



Boyertown Elementary School

A Monthly Publication For Parents

Greg Miller, Principal

November 2011

The BES Review ...

In October, the students and staff at Boyertown Elementary School welcomed parents for our annual Parents' Visitation Day. Many parents joined us in our classrooms to experience a part of their child's education. This very special day, sponsored by our PTO, allowed teachers to show parents some of the many wonderful learning opportunities their child receives in the course of a year. Thank you to everyone who came out to join us. We would like to thank Keystone Fire Department and Friendship Hook & Ladder Fire Department for sharing an excellent educational fire safety message with us during Fire Prevention Week.

Early Dismissals

On the following dates, students will have a 12:30 Early Dismissal:

Friday	November 18, 2011
Monday	November 21, 2011
Tuesday	November 22, 2011
Wednesday	November 23, 2011

For Kindergarten Parents Only

We have a 12:30 PM early dismissal on **November 18th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd**. As a reminder, please note the following modified kindergarten schedules on these early dismissal days:

12:30 Dismissal

Morning Kindergarten

8:45 – 10:25 AM

Afternoon Kindergarten

10:25 - 12:30 PM

E-Mail Contact

We currently have a parent email system in place. By having your e-mail address, we can e-mail various announcements, parent newsletters, event schedules, cancellations, etc. to you. If you have not already supplied us with your email address and are interested in being on this e-mail list, please do the following:

- Go to the District website at
- <http://www.boyertownasd.org>
- Roll over "Contact Information"
- Click on ListServe Sign Up
- Follow instructions from this point.



Parent-Teacher Conferences

All grade levels will be conducting parent-teacher conferences at the end of the first marking period. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss your child's progress in school with the teacher. Since conferences are scheduled back-to-back, please make sure to arrive at your scheduled time. We have also made available evening conferences scheduled on November 17, 2011 from 4:30 - 7:30 PM and November 22, 2011 from 4:30 - 7:30 PM. All professional staff will be available during these evening times. We look forward to conferencing with all our parents.



Student Tardiness Reminder

School begins promptly at 8:45 AM. All students should be in the building by 8:40 AM. If your child is late, you need to come to the office with your child and sign him/her into school. **For safety reasons, please do not drop off your child at the front of the building. Please escort the student into the building.**



Picture Retakes

Picture Retake Day will be Monday, November 7, 2011 at 9:00 AM. If your child was absent on Picture Day, they may have their picture taken on this day. If you are not satisfied with your package of pictures, your child may have his/her picture taken again. Please return the original package on retake day with your child's name, teacher, and package selection written on the front envelope. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the school office.



Annual Food Drive

In this season of giving thanks and sharing, our students will have an opportunity to bring in canned items for our annual food drive from November 1 - 22, 2011. The food that is collected will be donated to the Salvation Army.



Recess

With the exception of inclement weather, the children go outside for recess on a daily basis. Outdoor recess is 20 minutes and the students should be dressed appropriately. If a child wears a jacket to school, we expect that child to wear the jacket to recess.



Music News



The Third Grade Students will present their program, “A Fall Festival of Songs” on Thursday, November 3rd at 7:00 PM in the Multi-purpose room. Please come out and support the third graders as they perform their fun Fall songs!



The annual BES holiday concert will be held on Wednesday, December 7 at 7:00 PM in the school multi-purpose room. This year’s concert will feature the 5th and 6th grade Chorus and BES Show Choir. Come out and enjoy the sounds of the season!

Come Hear the Elementary Instrumental Winter Concert!

The senior orchestra and senior band are proud to present another winter concert this year. As in years past, the concert will take place at Boyertown Area Senior High School in the auditorium. The concert begins at 7:00 pm on December 1st. We will be featuring both the senior band and senior orchestra at our concert.

Our students have worked hard to prepare some great tunes. All are invited to come out to support the elementary instrumentalists in the 2011 Winter Concert!

PSSA Test Dates

PLEASE DO NOT PLAN TRIPS DURING THE STATE TESTING DAYS!

