

# Bugbee Buzz



Mrs. Kelly Brouse, Principal  
1943 Asylum Avenue  
West Hartford, CT 06117  
Phone: (860) 929-5500

Issue No. 114

September 11, 2018

Dear Bugbee Families,

I hope you have had as joyful a start as I have to our 2018-19 school year! Despite the unique schedules with the unprecedented weather, my heart has been filled up once again with students returning to our Bugbee hive. A sincere thank you goes out to our incredible staff for ensuring that these first few days of school remained focused on building relationships and special experiences in an effort to ensure students went home in their first two weeks excited about their new class, despite the distraction of heat. With the fall weather gracing us this weekend, our students and staff are ready to begin our deep dive into the curriculum now that the importance of classroom community has been established. Gratitude is also sent to you, our families, for your understanding and rearranging of schedules to support our early dismissals as we keep safety of our children as a top priority.

Thank you to those who were able to join us for our flagpole ceremony on the first day. As I shared that day, our “word” for the year is *Ubuntu*, a South African word and philosophy that means “I am because you are”. Following suit with our character expectations for being a Bugbee Champion, Ubuntu was probably best described by the famous NBA coach Doc Rivers as he brought this philosophy to both the Celtics and LA Clippers. He told his team, “Ubuntu is about being resilient, and sharing the joy with your teammate when he’s doing well and feeling the pain when your teammate is feeling bad.” I hope that focusing on Ubuntu this year can deepen our understanding of championing the efforts of others, and recognizing that our greatest achievements are that much sweeter because of those we celebrate with, while the experiences of others play a significant role in our lives and development as well.

This year, I hope we are able to find ways that work for you, our families, to join with us in support of your child’s education. Whether you are able to come for a special event, call or meet with your teacher to ask your questions and share your ideas, share a new schoolwide idea with me or our PTO, or spend time at home with your child working on a goal they have, you are a critical element in your child’s learning and we hope to be as accessible to you as possible. If you would benefit from language translation, different communication methods, or an adjustment to some routine, please reach out to your teacher, myself, or our office staff so we can know what would help us strengthen our school-to-home partnership. We know life is busy, parenting is the hardest of all jobs, and sometimes our school requests can be confusing out of context. Know that our doors are always open and we hope to answer any question or need you may have to ensure your children have a team of adults working together to help them be their best selves.

# Dates to Remember



Date	Event	Location	Time
9/12/18	Grade 1 Room Parent Meeting	Room 10	8:00-8:30 a.m.
9/12/18	Ice Cream Social	Cafeteria	6:30-8:00 p.m.
9/13/18	Monthly Buzz	Auditorium	10:00-10:30 a.m.
9/18/18	No JCC – Closed		
9/19/18	No School—Yom Kipper		
9/24/18	No JCC - Closed		
9/24/18	PTO Meeting	Library	7:00 p.m.
9/25/18	Reading Under the Stars	Front Lawn	6:30-7:30 p.m.
9/27/18	Grade 1 - Johnny Appleseed Day	Primary Playground	9 - 11 a.m.
9/28/18	Rain date - Johnny Appleseed Day	Primary Playground	9 –11 a.m.
10/2/18	Save the Date - Picture Day		
10/2/18	Rain date - Reading Under the Stars	Front Lawn	6:30-7:30 p.m.

*Many thanks to our generous PTO for the delicious Welcome Back Luncheon, the fun chalk party and the Welcome New Families Breakfast!*



## More News from the Media Center

## Reading Under the Stars

**Save the Date: September 25, 2018**

Grab a flashlight, blanket and your favorite books and join us for Bugbee’s “Reading Under the Stars” event Tuesday, September 25th from 6:30-7:30pm. We will gather on the front lawn to enjoy each other’s company as we listen to special guest readers and read a book or two with our own families. **Rain date:** October 2, 2018.

Once again this year, West Hartford Public Library Children’s Librarians will be available if you would like to sign up for a library card. If you would like to sign up, please remember to bring your Driver’s License with you.

Hope to see you reading under the stars with our Bugbee family!



