



Boyertown Elementary School

A Monthly Publication For Parents
September 2010

Welcome Back...

It has been a busy summer for many of us as we took time to relax and enjoy our vacations. Many wonderful things were also happening here at Boyertown Elementary School during the summer which involved staff, students, and parents. I hope that we are all refreshed and anticipating the upcoming school year with much enthusiasm. It has been a rewarding opportunity for me to see the excitement that is quite evident as I walk around the building talking with children, parents, and teachers. We look forward to another exciting year.

Staff Updates

A sincere **“Welcome”** to ...

Gayle Quinton – Librarian, Long Term Substitute

Erin Nester – Guidance Counselor, Long Term Substitute

Kelli Zimmerman – Learning Support, Extended Substitute

Christina Rogers – Learning Support Teacher

Kathy Hiryak – Computer Lab Technician

Wendy Barton – ESL Para-professional

Alison Moloney – Para-professional

Ronda Brisbois – Para-professional

Amy Bouffard – Para-professional
Michael Wyda – 2nd shift Custodian
Randall Houck – 2nd shift Custodian

Thank You...

- To our secretaries and custodians for all of the summer activities which prepare the building for the new school year. Thanks to their efforts, we are well organized and ready to begin a new year in a clean and well maintained school!
- To our teachers who have been working in their rooms, planning for the new year, attending committee meetings at BES, attending workshops and taking college courses.
- To our PTO and the many hours our parents and teachers have put into getting ready for our various activities this coming year.
- To parents for completing and returning forms in a timely manner.
- Parents and students for reading the handbook.

Please Mark Your Calendar



- 9/16/10 Meet the Teacher
(parents only)
Kindergarten
7:30 PM
(AM & PM Kdg.)
- 8/30/10 Meet the Teacher
1st grade
6:30 PM
- 9/7/10 Meet the Teacher
2nd grade
7:30 PM
3rd grade
6:30 PM
- 9/2/10 Meet the Teacher
4th grade
7:30 PM
5th grade
6:30 PM
- 9/16/10 Meet the Teacher
6th grade
6:30 PM

School Pictures



School pictures will be taken on Friday, September 24, 2010. Retakes are scheduled for Monday, November 8, 2010.

Appropriate Dress



We need your help to ensure good learning environments in our schools. One way is to

make sure your child wears clothing that is appropriate for school. For example, short shorts and midriff tops are not appropriate for school. Please reference pages 11, 12 or 13 of the District Elementary Handbook for the Dress Code.

Music News



Please mark your calendars for the following BES Concert Dates:

- Wednesday, 12/8/10 Winter Chorus
Concert
- Thursday, 3/3/11 2nd grade program
- Thursday, 4/14/11 Spring Concert
- Tuesday, 5/17/11 3rd grade program
- Wednesday, 5/18/11 4th grade program

Cafeteria News



The price of a student lunch for 2010-2011 is \$2.10.

Applications for free or reduced lunch are available for those who qualify and wish to take advantage of this opportunity. **If you received free or reduced lunch last year, you must reapply this year before September 24, 2010.** Any questions, please call BASD Food Service Department at 610-369-7419. Please send in any restriction notes (food allergies, no snacks, etc.) by September 17, 2010.



District Calendars

The district calendar of events is no longer being distributed to students. For school events, please refer to the School District Comprehensive Calendar located on the school district web site's home page, www.boyertownasd.org

Student Accident Insurance

Information regarding school insurance for your child(ren) is available in our school office.

School – Wide Rules

At Boyertown Elementary School we...

- * Are kind, respectful and polite to ourselves and others.
- * Are prepared for learning.
- * Allow teachers to teach and everyone to learn.
- * Keep hands, feet and objects to ourselves.
- * Use acceptable language and voice levels at all times.



School Hours

School begins at 8:45 AM and ends at 3:25 PM.



Arrival and Dismissal

Students should not be at school prior to 8:25 AM unless they are working with a teacher on a special project or in a special program.

Just a reminder...

Cars should NOT enter the front driveway between 8:15 and 8:45 AM and 3:00 and 3:45 PM.

If you are parked in the Front driveway during bus arrival or dismissal; **DO NOT** move your car until the buses are gone. We have had many nuisance accidents due to people trying to squeeze out during dismissal.



School Transportation

Questions about bussing should be directed to Mr. Missimer, Transportation Supervisor at 610-369-7431.

Attendance & Tardiness

Regular school attendance is very important for several reasons. First, since many of the lessons are accompanied by hands-on activities and active student participation, it is impossible for a child who has missed class, to completely make-up the experience. Second, it's the law!

All absences must be documented in one of three ways: a phone call to the office, a written note from the parent or doctor, or a completed excuse blank. We cannot accept e-mail messages. If your child is absent and has been seen by the doctor or a

healthcare provider; please obtain a doctor note.

If your child must be taken out of school during the school day for a doctor or dental appointment, we ask that you send a note to your child's teacher so he/she may prepare for the student's early dismissal.

School begins promptly at 8:45 AM. If your child is late, **you need to come to the office with your child** and sign him/her into school. Please refer to the Elementary School Handbook for additional information. Please note that trips will not be approved during state testing periods.

