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# Boyertown Elementary School

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A Monthly Publication For Parents

*Greg Miller, Principal*

*February 2010*

## BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

The Boyertown Area School District is announcing kindergarten registration for the 2010-11 school year. Information packets were scheduled to be mailed in January 2010 to each resident with a child who will reach 5 years of age on or before September 10, 2010. These names are taken from the district's census file. If you or someone you know has a child that meets the age requirement and has not received a packet by February 6, 2010 please contact the district office to obtain one.

All kindergarten registration is done by appointment and will be done at the District Education Center located at 911 Montgomery Avenue, Boyertown from 3/1/10 -3/12/10. The packet will include all the necessary forms and instructions for registration.

Note that although students entering kindergarten are required to have a physical and dental examination, these exams must be completed after September 1, 2009 and no later than September 15, 2010

Please contact Cindi Bartholomew in the Student Registration Office at 610-369-7492 or at [cbartholomew@boyertownasd.org](mailto:cbartholomew@boyertownasd.org) if you do not receive a packet or have questions or concerns regarding this process.

### Adjusted Specials Schedule

Due to missing specials because of no school, we will be following Monday/Friday schedule on the following date:

Tuesday, April 6, 2010

We will follow Monday's special schedule.

### Music News

The second grade classes will be presenting their program "February Frolic" on Thursday, February 11, 2010 at 7:00 pm. Come and see us celebrate all that February has to offer!



### **PSSA Test Dates**

PLEASE DO NOT PLAN TRIPS DURING THE STATE TESTING DAYS!

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) tests in Reading and Mathematics will be administered to all 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, & 6<sup>th</sup> grade students from April 12 – 16, 2010. NO TRIPS WILL BE APPROVED FOR 3<sup>RD</sup>, 4<sup>TH</sup>, 5<sup>TH</sup>, AND 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS BETWEEN APRIL 12 – 16, 2010.

All 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be administered the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) tests in writing from April 19 – 23, 2010. NO TRIPS WILL BE APPROVED FOR 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS BETWEEN APRIL 19 – 23, 2010.

All 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will be administered the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) test in science from April 26 – 30, 2010. NO TRIPS WILL BE APPROVED FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS BETWEEN APRIL 26 – 30, 2010.

### **Assembly News**

The Walnut Street Theater Touring Outreach Company will present Freedom Riders on Monday, February, 8, 2010. The show will be presented at Junior High West for students in grade 6.

### **REMINDER**

Children are not to be dropped off before 8:25 AM. If a student arrives after the 8:45 AM bell, a parent must sign the child in at the office.

### **Student Pick-Up Reminder**

Parents/Guardians who are picking up students during the school day must sign the child out in the office. For safety reasons, please be prepared to present identification if asked. We see many faces in the office and may not recognize you. The students' security is always our first concern.



### **Cold Weather Guidelines**

When the wind chill factor is 9 degrees or below, we keep the children in and they have “indoor recess”. When the wind chill is between 10 and 19 degrees, the students have a shortened “outdoor recess”. Please be sure to dress your child accordingly and to put their names in their hats, scarves, gloves, mittens and coats. Even when the wind chill factor is above 20 degrees, outdoor recess is also dependent on snow, ice, and wet conditions on the playground. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Hazardous Conditions Developing During the Night**

Heavy snowfall or other serious weather conditions may make it necessary to close schools, delay openings or dismiss early. In such cases, the following radio stations will broadcast the information:

- Boyertown WBYN-FM (107.5)
- Pottstown WPAZ (1370)
- Reading WEEU (830)
- Reading WRAW (1340)
- Reading WIOV (1240)
- Reading WIOV-FM (105.1)
- Stroudsburg WSBG-FM (93.5)
- Allentown TV WAEB-AM (790)  
WAEB-FM (104)  
WCTO-FM (96)  
WLEV-FM (100.7)  
WODE-FM (99.9)  
WWYY-FM (107.1)  
WFMZ-TV Channel 69
- Philadelphia #893 KYW (1060) District
- Philadelphia WPVI Channel 6
- Philadelphia WCAU Channel 10
- Philadelphia CBS3 – TV

At times it may be possible to avoid canceling a day of school by opening one or two hours later than the regularly scheduled time. In the case of a delayed opening, pupils should arrive at the bus stop one or two hours later, accordingly. When there is a one-hour delay, AM Kindergarten will arrive one hour late with regular dismissal time. PM Kindergarten will be on the regular schedule. If there is a two-hour delay, AM Kindergarten will be bused to school with grades 1 – 6 and remain at school until the afternoon kindergartners arrive. Transportation home of AM Kindergarten will be approximately one and one-half hours later than normal. PM Kindergarten will have a regular

schedule with dismissal at school's closing time.