## Moving

If you are moving to another address in West Hartford, (even within the neighborhood), you must contact the Residency Office at **(860) 561-6620** located at the Town Hall. If your phone number changes, please contact our office at **(860) 929-5500**.

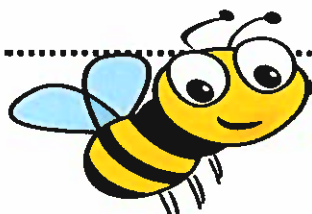
## Attendance Reporting

If your child is absent or will be tardy, we ask that you contact the school office at (860) 929-5500. You may report an absence before 8:00 a.m. by using our voice mail system. Please include the reason for the absence. You may also e-mail the office at [Bugbeeschool@whps.org](mailto:Bugbeeschool@whps.org). Including the office is of vital importance, since a substitute teacher will not have access to voice mail or e-mail. Following these procedures will avoid incorrect absence postings in our records and unnecessary calls, which interrupt you at home or at the office. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

## Dismissal Changes

We know that things come up which result in changes in afternoon dismissal plans. Please do everything you can to avoid changes beyond the morning hours unless absolutely necessary, as it requires an interruption to the classroom.

Dismissal changes can be e-mailed to the office at [Bugbeeschool@whps.org](mailto:Bugbeeschool@whps.org), [Marianne\\_Zinzarella@whps.org](mailto:Marianne_Zinzarella@whps.org) or call into our office at **(860) 929-5500**.



## Vacant Seat Program

**Application Start date is Monday, October 1, 2018**

The West Hartford Public Schools vacant seat program utilizes available space on school buses. This program allows students to ride buses, where space is available, who under the West Hartford Public Schools Transportation policy are not eligible for transportation. **No additional bus stops are added to the routes for this program.**

Interested parents should contact the West Hartford Public Schools Transportation Office at (860)561-6647 for additional information on or after October 1st. **Requests are taken in this office by telephone on a first come, first served basis starting at 8:00 am.**



## Deadline for The Buzz

**The deadline for submissions to the next Buzz is 09/20/2018.**

**Publication Date: 09/25/2018**

**Please email submissions to**

**Marianne Zinzarella**

**[Marianne\\_Zinzarella@whps.org](mailto:Marianne_Zinzarella@whps.org)**

# PTO News/Events

Check out the PTO Website!

[www.bugbeepto.com](http://www.bugbeepto.com)

## Back to School Ice Cream Social



**Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>**

**6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Bugbee Cafeteria**

**Free event open to all Bugbee families!**

**We are also looking for volunteer scoopers!**

**To RSVP or to sign up to scoop,**

**please visit Konstella.**

# Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

September 2018



Bugbee Elementary School  
Mrs. Kelly Brouse, Principal

## SHORT NOTES

### Attendance adds up

Students who attend school regularly tend to have better attitudes toward school—and they're more likely to read at grade level. Try to schedule your child's doctor and dentist appointments outside of school hours. Also, be sure to create a backup plan for getting her to school if she misses the bus or you can't drive her.

### The importance of integrity

What would your youngster say if a classmate asked him to cheat? Talk to him about how to respond if he's pressured to share answers or let others copy his work. For example, he could say, "Let's study together so we both do well," or "I don't want to risk getting a zero."

### DID YOU KNOW?

The average child with a parent in the military moves every two to three years. Encourage your youngster to introduce herself to all new students. If you're a military family, contact your school liaison officer and the school counselor about programs available to help your child adjust.

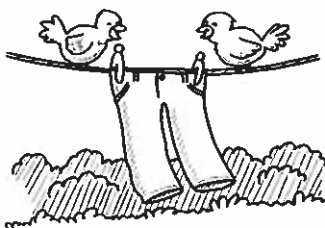
### Worth quoting

"All the world is a laboratory to the inquiring mind." *Martin H. Fischer*

## JUST FOR FUN

**Q:** What has two legs but doesn't walk?

**A:** A pair of pants!



## A great beginning

The story of your child's school year is about to unfold. A strong opening chapter will help to set the tone for a great year. Try these strategies.

