



Boyertown Junior High West

Week in Review

October 30, 2009

Monday 11/2	Day 5
Tuesday 11/3	Day 6
Wednesday 11/4	Day 1
Thursday 11/5	Day 2
Friday 11/6	Day 3

21st Century Luncheon

This week, Mrs. Wisler's 21st Century Living classes hosted a luncheon. This event is the culminating project for the first marking period. Using their newly gained skills in meal planning and consumerism, the students planned and prepared a full course meal. Each student invited a guest from home to enjoy their new culinary skills. We are very thankful for the many family members who took time out of their busy schedules to share this time with us. Mrs. Wisler is impressed with all of her student's efforts. The event was both fun and successful.

FCS Trip

On Monday, the FCS 8th graders will be attending a field trip to Boyertown Elementary School to visit the Kindergarten classes. The 8th grade West students make this visit twice a year while working on the Child Development Unit in the curriculum. FCS students learn about the stages of child development (physical, emotional, moral, social, and intellectual) and apply these concepts to choosing an age appropriate book that they will read to a child in the Kindergarten class. Along with the reading each West student must create a game/activity related to the book and play the game with the young child. This year some of the selections chosen by West students include, Arthur, Where The Wild Things Are, Dr. Suess, and Disney. As always this is a favorite trip amongst the 8th graders and the Kindergarten children love the book read and game shared by our junior high school students.

Homework Request Procedure

I just wanted to remind everyone that we have a procedure in place to gather homework for absent students. We will gather homework for students after two days of absence. To make it as easy as possible for you, we simply ask that you request homework when calling your child out sick. Mrs. Bullick notifies the teachers and office of the request so we can serve you efficiently when you arrive to pick up the work.

BCTC Tours

On Friday, October 23rd, interested 9th grade students had the opportunity to visit the Berks Career and Technology Center (BCTC) – East Center in Oley, PA. In 8th grade, all students visited the BCTC. In 9th grade, students who are interested in possibly attending the BCTC in 10th-12th grade are given the opportunity to visit the BCTC again. The purpose of the field trip is to help interested students gain a better understanding of the programs and courses offered at the BCTC. Students who visited the East Center selected two career pathways to shadow in order to learn more about those careers. On Tuesday, October 27th, interested 9th grade students had the opportunity to visit the BCTC – West Center in Leesport, PA. Again, students who have shown an interest in the programs offered at the West Center had the opportunity to shadow two career pathways.

BCTC Application Information

Applications for admission to BCTC in 10th grade will be available the 1st week in November in the main office. Completed applications will be due by November 20, 2009. Please contact Mrs. Donovan at 610-473-3791 or at ddonovan@boyertownasd.org with any questions or concerns you may have.

BCTC Open House (November 11 – West Campus; November 12 – East Campus)

Berks Career and Technology Center will be holding an open house session at each campus. It is a great opportunity to tour the facilities, meet teachers and staff, and learn more about the 36 different programs. The dates are as follows: November 11 – BCTC West Campus in Leesport; November 12 – BCTC East Campus in Oley. The open house will be from 6:00 to 9:00 PM on each evening. For more information, visit the BCTC website at <http://www.berkscareer.com>

Red Ribbon Week (October 23 to October 30)

Junior High West students participated in Red Ribbon Week activities this week. The week was designed to bring awareness to the perils of drug, alcohol and tobacco use. Each grade participated in homeroom activities designed to help students to take a stand against drug use. Grade 7 made bookmarkers which will be used in the English class and some of the book markers will be sent to Boyertown Elementary. 8th grade watched a video on the truth about drugs. Group discussions were conducted. The 9th grade constructed a paper brick wall with slogans which promote positive activities instead of drug use. Junior High West is taking a stand against drug alcohol and tobacco use.

Home Access Center – Tips for Use

Thanks everyone for your patience as we converted to a new student information system and parent access center. See the attachment for some useful tips on where to locate information in the home access center.

Can Tab Kick-Off

The Unity Walk was the official kick-off for the Can Tab collection. The district has set a goal of collecting 6 million can tabs which will eventually be donated to the Ronald McDonald House. Why six million? That is the number of Jewish people killed during the Holocaust. Eleven million people were killed in all. Can Tabs can be dropped off at any Boyertown school, McDonalds, the United Way office, and many other locations in the district.

