Tuesday, September 20th and Wednesday, September 21st from 3:00-4:45 PM, with a make-up day on Thursday, September 22nd from 3:00-4:00pm. Rehearsals will begin on Tuesday, September 27th, and performances will be held on December 8th and 9th. All students in the Lower and Middle School are welcome to audition! For more information, please email Ms. Herron at [jherron@bostoncollegiate.org](mailto:jherron@bostoncollegiate.org)

### High School After School Programming!

High School Clubs will start next week. Please check [here](#) for a list of active clubs! Drop in office hours will also begin next week. You can access the schedule [here](#). Teachers will be reaching out to families if we believe students need mandatory office hours. Thank you in advance for your support in ensuring your student attends if they need the extra support! You can also check out some cute pictures from our Club Symposium [HERE!](#)

### Middle School After School Programming!

Our After School Programming kicked off last week, but it's not too late to sign up for a club! If you are interested in signing your child up for any of the [offerings](#), please email Ms. Noyes at [mnoyes@bostoncollegiate.org](mailto:mnoyes@bostoncollegiate.org).

### Lower School After School Programming (BCCS+)!

Our After School Programming kicks off today! If you didn't get to sign-up for specific offerings, please fill out [this form](#). If you have any questions, please reach out to Mr. Espinal at [fespinal@bostoncollegiate.org](mailto:fespinal@bostoncollegiate.org).

## College Corner

### PSAT for Juniors

On Wednesday, October 12th our Juniors will be taking the PSAT/NMSQT. This will be the first college preparatory exam offered at BCCS this year. 9th and 10th graders will take age appropriate versions of the PSAT and Pre-ACT later in the year as well, but the juniors are up first. Although more and more colleges are allowing students to apply [test optionally](#), we still work hard to prepare each student to be successful on the SAT and ACT. Practicing the exams is a key part of our preparation. There will be more to follow for each grade level, but good luck in advance to the juniors that day.



## Highlight

Mr. Coleman, our Middle School Dean of Students, has been showing off his volleyball skills at recess! Look at that technique!



Thanks to all who visited our Scholastic Book Fair this week at our Lower School. And a huge thank you to Ms. Hafferkamp who ensures we have this opportunity each year!