### Introduce the characters

Your youngster's teacher will play an important role in his life this year. Write her a short note, and attach a picture of your family. You might mention your child's hobbies, favorite school subjects, and family members' names. Also, find out how the teacher prefers to be contacted. Getting to know each other now will help you work together in future "chapters."

### Get to know the setting

Invite your youngster to tell you about his classroom, the library, and other places at school. What decorations hang on the walls? What books or games are on the shelves? When possible, see for yourself by going to events like book fairs and



math nights. *Idea:* Encourage him to draw you a picture of his classroom to hang on the refrigerator.

### Enjoy the plot

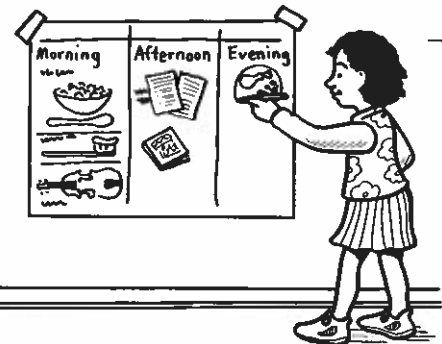
Attend back-to-school night to find out what your child will learn this year. Then, plan family outings or activities related to the topics. If he'll study your state's history, you could visit historic sites. Or if there's a plant unit, let him help you work in the garden or plant seeds in pots.♥

## Routines that stick

Little habits make a big difference in the kind of day you and your youngster have. Here are things each of you could do to create routines for smooth days.

**Your child can:** Make a picture chart of what she needs to do every morning, afternoon, and evening. She might draw a backpack as a reminder to show you papers she brings home. A picture of a violin could prompt her to practice her instrument.

**You can:** Have her go to bed in time to get 9–11 hours of sleep and to eat a healthy breakfast in the morning. Set aside downtime after a busy day (perhaps 20 minutes when she gets home) so she'll be recharged for homework, chores, and family time.♥



## Strengthen social skills

School is more pleasant for everyone when children share classroom materials and compromise to solve problems. Consider this advice for improving your youngster's social skills so she learns to get along with others now and later.

### Practice sharing

Do activities with your child that require sharing. For example, color together, and let her



practice asking for the purple or the green crayon nicely. She could say, "May I use that when you're done?" And you might reply, "Sure, I'll give it to you as soon as I finish coloring this dragon."

### Learn to compromise

Your youngster and her classmates may disagree on how to approach a group project or a science experiment. Help her prepare by looking for ways to find middle ground at

home. Say she and a sibling argue over what book they'd like you to read at bedtime. They could take turns choosing a story every other night or ask you to read one chapter from each book. If they can't compromise, offer a suggestion like reading a book you pick. ♥

## PARENT TO PARENT



## Outdoor magic

I used to play outside all the time when I was little, but my sons never seem interested in leaving the house. One day, while reminiscing with my sister about all the fun we had outdoors as kids, an idea struck me.

I labeled a bin "Outdoor fun" and put it near the front door. Then, I asked my boys



to fill it with things to play with outside. They found a yo-yo, balls, a Frisbee, a jump rope, and sidewalk chalk. I added a magnifying glass, a jar for collecting rocks and other treasures, and a bucket and shovel for digging in the dirt.

Having this bin in plain sight reminds my sons how much fun it is to play outside. I love seeing them using their imaginations outdoors and getting exercise. And surprisingly, they're not asking for screen time as often. ♥

## Q & A

### Smart money management

**Q:** We've started giving our third-grade daughter a small allowance. How can we teach her to be responsible with her money?

**A:** Learning to manage money wisely will give your youngster financial skills to use throughout her life.

Encourage her to write a budget for herself. She could list inexpensive items she asks you to buy for her, such as hair accessories or slime-making supplies. She can also include something she wants to save up for and gifts she'd like to buy others for birthdays and holidays.

