



PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

Gilbertsville Elementary School

Melissa L. Woodard, Principal

Telephone 610-369-7485

www.boyertownasd.org

ATTENDANCE 610-369-7518

NOVEMBER 2011

Tuesday	November 1	Preschool Story Hour	11:00 - noon
Wednesday	November 2	Picture Retake Day	
Friday	November 4	GES Walkathon	
		First Quarter Ends	
Monday	November 7	HSA meeting	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	November 9	Mass Health Screenings	
		School Board Meeting @ GES	7:00 p.m.
Friday	November 11	Walkathon Rain Date	
Monday	November 14	Market Day Pick Up	
Tuesday	November 15	Preschool Story Hour	11:00 - noon
Thursday	November 17	Parent Conferences	4:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Friday	November 18	Early Dismissal	12:30 p.m.
		DARE Graduation	8:50 a.m.
		Family Movie Night – “Gnomeo & Juliet”	6:30 p.m.
Mon.-Wed.	Nov. 21-23	Early Dismissal Days	12:30 p.m.
Tuesday	November 22	Parent Conferences	4:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Thur.-Mon.	Nov. 24-28	Holiday – No School	

EARLY DISMISSALS – On November 18, 21, 22, and 23, we have a 12:30 p.m. early dismissal.

The Kindergarten schedule is as follows on early dismissal days:

AM Kindergarten—8:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

PM Kindergarten—10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP – The following students have been elected officers of this year’s Student Leadership Group:

President – Kaleigh Gallagher

Vice President – Amber Kulesa

Secretary – Cassie Kidwell

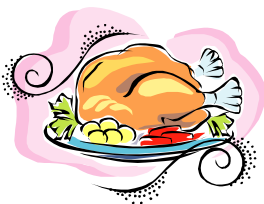
Treasurer – Bryan Henninger

STUDENT LEADERSHIP NEWS – “*Mix Match Day*” – Our Student Leadership will sponsor a Holiday Food Drive for the Salvation Army on Tuesday, November 22. On this day, students may dress up in clothes that do not match and donate non-perishable items such as canned vegetables, instant potatoes, rice, boxed pudding, etc. The Salvation Army will then pack and distribute food boxes to the needy for the holidays.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING – The School Board meeting on Wednesday, November 9 will be held at Gilbertsville Elementary School at 7:00 p.m. You are cordially invited.

REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION — For the first marking period, report cards will be distributed to parents at the scheduled parent-teacher conferences. The end of the first marking period is Friday, November 4.

PICTURE RETAKES ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2 – If your child was absent from school on picture day, the photographers will be here on Wednesday, November 2 from 8:45 to 10:00 a.m. Please send your money on that day if you wish to make any purchases. Likewise, if you are dissatisfied with the present photographs, return the entire package with a note to the classroom teacher for a retake. **Parents of afternoon kindergarten students will need to bring their children to school between 8:45 and 9:45 a.m. for picture retakes.** Chorus, Show Choir, Band, Strings and Safeties will have group photos taken between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.



THANKSGIVING DINNER – Our Thanksgiving dinner will be on Wednesday, November 16. The dinner will consist of roasted turkey with gravy, potato filling, green peas, cranberry sauce, whole wheat roll, and warm apple crisp.

PARENT VISITATION DAY...A SUCCESS! On October 21, over 500 parents visited Gilbertsville Elementary. Thanks to all of you who were able to attend our school. Now that you know what to expect of your child’s class this year, we ask for your continued support of your child’s learning. Stay involved! Parent input is important and together we can be successful.

SNOW DAYS – On snow days, information about delays or cancellations will be provided through Connect Ed. You may also listen to one of the stations listed in the District Elementary School Handbook or call the district information line for specific information relating to weather. That phone number is 610-369-SNOW (-7669). Special announcements are also posted on the district website at <http://www.boyertownasd.org/>.

DELAYED OPENINGS – In the event of a 2-hr. delayed school opening, the following “Modified Schedule” is in effect for Kindergarten:

AM Session 10:45 to 12:40 Bus pick-up is two hours later than normal.

Students depart from school at approximately 12:40.

