



## *Welcome to the 2019 Soccer Season!*

*Dear Families,*

Our soccer program will begin on Friday, September 6. We will be starting the soccer season with great energy following this summer's women's World Cup matches. There was certainly some very inspiring play to watch. This year we will have 3 teams: Girls 7/8, Boys 7/8, and a 6<sup>th</sup> grade co-ed. For students who are new to team play, soccer can be a wonderful introduction. After all, it is considered, as the famous Brazilian player Pele dubbed it, "The Beautiful Game." We would like to encourage all of our middle school students to come out this fall and play as Berkshire Waldorf School!

As this is the inaugural season as the BWS Bobcats, our middle schoolers will have a special opportunity to create school spirit and set the tone for our new teams. Playing on a school team offers a chance to interact with classmates outside the classroom and to develop new relationships with students outside your grade. Joining a team also offers a chance for students to demonstrate school pride, to feel a sense of belonging, and a chance to be a role model for the younger students. The school has historically held a one sport policy for students in the middle school grades. This policy remains in place. So, please plan accordingly with your 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. An outline for the rest of the year will be sent out soon.

### **COACHES**

We are still looking for 2 coaches this fall. We will need a boy's coach and a coach for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade co-ed team. Please help us spread the word! If anyone knows of someone who is a soccer enthusiast please let us know. We do offer a stipend for the position. Sara Greene, the new games teacher will coach the girl's team. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade team will have a less intensive schedule. This could be a great opportunity for a class parent to share their skills and have some fun with this team. Also, if there are parents who have a soccer background who can not commit fully, we would certainly welcome your help in an assistant coach capacity on any of the teams. Just let us know what you can do!

### **SCHEDULE**

Schedules for games and practices will be given out at the first practice on Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>. Games and practices will be held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Practices will run from 3-4:45 p.m.

### **PRACTICE**

Practice times are as important as games. It is a short season so we need to make the most of all of our opportunities to work together as a team. Once a commitment has been made, students are expected to participate for the duration of the program. Attendance is required ALL days, unless a child is absent from school or has made special arrangements with their coach.



### ATHLETIC CLOTHING

Participants must be appropriately dressed for practice, with soccer socks, shorts, t-shirts, cleats, shin-pads and sweatpants. Shin-pads and soccer cleats are mandatory. Each player is responsible for their own shin-pads and cleats. There is a bin of cleats at school – please consider donating outgrown cleats. The school provides team uniforms. Each player is responsible for his/her uniform. All uniforms NOT RETURNED at the end of the season will be charged a fee.

Important! – This is NOT the time to get ears pierced. Referees will ask that all jewelry be taken out. No taping over the ear will be allowed.

### TRANSPORTATION

There is no after school bus for MA students. Parents are expected to pick students up at school. If transportation is a reason for not participating, please let us know. The New York Taconic late bus will provide service for our NY students. This bus leaves school at 5 pm. Directions to our away games will be provided with the games schedule.

### PLEASE CHECK THE BWS SPORTS LINE FOR UPDATES, CHANGES, CANCELLATIONS, ETC.

Sports line: 412-528-4015, ext. 150

The sports line is updated on each practice /game day by 1pm. To leave a message for Sara Greene please use ext. 110, or preferably, email [sports@gbsss.org](mailto:sports@gbsss.org)

We are looking forward to working with your student this fall!

Sincerely,  
Sara Greene, Athletic Director

Please fill out the form below and return it to the school office by Friday, Sept. 6.

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### **AFTER SCHOOL SOCCER PROGRAM**

I give permission for my child(ren) \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the 2019 BWS Soccer Program, and I agree to meet all the commitments and requirements regarding attendance and dress code.

Parentf/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name Signature

( ) Please Check If Applicable: My child will need NY Taconic late bus service.