Help your daughter look up prices of the items. Then, she should decide how much money to save each week. Consider letting her open a savings account, too. You can show her how to check the balance—she'll feel pride as she watches her savings grow. ♥

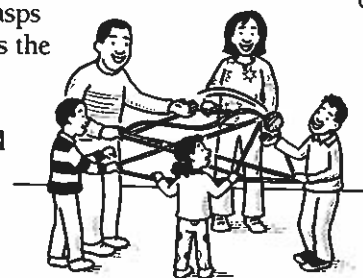


## ACTIVITY CORNER

### Attention stretchers

Boost your child's attention span with these hands-on ideas that use everyday materials:

● Create a "spiderweb." Have everyone stand in a circle with one person holding a ball of yarn. That person grasps one end of the yarn and tosses the ball to any other player. Your youngster must pay attention so he'll be ready when the ball comes his way. Toss it back and forth enough times, and your child will be delighted by a giant web of yarn!



● Try this classic game that requires focus. You'll need three cups and a small toy like a plastic frog. While your youngster watches, put the toy under one cup. Now slide the cups around for 30 seconds, constantly mixing up their order. Can your child tell you which cup the toy is under? Then, let him try to stump you. *Idea:* For a bigger challenge, increase the time or add more cups. ♥

## OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

Resources for Educators,  
a division of CCH Incorporated  
128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630  
800-394-5052 • rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com  
www.rfeonline.com  
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# Bugbee Chess Program Registration

Fall 2018

**Registration Deadline: September 20**

Award winning chess instructor and coach, Alexander Lumelsky, is offering this instruction-based chess program for students grades K through 5, beginners welcome. The program offers class instruction on chess play and strategy and is intended for players of all and no prior skill or experience. The program also features supervised practice play, over-the-board instruction, possible in-club competition play, and opportunity for play in off-campus competition.

Mr. Lumelsky is the organizer and coach/instructor of several award winning West Hartford chess programs, including those at Aiken, Braeburn, Bugbee, Duffy, Norfeldt Elementary and King Philip Middle Schools. He has coached elementary and middle school students to State Champion status and other placement, including over 35 titles and champion honors at the national and state levels in Connecticut, New York and Rhode Island. His elementary and middle school teams have been the most decorated and dominant public school chess programs in Connecticut over the past six years.

Mr. Lumelsky also organized many area chess programs, including school and library programs in Farmington, East Hartford, Newington, Bloomfield, Burlington, Tolland, Suffield, etc. He is a Board Member and Tournaments Coordinator of the Connecticut State Chess Association and an at large Board Member of the New England Chess Association. He is also a Connecticut Delegate to the U.S. Chess Federation, and the co-Founder of the Connecticut Chess Organization, a non-profit project for the benefit of children's chess.

Club meetings for the fall will be in room 19 (conference room) from 7:30 to 8:30 AM on Wednesday mornings: September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31. **The program is for students grades K through 5, no prior experience necessary.** If attendance allows, program extension may be offered through the end of the fall.

The program fee is \$100 per player.

Any questions about the program can be directed to Alexander Lumelsky, [alexander.lumelsky@gmail.com](mailto:alexander.lumelsky@gmail.com).

**NOTICE: PLEASE E-MAIL REGISTRATION INTENT WITH NAME OF PLAYER, GRADE AND SCHOOL NAME, AND BRING BELOW REGISTRATION FORM AND PAYMENT TO THE FIRST CLASS. SEPTEMBER 20 IS THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER.**

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***Registration Form (PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY)***

Player's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

School Bugbee Elementary Town West Hartford

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Phone #: ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Mark "X" here if financial assistance is needed.

Please make checks payable to "AllClubs Chess". PAYMENT IS DUE AT TIME OF REGISTRATION.  
Please submit registration intent via e-mail by September 20 and bring registration with payment to first class.

# West Hartford Special Education PTO (SEPTO)

September 2018

Dear Parents, Teachers, Administrators and Friends:

West Hartford SEPTO (Special Education Parent/Teacher Org.) invites you to join our dynamic organization, serving the needs of our community. We are a district wide PTO that focuses on special education issues for all the children in our town from Pre-K – High School, at **all** of our 16 schools.