Emergency Information

It is very important that we have accurate emergency information at all times.

Please update the emergency information sheets sent home the first day of school and return to school immediately. If there are any changes throughout the year, please send a note or call the office. Thank you!

Reading Requirement Update



After discussions with teachers, administrators and parents, we believe that the reading requirement has become more of a paperwork task than one that promotes lifelong reading. We have begun sharing this information with staff, parents, students and our School Board of Directors and will continue these discussions throughout the next school year. **For the upcoming 2010-11 school year, there will be no change in the ten book reading requirement.**

Custody Issues

It is the responsibility of the parent(s) to notify the school principal of the circumstances regarding custody of the child. A Custody Form should be completed to provide the necessary information.

The position of the school district is as follows:

- * When a Court establishes custody, the school-parent relationship will be maintained consistent with the decision of the Court.
- * When custody is not formally established, the school will presume that the parent with whom the child resides is the parent responsible for reports, excuse forms, and authorization of any deviation from the routine transportation arrangements for the child.
- * The non-custodial parent may receive progress reports and/or review the child's permanent record by contacting the building principal.

Student Safety

Please have your child check his/her pockets and backpacks before coming to school. Pocketknives or other objects considered as weapons are prohibited in the school setting. This includes toys that look like weapons. Students in possession of such objects will face severe consequences. Also, please emphasize with your children that threats about "killing" will also result in severe consequences. Again, I thank you for your continued support. **Please reference pages 14, 15 and 16 the District Elementary Handbook for Weapons Offenses.**

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. 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 a call from the Connect Ed. 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.

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.

Reading	WEEU (830)
Reading	WRWA (1340)
Reading	WIOV (1240)
Reading	WIOV-FM (105.1)
Reading	WRFY-FM (102.5)
Philadelphia	KYW (1060)
	District #893

Philadelphia	Channel 6
Philadelphia	Channel 10
Allentown	Channel 69

Boyertown Area School District uses the Connect-Ed service. Connect-Ed will be used to convey emergency messages including weather delays or closing to parents and guardians with one recorded phone message. It is important that we have all of your current telephone numbers so you will not miss any important communications. We are utilizing your phone numbers from our student information system. If you change your telephone numbers anytime throughout the school year, please remember to update them with our office.

Parental Responsibility

Parents are expected to anticipate early dismissal due to inclement weather and to make appropriate provisions for their children.

Emergency Evacuation

Complying with state regulations, every school conducts safety drills each month and has a plan for the expeditious evacuation of the school in the event of a bomb-threat or similar emergency. In the event of a dangerous nuclear incident occurring at the Limerick Generating Station, there is a written plan that is distributed to parents annually. Please review this plan periodically so that you become familiar with it.

or by request from the health room. If the guidelines are not followed, we will be unable to administer medication during school hours.

Pennsylvania Megan's Law Website

For more information, please visit the Pennsylvania State Police website:
www.pameganslaw.state.pa.us



From the Health Room

All Kindergarten and 6th Grade private physical exam forms and all Kindergarten and 3rd Grade private dental exam forms are currently being accepted. The due date for forms is October 1, 2010. **PA School Health Act #535 requires these examinations for all students in these grades. If you need a new form, please contact the health room. You may obtain a form on the district website www.boyertownasd.org, under health services.**

The annual health screenings (including vision, height and weight for all students in grades 1-6 and hearing in grades 1-3 students) will be held on Sept. 22, 2010. If you have any questions regarding the health screenings, please contact the health room at extension 5170.

Reminder to Parents: if your child needs to take any medications during the school year, the health room wants to remind parents to **refer to the BASD medication policy**. Your child may receive medications in school daily or as needed during school if the medication guidelines are followed. All medication must be accompanied with a doctor's note, parent permission and must be labeled in the original container. Medication forms are available on the BASD Web site at www.boyertownasd.org

Box Tops For Education

The summer is now over and it's time to bring in those Box Tops and Labels for Education. When cutting the Campbell's soup labels, please only cut the UPC section of the label (includes the points.) The whole label is not needed. When cutting the Box Tops, please only cut the section of label that includes the 10 cent part. The soup labels and Box Tops may be sent in together.



Where Are Your Tax Dollars Going?

School finance is a complex subject. As such, the district administration put together a series of Finance Committee meetings designed to inform the public about school district programs and their relationship to budgeting, and ultimately to taxation.

All of the meetings listed below will be held at the Education Center, 911 Montgomery Avenue, Boyertown, PA, and all will start at 6:30 p.m.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
September 7, 2010	Curriculum and Instruction
September 22, 2010	Professional Development/Technology
October 5, 2010	Pupil Services and Special Education
October 19, 2010	Mandates, Benefits, Grants
November 3, 2010	Transportation and Facilities
November 15, 2010	Athletics, Co- and Extra-Curriculars

Please note that a regular Finance Committee meeting will be held on August 24, 2010, at the Education Center at 6:00 p.m.

If you need more information, please check the District website at:

www.boyertownasd.org

Your attendance will be most appreciated!