**Hazardous Conditions Developing During the Day**

When weather conditions warrant doing so, a decision to close schools will be made as soon as possible. Junior high school students will be dismissed, followed by the senior high school students. Then elementary school students will be dismissed as soon as the buses arrive.

In some instances, the school district may reverse this procedure by allowing the elementary students to be dismissed first. In either case, a radio announcement will detail the plan as well as an announcement through the ConnectEd system.

Afternoon kindergarten classes will not meet on days when schools are dismissed on the above schedule.

If school is closed, all school and community activities are canceled.



### **From the Nurse:**

#### **February is Dental Health month:**

During this special dental awareness month, here are some thoughts on brushing. Keeping teeth healthy does not require vigorous brushing. Hard scrubbing can wear down enamel. A soft touch is just as effective. Look for the American Dental Association Seal of Approval on toothbrushes and toothpaste. And see your dentist on a regular basis.

#### **Attention kindergarten and third grade parents:**

School dental screenings will be held on Feb 3, 2010. Notices were sent home in January if you have not met this requirement. If you have not yet returned the dental exam form, please return to the school nurse as soon as possible. If you have any questions regarding the screening or if you would like your child to participate and have not yet returned the permission form, please contact the nurse immediately at 610-473-5170

**Attention 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents:** The family life presentation for 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be on February 3, 2010. Remember if you do not wish for your child to participate in this program, you must notify the principal in writing expressing your wishes for your child to not participate. If we do not receive notification in writing, your child will be expected to participate in the program. If you have any questions regarding the program, please direct them to the school nurse.

**Effective 2001, elementary students are not permitted to bring cough drops to school under any circumstances.** Please refer to the BASD policy in your Parent Handbook to review the policy. Chloraseptic spray is available to all students with parent permission on emergency card.

#### **Please notify the nurse if there are any changes in your child's health status.**

We would like to keep your child's health record current and up to date to ensure proper care while your child is attending school.

#### **Please keep your Emergency Card information current:**

Anytime you have phone number changes, either at home, work, or for an alternate, please notify the health room so that we can keep your child's emergency card current.



### **PARP News**

#### **A Change in PARP:**

Dairy Queen is changing the way that they reward our students for participating in PARP (Parents As Reading Partners). Your child has received a yellow sheet with calendars for the months of January, February, and March. When you complete the requirements for PARP, cut the calendar for that month and take it to Dairy Queen for your child's reward. *Do not bring that calendar to school.* Your child should still bring the large calendar sent home every month back to school so that their participation can be recorded and so they can receive the Pizza Hut certificate and the \$.50 cent credit each month toward the May Book Fair at the BES library.

**Read Across America/Dr. Seuss’  
Birthday Week**

**Special Days are scheduled each day of the first week in March.**

*Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>* – Bring your favorite Dr. Seuss book or another book to school day.

*Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>* – Green Eggs & Ham – wear green day. The cafeteria will be serving green eggs and ham as one of their menu offerings.

*Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>* – Oh the Places You’ll Go Day – wear favorite shirt (from a city, trip, vacation, sports team, etc.)

*Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>* –Cat in the Hat Day – wear your favorite hat.

*Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>* – Crazy Hair Day – get your idea from a Dr. Seuss book.