As a member of WHSEPTO, you can be proud to know that your membership dues of just \$15 will support **YOUR** students. Here are just a few of the ways West Hartford Special Education PTO gave back to the community last year:

1. Funding the purchase of new assistive technology to be used throughout town.
2. Grants to the West Hartford Schools Foundation to support micro businesses in the high schools and a cooking/social skills class at STRIVE.
3. Funded the purchase of bouncy bands for all 16 schools.

**WHSEPTO also supports YOU!**

Do you need help sorting through the maze of people, services, and therapies, etc.?

Are you looking to gain more information so you can advocate for your child more effectively?

Maybe you want to meet other parents within West Hartford who are looking for support or friendship?

**This is what we do...Our mission is threefold – to Educate, Advocate and Network.**

We do this via:

Information Sessions/Meetings with guest speakers

Website & social media

Online Parent Support Group \*New! Coming Soon\*

And more!

Please join us by becoming a member of the West Hartford Special Education PTO. Annual membership dues are just \$15 per household. You can register online at [www.whsepto.org/membership](http://www.whsepto.org/membership) or by filling out our Membership Registration Form which you will find attached.

Wishing you wonderful 2018-2019 school year,

Jennifer Sherman, President

West Hartford SEPTO | P.O. Box 270381 | West Hartford, CT 06127 | [info@whsepto.org](mailto:info@whsepto.org)



[facebook.com/whsepto](https://facebook.com/whsepto)



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# MIGHTY TIMES: THE CHILDREN'S MARCH

-FREE MOVIE & COMMUNITY CONVERSATION-



Join West Hartford friends and neighbors as we learn the story of how the children of Birmingham, Alabama fought segregation in 1963 through nonviolent protest and were catalysts for positive change that impacted our entire nation. Stay for the youth led panel discussion about activism in our schools and community, featuring West Hartford students.

SEPTEMBER 23, 2018 2-4PM AUDITORIUM at CHARTER OAK INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

All ages welcome, especially middle and high school age youth.

*Organized by the West Hartford Beloved Community Builders.*

# WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU.



The **Bridge Family Center** has served as the **Youth Service Bureau (YSB)** for the Town of West Hartford for nearly four decades. We focus equally on prevention and intervention and are here to support children, adults, and families.

**We meet with your schools regularly to understand trends and how we can help.**  
(mentoring, in-school counseling, support groups, emergency-response counselors)

**We meet with your Police Department regularly and serve on your Juvenile Review Board to support prevention and intervention.** (counseling/mentoring for at-risk/high-risk kids)

**We operate your West Hartford Teen Center to keep teens connected & directed to positive choices.**

**We operate your Family Resource Center to support young children and their caregivers.**  
(Great by 8, play groups, parent support and education, parent leadership groups, developmental assessments, special events, etc.)

**We provide Emergency Shelter for teens ages 13-17 who are homeless or who have run away.**  
Note: 40% of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ. This Emergency Shelter information is important to share with local Gay Straight Alliances and others who support the LGBTQ community.

**We operate the West Hartford Counseling Center to support children, families, and adults.**  
Our team includes a child psychiatrist. We accept private insurance, Medicaid, and Medicare.



1022 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06107

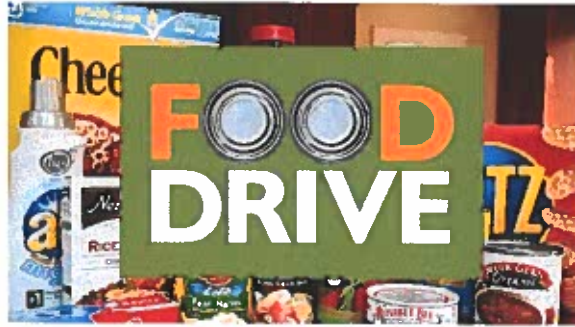


[bridgefamilycenter.org](http://bridgefamilycenter.org)



860.521.8035

# Food Drive



Please donate food to help  
support the West Hartford  
Food Pantry

Wednesday, September 19, 2018  
9:00am-2:00pm  
Stop & Shop  
176 Newington Road  
West Hartford



