

Did you know.....?

...That Betty Ganis maintains the BMR School District "**Calendar of Events**" link at the District and school-level homepages?

Send calendar items to Betty (eganis in the District e-mail system) to include the up-coming events of your school or group.

...That our Internet Service Provider, the Merrimack Education Center, provides an **MCAS test generation service**? PDF files can be created according to Year, Grade, Framework Subject and type of MCAS question, in their original or random order. Teachers can quickly and easily create MCAS Practice Tests using the publicly released MCAS questions. Teachers and staff interested in access to this application should contact Brad Monroe.

...That the graphic organizer programs **Kidspiration and Inspiration** are available to BMRSD faculty and staff? Inquire through the HelpDesk. More info at: <http://www.inspiration.com/>

...That District staff has **53** webpages posted at **SchoolNotes.com**these are individual teachers who have a page there to post information about classwork, assignments, etc. Check it out, by zip code, at <http://www.schoolnotes.com/>

...That typing "**free teacher resources**" into a Google Search box produces 67 million sites?

...That instructions on how to access your **K-drive at home** are at: <http://www.bmrtd.net/helpdesk/logon.asp>

BMRSD Curriculum Calendar

A reminder that the on-line Curriculum Calendar available at <http://www.bmrtd.net/curriculum/> contains:

- Literacy Days for the year with Dr. Ilda King.
- Requests for curriculum worksessions and availability.
- Mentor / Protégé observation days.

X2 Update

Here are a couple of notes regarding our Student Information System program, X2:

In the Help menu, available on most X2 screens, there are some tutorials including OnLine Help and User Guides for many of the major applications and modules in X2.

A Special Education module in X2 has been tested and is potentially going to be available to us relatively soon. More details to follow.

Currently, the Middle School and High School report cards and quarterly progress reports come out of X2. The capability to do the elementary level standards based reports cards is on the "To Do" list for the near future. Special thanks to elementary classroom teachers and administrators for their patience and help in the electronic tri-mester report card process this Fall.

Internet Safety Website

NetSmartz. The NetSmartz Workshop is an interactive, educational safety resource that teaches kids and teens how to stay safer on the Internet. NetSmartz combines the newest technologies available and the most current information to create high-impact educational activities that are well received by even the most tech-savvy kids. Parents, guardians, educators, and law enforcement also have access to additional resources for learning and teaching about the dangers children may face online. NetSmartz was created by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.

Mass. Department of Education recommended.

Check it out at: <http://netsmartz.org/>

Recent BMRSD Webpage Changes

By Student Webmaster Lee Tympanick, Grade 12, BMRHS

- 1.) Parent Group pages: BEPO, MESPA, HMS-PTO
- 2.) School Committee minutes and updates.
- 3.) On-line Newsletter updates
- 4.) BMR Athletics re-design (with assistance from William Ramos. Class of 2006)

The following are Massachusetts professional organizations with educational technology resources:

MassCUE: the Massachusetts Computer Using Educators. MassCUE, Inc. is an organization of technology-using educators who create, share, and support visions of teaching and learning which focus on uses of technology that enhance the educational environment. <http://www.masscue.org/>

Massachusetts Technology Leadership Consortium:

Professional Development Sites and Modules, Lesson Plans and Ideas, Tutorials, Tools and Additional Resources. <http://www.ma-tlc.org/default.asp>

MA DOE Office of Instructional Technology ...supports schools in using technology to increase student achievement and technological literacy. They develop recommended standards for technology access and literacy, including a schedule for this year's technology activities and a link to **MassONE**, the Commonwealth's set of web-based tools for communication, collaboration, and curriculum planning, designed to support PreK-12 standards-based teaching and learning. <http://www.doe.mass.edu/edtech/>

Women's Studies Section. Science & Technology Pages, part of WSSLinks, developed and maintained by the Women's Studies Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, MIT. Gender issues and resources in science and technology. <http://libraries.mit.edu/humanities/WomensStudies/Tech2.html>

The MA STEM Initiative....Teachers of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. The University of Massachusetts has taken a leadership role in identifying and analyzing a major challenge the Commonwealth is facing: there are not enough well trained and well qualified graduates to fill all the openings in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields now and as we move into the future. Their mission is: 1) To dramatically increase student interest in, and preparation for, careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and 2) To increase the number of highly-qualified teachers in math, science, technology, and engineering and to give them a professional environment.

<http://www.massachusetts.edu/stem/>

What is Internet2 ?

Internet2 is a consortium being led by 206 universities working in partnership with industry and government to develop and deploy advanced network applications and technologies, accelerating the creation of tomorrow's Internet. Internet2 is recreating the partnership among academia, industry, and government that fostered today's Internet in its infancy. Led by the research and education community since 1996, Internet2 promotes the missions of its members by providing both leading-edge network capabilities and unique partnership opportunities that together facilitate the development, deployment and use of revolutionary Internet technologies. By bringing research and academia together with technology leaders from industry, government and the international community, Internet2 promotes collaboration and innovation that has a fundamental impact on the future of the Internet.

Links: Internert2 Homepage (<http://www.internet2.edu/>)
Massachusetts State Education Network To Expand Connectivity with Internet2's Next-Generation Network
(<http://newsletter.mecnet.net/wt06/industrynews.php>)
www.ntia.doc.gov/ntiahome/ntiageneral/ipv6/draft/draftglossary.htm