PM Session 12:50 to 3:30 Regular Schedule

This information is found in the District Elementary School Handbook.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES – During November, throughout the district, the first quarter achievement of the elementary students is communicated through a parent conference using the report card as the basis. Any persons divorced or separated, who desire separate conferences, must inform the child’s teacher. Some suggestions, which can be helpful to you and the teacher during the conference, are as follows:

1. Focus on current achievement and only discuss the past if relevant.
2. Come directly to the classroom and have a seat in the hallway, should the door be closed.
3. Approximately 15-20 minutes have been allotted for each conference. Help us stay on schedule.

If you are unable to keep your scheduled conference due to urgent reasons, call the school as soon as possible (610-369-7485) before 4:00 p.m. or leave a message on the classroom teacher’s voice mail.

H.S.A. FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT – Bring your family out for a showing of “*Gnomeo & Juliet*” on Friday, November 18, here in the GES multi-purpose room. Admission and popcorn are FREE! Doors open at 6:30, the movie starts at 7:00 p.m. Bring your own chairs, blankets and drinks.



GES IN MOTION – GES in Motion is underway. Thank you to all of the parents that submitted mailing labels. The walkathon will be taking place during school hours on Friday, November 4, 2011 (rain date Friday, November 11). If you would like to volunteer the day of the walk and have not sent in your volunteer form, please do so as soon as possible. Please note - the walk is for GES students and staff only. Contact Heather Maraldo with any questions at maraldo@verizon.net.

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 HEALTH ROOM

New Immunization Regulations for the 2011/12 School Year

- **Effective August 1, 2011 children in all grade need to have 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, documented history of the varicella disease, or lab test to show immunity.** If a student does not have documentation for 2 doses of varicella on file, the parents/guardians of these students will be contacted by mail. **If you receive a notice, please contact your health care provider as failure to provide proof of required immunizations will result in exclusion of school effective May 1, 2012.**

Mass Health Screenings

- GES' mass health screenings will be held on Wednesday, November 9, 2011. Growth (height/weight) and vision screenings will be done on all students in 1st through 6th grade; hearing screenings are done on all students in 1st through 3rd grade and if needed in students in 4th through 6th. The screenings are performed by a team of school nurses. Any student that does not pass a vision or hearing screening on November 9th must be rescreened so rechecks will be done for students who did not pass a screening the first time. If your child fails a vision or hearing re-screen, a referral for further medical evaluation will be sent home with your child and you will be contacted by one of the school nurses. A Screening Notification letter with the results of the screenings will be mailed to parents/guardians before the end of the 3rd quarter.

Cold and Flu Season

As the cold and flu season begins, here are a few reminders:

- Please remind your children to dress appropriately for outdoor recess.
- Please remind your children to wash their hands often to prevent the spread of colds/flu at home and in our classrooms.
- The BASD medication policy does not allow elementary students to bring cough drops because they present a choking hazard.

With parent permission students may have Chloraseptic spray or gargle during school hours to treat mild sore throats. Please consult your doctor if your child has a severe sore throat.

- Reminder: if your child needs medication during school hours, please review the BASD medication policy in the elementary school handbook or on the BASD website at <http://www.boyertownasd.org/> under Services, Student Services, Health.

Students may not bring any medications to school.

Head Lice

- To effectively manage head lice infestations in school, the Boyertown Area School District has a strict No-Nit policy. The prevention and control of head lice begins in the home: parents should routinely check their children for head lice and not allow them to share hats, clothing, brushes, combs or sleeping bags with other children. Lice are small brown insects about the size of sesame seed and nits are yellowish white eggs which attach to the hair shafts which are generally found at nape of neck, behind ears, and at the crown of head. Symptoms of lice itching of scalp or red marks or scratches found on scalp and neck. If your child gets head lice, our policy requires parents to notify the health room. More information on head lice is available on the BASD website at <http://www.boyertownasd.org/> under Services, Student Services, Health or from the

school nurse. **Please help us prevent head lice by following the policy and checking your children often.**

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UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

December 2	Christmas Craft Night and Kickoff for Little Shoppers Shoppe	6:30 p.m.
December 5-9	Little Shoppers Shoppe	daytime
December 6	Preschool Story Hour	11:00 –noon
December 12	Market Day Pick Up HSA meeting	7:00 p.m.
December 20	Preschool Story Hour	11:00 - noon
December 22	Holiday Parties	2:30 p.m.
December 23	Early Dismissal	12:30 p.m.
December 24- Jan. 1	Holiday- No School	