## Town of West Hartford – West Hartford Public Schools



Plant and Facilities Services Department  
17 Brixton Street, West Hartford, CT 06110  
Phone: 860 561-7920  
Fax: 860 561-8141



To: All West Hartford Public School Building Occupants  
From: Robert Palmer, Director of Plant & Facilities Services  
Date: September 2018  
Re: Green Cleaning Information

West Hartford Public Schools, in compliance with the requirements of the State of Connecticut Public Act 09-81, An Act Concerning Green Cleaning Products in Schools, is providing this information on the cleaning products used in our facilities. We have initiated a Green Cleaning Program which will be ongoing. The intent of the green cleaning program is to reduce the exposure of the building's occupants from potentially hazardous products, equipment or procedures which could adversely affect human health and the environment, indoors and outdoors.

The components of our Green Cleaning Program as required by Connecticut Public Act 09-81 include:

- A description and names of environmentally preferable cleaning products being used in the schools
- The location and application of where cleaning products are used
- The schedule or frequency of when such cleaning products are applied
- We will work towards eliminating and monitoring cleaning products being brought in from outside unauthorized sources as required by CT Public Act 09-81 ("No parent, guardian, teacher or staff member may bring into the school facility any consumer products which is intended to clean, deodorize, sanitize or disinfect.")
- The name of the designees who may be contacted for further information will be provided

### **Description & Product Names of Environmentally Preferable Cleaning Products**

West Hartford Public Schools are utilizing a Chemical Management System for dispensing cleaning chemicals. These systems are placed in strategic and secured locations of each school. The system is comprised of multiple dispensing options which allow flexibility, economy through accurate & consistent measurement of concentrated cleaners into RTU (Ready-To-Use) spray bottles, buckets, and/or cleaning equipment. See next page for products used and description.

## Town of West Hartford – West Hartford Public Schools



Plant and Facilities Services Department  
17 Brixton Street, West Hartford, CT 06110  
Phone: 860 561-7920  
Fax: 860 561-8141



To: All West Hartford Public School Building Occupants

From: Robert Palmer, Director of Plant & Facilities Services

Date: September 2018

Re: IPM (Integrated Pest Management) Plan

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Robert Palmer", written over the "From:" line.

On June 27, 2000, the Board of Education approved a policy on Integrated Pest Management required of the State of Connecticut, Public Act No. 99-165. The West Hartford Public School system has implemented an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan for our school buildings and grounds. The plan, which will be administered through the Plant & Facilities Services Department, deals with the use of pesticides in the buildings and on the grounds.

Any person within the staff or student population may **register at their school** so that they may receive prior notice of pesticide applications. Such notice shall be given twenty-four hours in advance to any and all registrants. **Please note that pesticide applications (inside or outside) are not done during the school day while the students or staff are present, except in emergency conditions.**

The pesticide application activity for the prior year (2017) is on the other side of this letter. Please feel free to contact Paul Edlund, Manager of Building Services, if you have any questions (860) 561-7920.



50 South Main Street, West Hartford, CT 06107 Phone: (860) 561-6600 Website: <http://www.whps.org>

**To:** All West Hartford Public School Building Occupants

**From:** Tom Moore, Superintendent of Schools

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Tom Moore", written over the "From:" line.

**Date:** August 2018

**Re:** Asbestos Information

As a representative of the West Hartford Public Schools and pursuant to the regulations of the EPA's Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), this memo is to notify you of the presence of asbestos and asbestos related activities within the school district.

We are aware that there is some form(s) of asbestos in some of our buildings and will continue a program of monitoring and removing materials as necessary. The monitoring consists of a visual inspection of all known asbestos-containing building materials (ACBM) every six months. It is our belief that any remaining asbestos does not present a health hazard to student or staff populations.

A re-inspection is required every three years by an Environmental Consulting Firm. The last re-inspection was performed in December, 2017. The updated Management Plan will be available for public inspection at the following address:

West Hartford Public Schools  
Plant & Facilities Services Department  
17 Brixton Street  
West Hartford, Connecticut 06110

For further information concerning ACBM, you may contact Paul Edlund, Building Services Manager, at (860) 561-7926