All 5th grade students will be administered the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) tests in writing from **Apr. 16 – Apr. 20, 2011**. **NO TRIPS WILL BE APPROVED FOR 5TH GRADE STUDENTS BETWEEN these dates.**

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) tests in Reading and Mathematics will be administered to all 3rd, 4th, 5th, & 6th grade students from **Mar. 12-23, 2011**. **NO TRIPS WILL BE APPROVED FOR 3RD, 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH GRADE STUDENTS BETWEEN these dates.**

All 4th grade students will be administered the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) test in science from **April 23 – 27, 2011**. **NO TRIPS WILL BE APPROVED FOR 4TH GRADE STUDENTS BETWEEN the dates.**



PARP News

We are still in need of **Parents As Reading Partners (PARP)** volunteers. If you have any time available to come in to school to help, or would be willing to fill out certificates at home, it would be greatly appreciated. Please email Mrs. Graff jgraff@boyertownasd.org or Mrs. Medvetz kmedvetz@boyertownasd.org to let us know if you would be willing to help. Thank you in advance for all you do!

Mrs. Graff & Mrs. Medvetz

Can Tab Project Update



We are almost at 4 million can tabs but we need your help. Please continue to save can tabs and send them to school with your child. The district has set a goal of collecting 6 million can tabs to demonstrate the number of Jewish people killed during the Holocaust. The can tabs will eventually be recycled and the proceeds donated to the Ronald McDonald House.

District Total

3,908,118 (65.1% of the goal) as of October 9, 2011.

How much is 6 Million?

The Sovereign Center in Reading has a seating capacity of 7,215 people. You would have to fill the center over 831 times to have the same number of people as the number of Jews killed during the Holocaust. You would have to fill the park 1524 times to have the same number of people as were killed in the Holocaust.

Facts about the Holocaust

- It is estimated that 11 million people were killed during the Holocaust. Six million of these were Jews.
- The Nazis killed approximately two-thirds of all Jews living in Europe.
- An estimated 1.1 million children were murdered in the Holocaust.

*Source: [Jennifer Rosenberg](#),
About.com Guide*



From the Nurse:

Parents of K/1 and 6th grade students:

The required physical exam report is now past due. If you have not returned your child's physical exam report, please return to the health room as soon as possible. It is a state mandate that we include these numbers in our yearly report. If you need a new form, please visit the district website:

www.boyertownasd.org and click on the health service link or contact the health room at 610-473-5170.

Parents of K/1 and 3rd grade

students: The required dental exam report is now past due. If you have not submitted your child's dental report, please return to the health room as soon as possible. School dentals are scheduled for February and any student that does not have a report on file will be notified to participate in the school dental screening.

REMINDER! With colder weather arriving, students must be dressed appropriately to go out to recess. Please make sure your child has something warm to wear for recess. Students can always take their outerwear off if the weather warms up at recess time.

Thank you for your help!

COLD AND FLU SEASON:

- Review the importance of hand washing and demonstrate the proper way to wash your hands with your child.
- Children should be free from fever, vomiting and/or diarrhea for a full 24 hours before returning to school.
- Review the medication policy in your BASD handbook. **WE MUST HAVE A DOCTOR'S ORDER AND PARENT PERMISSION TO GIVE ANY MEDICATION INCLUDING THOSE SOLD OVER THE COUNTER .**
- **STUDENTS MAY NOT TRANSPORT THEIR MEDICATION TO AND FROM SCHOOL**
- **COUGH DROPS** are **NOT** allowed in school per the BASD policy effective 2001.
- Review the importance of hand washing and demonstrate the proper way to wash your hands with your child.
- Children should be free from fever, vomiting and/or diarrhea for a full 24 hours before returning to school.



A Message from Your School Counselors, Mrs. Nester & Mrs. Hummel

This month we will continue our focus on school climate. You may recall from last month's newsletter, school climate refers to the quality and character of school life. Our goal at Boyertown Elementary is to create a **positive** school climate where all students feel safe, comfortable, valued, and accepted. A positive school climate affects everyone associated with the school- students, staff, parents, and the community. It is defined by effective teaching, quality leadership, motivated staff and students, and a sense of community. "School climate sets the tone for all the learning and teaching done in the school environment, and as research proves, it is predictive of students' ability to learn and develop in healthy ways. (Alliance for the study of school climate, Cal State)

Over the last three decades there has been an extraordinary and growing body of research that attests to the importance of school climate. Positive school climate supports learning and positive youth development. A positive school climate is associated with and predictive of:

- Academic achievement
- School Success
- Reduced student drop-out
- Higher morale among students and teachers
- Increased institutional pride
- Effective violence prevention
- Students' healthy development
- Teacher retention

Sources: 1. www.psba.org/workshops/school-leadership-conference/2010/conference-handouts/
2. <http://schoolclimate.org/climate>