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# Boyertown Elementary School

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A Monthly Publication For Parents  
**September 2011**

## **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.

*Emily Hunt* – Kindergarten, Ext. Substitute  
*Angela Brown* – Learning Support  
*Robyn McMaster* - Para-professional  
*Kim Anders* – Para-professional

## **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 the SWEBS Committee for all of their work in preparing for this school year.

## **Staff Updates**

A sincere “**Welcome or Welcome Back**” to...

*Cristi Kerkusz* – Librarian  
*Erin Nester* – Guidance Counselor  
*Kristi Medvetz* – Reading Specialist  
*Michelle Hanna* - Gifted  
*Tina Schrode-Fries* – Gifted  
*Taylor Grim* – Wellness/Fitness

- 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.

### 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 10, 11 of the District Elementary Handbook for the Dress Code.

### Please Mark Your Calendar



9/7/11 Meet the Teacher

*1<sup>st</sup> grade*

6:30 – 7:00 PM

*2<sup>nd</sup> grade*

7:10 – 7:40 PM

*3<sup>rd</sup> grade*

7:50 – 8:20 PM

9/8/11 Meet the Teacher

*4<sup>th</sup> grade*

6:30 – 7:00 PM

*5<sup>th</sup> grade*

7:10 – 7:40 PM

*6<sup>th</sup> grade*

7:50 – 8:20 PM

### Music News



Please mark your calendars for the following BES Concert Dates:

Wednesday, 12/7/11 Winter Chorus  
Concert

Thursday, 11/3/2011 3<sup>rd</sup> grade program

Thursday, 3/8/12 2<sup>nd</sup> grade program

Thursday, 4/26/12 Spring Concert

Wednesday, 5/16/12 4<sup>th</sup> grade program

### School Pictures



School pictures will be taken on Friday, September 23, 2011. Retakes are scheduled for Monday, November 7, 2011.

### Cafeteria News



The price of a student lunch for 2011-2012 is \$2.20.

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 23, 2011.** 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 16, 2011.



### **District Calendars**

The district calendar of events is available for viewing on the school district web site's home page under District Comprehensive Calendar at [www.boyertownasd.org](http://www.boyertownasd.org)

### **Student Accident Insurance**

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

### **School Wide Effective Behavior Support (SWEBS)**

**SWEBS** is a comprehensive, school-wide set of strategies to support positive behavior and academic achievement for all students. **SWEBS** focuses on encouraging appropriate behavioral expectations and preventing problem behavior.

BES has adopted the following school wide rules:

- **B**e sure to follow staff directions the first time.
- **E**veryone will walk quietly throughout the building.
- **A**lways keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- **R**emember to use kind words and actions.
- **S**tudents will take ownership of their learning.



### **School Hours**

Doors open at 8:25 AM and dismissal starts 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.** We will attempt to contact parents if they do not call.

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!

## 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 12, 13 and 14 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 and email.

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	WRaw (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 closings 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 or email address 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.



### From the Health Room

All Kindergarten and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade private physical exam forms and all Kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade private dental exam forms are currently being accepted. The due date for forms is September 30, 2011. **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](http://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. 28, 2011. 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](http://www.boyertownasd.org) or by request from the health room. If the guidelines are not followed, we will be unable to administer medication during school hours.

### 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.



