



Boyertown Elementary School

A Monthly Publication For Parents

Greg Miller, Principal

January 2012

*Our very best, to the students at
Boyertown Elementary School and
their families for a very happy and
healthy New Year!*



Thank You

To 5th, and 6th graders and Mrs. Lydic for a fantastic Winter Concert.

To the Senior Orchestra and Senior Band for their wonderful Winter Concert as well.

To Mr. Renninger for the Giving Tree in our Lobby.

To everyone for the items (hats, gloves, mittens, scarves) that were donated for the Giving Tree.



DISTRICT FINANCE/BUDGET MEETINGS

The following Finance/Budget meetings have been scheduled to develop the 2012–2013 budget for the district.

► January 3, 2012 – Technology and Special Education, 6:30 p.m., Ed Center

► January 10, 2012 – Facilities and Transportation, 5:30 p.m., Ed Center

► January 17, 2012 – Preliminary Budget Review, 6:30 p.m., Ed Center

► January 24, 2012 – Adoption of Preliminary Budget, 7:00 p.m., JHW

Last Minute Dismissal Changes

If you send a note to the teacher about arrangements for your child being picked up, please write the teacher's name and the words "**Pick-up Information**" on the note. I am asking you to do this because a substitute teacher will not open the note if you only have the teacher's name written on the note. This will ensure that the proper people are aware of the dismissal arrangements. Please avoid e-mailing the teacher or leaving a message on their voice mail related to dismissal procedures. A substitute teacher does not have access to voice mail or e-mail messages. In the event of a last minute change to dismissal procedures, please call the office.

FOOD SERVICE ADVISORY

Please be advised Boyertown Area School District Food Service Department will never contact you by phone and request you to place money on a student lunch account by giving your credit card information. If you wish to use a credit card to make student lunch account deposits please access the myschoolbucks website at www.myschoolbucks.com. Also you may access online payment information and directions by accessing the Boyertown District website. Select the Services tab and Food Service section.

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH

Any parent or guardian who has undergone a recent financial change which may qualify them for the free or reduced lunch program should request an application from the office. Information is confidential.



Weather Related Updates

For weather related updates, please call **610-369-SNOW (7669)**. This is a district wide phone number available for your convenience. You may also check the district website. This is updated as well.

"Keeping Touches Safe & Healthy"

Parents of second grade students are invited and encouraged to attend a parent preview of "Keeping Touches Safe & Healthy" which will be presented on Wednesday, January 4, 2012, at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria at Junior High West. This program will be presented by the Victims Services Center of Montgomery County. There will be a video presentation and discussion of the program that will be shown to our second grade students. The program will teach the children how to recognize and prevent sexual abuse. The program will be presented to the second grade students on **Monday, January 30, 2012**



From the Nurse:

Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grade Parents:
As part of our school district's health curriculum, students in these grades are given the opportunity to receive Human Growth and Development instruction (covers the biological changes that occur) and AIDS education. The Human Growth and Development Parent Preview Night, which allows you to preview the materials presented to the students, is scheduled for January 11, 2012 (snow make up date of Jan. 18th) at Junior High West, see times below. If you have any questions regarding the parent preview night please contact the school nurse at 610-473-5170.

Grade 4 Parents: 6:00 PM Auditorium
Grade 5 Parents: 6:30 PM Cafeteria
Grade 6 Parents: 7:00 PM Auditorium
Schedules will be available the evening of the preview and sent home with students prior to the classroom presentations.



Attention Kindergarten and 3rd grade parents: Dental exams are now due. If you have not yet handed in the dental exam form for your child, please do so as soon as possible. School dental screenings will be given on February 17, 2012 for any student who has not handed in the dental form. If you have any question, please contact 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 to treat sore throats



From Your School Counselors- Mrs. Nester & Mrs. Hummel

How to Handle a Bullying Situation

Whether on the school playground or in the neighborhood park, children sometimes find themselves the target of bullies. When that happens, these aggressors can not only frighten a youngster, shake his confidence and spoil his play, but they can also cause bodily injury.

Avoiding an aggressor is one reason your child may be reluctant to go to school. Perhaps he or she is being forced to relinquish his or her lunch money to this aggressor. Or he or she might be fearful of physical harm. If you suspect a problem like this, you need to take action to ensure your child's safety and well-being. Here are some strategies your child can adopt with your help, and which will help him or her to feel safer:

- Tell your child not to react to the aggressor, particularly by giving in to demands. An aggressor enjoys intimidating others and likes nothing better than to see his or her victim cry or become visibly upset in other ways. Getting that response reinforces the bullying behavior. Your child should try to keep his or her composure by simply walking away.
- If your child's attempts to disregard an aggressor's taunts aren't effective, he or she should become assertive with the aggressor. While standing tall and looking his or her tormentor in the eyes, the child should clearly and loudly make a statement like, "Stop doing that now. If you keep on, I'm going to report you to the principal," or, "I'll talk to you, but I'm not going to fight. So put your fists down now." Sometimes, a strong statement will defuse the situation, and the aggressor will try to find another, weaker target. Drawing the attention of peers to the bullying situation can embarrass the aggressor. If your child isn't used to reacting assertively, help him or her rehearse what to say if he or she is confronted.
- Encourage your child to form strong friendships. A youngster who has loyal friends is less likely to be singled out by an aggressor, or at least he or she will have some allies if the child does become a target of harassment.

Talk to your child's teacher or to the principal of the school if the situation with the aggressor persists. You might be reluctant to intervene, perhaps because your child might be embarrassed to have you do so, or because you believe he or she needs to learn to deal with these situations on their own. On the other hand, you don't want your child's self-confidence to weaken, or his or her physical well-being to be jeopardized. Your youngster deserves to attend school in a safe environment, even if it means both you and the school staff need to become involved.

Let the principal or teacher talk to the aggressor when he or she sees the inappropriate behavior taking place on the school grounds. This is generally a more effective approach than if you would speak with the aggressor or to his or her parents.

