

TODD WEST
PRINCIPAL



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SCHOOL COUNSELOR

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BUCKSPORT MIDDLE SCHOOL
PREPARING FOR OPPORTUNITIES

May 14th, 2021

To Parents & Families of BMS 8th Graders:

I am writing to update you on the middle school's plans for 8th grade promotion. We have spent the past several weeks planning a promotion ceremony which allows our 8th graders to experience a rite of passage together, allows for parental participation to the greatest extent possible, and of course meets all required health & safety guidelines. Of course, this spring COVID guidelines are changing as quickly as the weather, so we have had to revise our plans several times.

8th grade promotion has been scheduled for 6:00pm on Thursday, June 10th. As of this time, our plan is to seat students in the gym and family members [we are thinking 3-4 but need to do some more precise measurements] will be seated in the auditorium. One 8th grade homeroom at a time will enter the auditorium at a time to walk across the stage to get their certificate and other awards, have a picture taken, etc. The students will then return to the gym and the next homeroom will be recognized in the auditorium. We will stream the event into the gym, so that 8th grade students can both sit with their peers as a group and see their friends be recognized. We also plan on streaming the event online, so family and friends who cannot be in person can watch.

It is possible that the Department of Education will loosen the distancing rules in school-based settings, which may allow us to have a more traditional 8th grade promotion in the auditorium with the possibility of additional family members being able to attend. We will communicate with 8th grade families again regarding ticket logistics as well as any adjustment to our plan as state guidelines change.

Some other dates 8th grade families should be aware of:

- Tuesday, June 8th: promotion rehearsal, 9:45-10:45.
- Wednesday, June 9th: 8th grade field day, promotion rehearsal 9:30-10:10
- Thursday, June 10th: no school for 8th grade students.

Please contact your child's homeroom teacher or myself if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd West".

Todd West, Principal