8:50 Opening exercises with read aloud/power point/presentation

9:00 - 2:30 Guest Readers

9:00–3:00 Book Swap—each student may bring up to 3 books to swap

2:00 Snack

3:00-3:15 Teacher Swap

***On this day there will be Book Alerts (announcements when everyone must stop what their doing and read), a bookmark for everyone, and special prizes that everyone can win. Teachers may invite their students to wear their pajamas to school that day so they can “cozy up” to a book.***

**Family Life Presentations**

As part of the Boyertown Area School District’s health curriculum, children in grades 4, 5 and 6 will be given the opportunity of receiving instruction in Life Education. Children in grades 4, 5 and 6 will also be participating in the AIDS education program. Parents may have their children excused from any of the instructional presentations through a request in writing to the school principal. Please include your child’s name, teacher and reason for request on the written notice. It is the school district’s belief that this important activity should be a shared responsibility between home and school. You may wish to discuss the topics with your son or daughter at the same time it is being discussed in school. The classroom schedules for the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade programs are listed below. If you have any questions or wish to discuss these presentations in more detail, please contact the school nurse at 610-473-5170.

***Grade 4***

3/9/10 Family Life Education  
(segregated by gender)

3/3/10 AIDS/HIV presentation

***Grade 5***

2/3/10 Family Life Education  
(segregated by gender)

3/15/10 AIDS/HIV presentation

## **Greetings from Mrs. Nester, Mrs. Glasgow & Mrs. Hummel, your school counselors**

### Children and Sleep

Sleep is essential to a child's health and growth. Studies show that many school aged children are not getting enough sleep. Too little sleep can affect a child's growth, immune system and learning. Experts recommend that children ages 5-12 need 10-11 hours of sleep. Sleep allows the body to relax and refuel. Well rested children perform better in school, are more alert, and are more likely to have better memories.

Children need and thrive on routine. The best way to encourage good sleeping habits is to follow a nightly schedule. Make bedtime the same every night and alert your child both a half an hour and 10 minutes beforehand. Create a bedtime ritual which may include a winding down period, followed by a shower or bath, putting on pajamas, brushing teeth, reading a story, and getting tucked into bed. Tuck your child into bed snugly at night for a feeling of security. A bedtime ritual makes it easier for children to relax, fall asleep, and stay asleep through the night. Try to eliminate television from your nightly routine. Watching TV before going to bed has been associated with bedtime resistance as well as difficulty falling and staying asleep.

In addition to establishing a nightly routine, it is recommended that parents create an environment that is conducive to sleep by making a child's bedroom dark, cool, and quiet and then keep that environment the same all night long.

It is advised that parents keep televisions and computers out of children's bedrooms. A study done in 2004 revealed that 43% of school aged children have TVs in their bedrooms. Computers and televisions offer children the temptation to stay awake once parents say goodnight and leave the room.

If you are concerned that your child is not getting enough sleep, consider the following statements. Your child may have a problem with sleep if:

- You spend too much time "helping" your child fall asleep.
- Your child wakes up repeatedly during the night.
- Your child snores very loudly or struggles to breathe during sleep.
- Your child's behavior, mood or school performance changes.
- Your child who used to stay dry at night begins to wet the bed.
  
- You lose sleep as a result of your child's bedtime and sleeping patterns.

Teach children about healthy sleep habits. There isn't one sure way to raise a good sleeper, but every parent should be encouraged to know that most children have the ability to sleep well. The key is to try, from early on, to establish healthy sleep habits that may last a lifetime. If your child has ongoing sleep concerns it is a good idea to consult the child's physician.

# P.T.O. News

The month of February will be a very busy time for the PTO. We are in the process of planning our annual Basket Party. The theme this year is "Home Is Where the Heart Is." Please consider donating a family basket and attending this fun event.

Information on our Spring Gertrude Hawk candy sale will be coming home soon. The two classrooms with the top sales will be treated to pizza party paid for by the PTO. The teacher with the top seller will receive a box of chocolate. And the three top sellers will receive a gift bag provided by Gertrude Hawk. The sale will run from February 3-17<sup>th</sup>. Candy pickup will be Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm in our Gym.

Our Family Movie Night is planned for Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. The students will have the opportunity to have a classroom vote to choose the winning movie. Mark your calendars for that night. It is a fun way to spend time with family and friends.

If you have any questions or would like to get involved in the PTO, please feel free to contact me. We are still looking for future officers. If you know you want to get involved but are unsure of what the position is all about, just contact me.

Andrea Elsier  
610-367-4697