Mass Health Screening

On Wednesday October 28, 2009; the school nurses conducted the annual health screening for all students at Junior High West. The screening included height, weight, and vision. In addition, all 7th grade students had their hearing tested.

Dance

We will have our second dance on November 6th, sponsored by student council. The dance runs from 7:00-9:30. The dress code for the dance is as follows: NO SNEAKERS, WORK BOOTS or DENIM. Student dress should be in good taste – neither too showy nor too provocative. **BOYS:** A shirt and tie OR a collared shirt (polo, dress; long or short-sleeved) must be worn, tucked in, with pants/slacks and shoes. **GIRLS:** Dress, nice dress pants or skirt and blouse, shoes. Strapless, single strap and open back dresses are not permitted. Shirt/blouse must have two straps with widths of at least two inches. Skirts and dresses must be at least fingertip length. Spaghetti straps are only permitted on dresses. Students must bring their West ID and a signed permission slip along with \$5 to gain entry to the dance.

Winter Sports Meetings (Wednesday, November 4)

On Wednesday, the winter sports coaches will be holding an informational meeting for all prospective team members. At the meeting, coaches will give out the letter for the parents/guardians about when winter sports start, where to download the physical forms and what forms need to be returned to school. The first possible day of practice for winter sports Friday, November 20th. However, due to PIAA regulations, wrestling must start on Monday, November 16th. The sports offered in the winter season are listed below:

Wrestling - 7th, 8th, 9th Grades	
Boys Basketball - 7th, 8th, 9th Grades	Girls Basketball - 7th, 8th, 9th Grades
HS Boys Winter Track - 9th Grade	HS Girls Winter Track - 9th Grade
HS Boys Swimming - 9th Grade	HS Girls Swimming - 9th Grade

Winter Sports Physicals/Information

If a student had a physical done at school during the summer or by his/her family doctor that is dated after June 1, 2009, he/she is cleared to participate in a winter sport. If he/she did not get a physical, it will be the parents/guardians responsibility to schedule a physical with their family doctor. Remember, if you got the comprehensive physical done at school or by your family doctor for a fall sport, you do not need to get another physical. You will only need a parent/guardian to fill out the Re-Certification form. All forms are the school district's website located under *Our Schools* and then *Athletics*. Athletes cannot participate until all forms are received.

Magazine Subscription Drive (October 21 to November 6)

The magazine sale has been extended until November 6th. The magazine sale is an annual fundraiser at West for students to sell new and renewal subscriptions to friends and family. Profits from the sale go to purchase technology for the school including cameras, flash drives, projectors, and more.

The sale began on Wednesday, October 21st where the students received a sale packet in homeroom. There are 3 ways they can sell magazines – no money is ever collected by the student:

1. Show the catalog to neighbors and friends and fill out the order forms.
2. Send post cards to distant relatives and friends.
3. Online orders (www.qsp.com) account number 425017595. Students receive double points for online orders and orders turned in by October 27th.

Simply follow these easy steps for online orders:

1. Go to www.qsp.com and click on **“Register Now”**.

2. Register using our group's account number – **425017595**. Enter the Student Name (Participant), Teacher, & Grade so student gets credit for your purchases.
3. Click on “Enter Emails” and enter email addresses of friends and relatives who live anywhere in the US and are over the age of 18. Emails are treated with strict confidentiality and are never shared with third parties. No foreign or Canadian addresses please.
4. Click on “Send regular Emails or create your personal *Meepul* mail” to start your email campaign and QSP will send personalized emails to your relatives, friends and neighbors on your behalf, inviting them to support your school.

Don't forget to purchase or renew your own subscriptions by clicking on “Shop Now”!

4Sight Testing (Monday, October 26)

We administered the 4Sight reading tests to all students this past Monday. The test mirrors the types of questions given to students in the PSSA exams. The tests are helpful because they give us an indicator of student performance before the state exams. We use the information to guide some of our instructional decisions and to identify individuals who may need some extra support. To administer the test, we placed 10th (flex) period in the first period time slot. We adjusted the bell schedule so that no class time is taken away as a result of the testing. If you have any questions, please give me a call.

End of First Quarter (Friday, November 6)

Hard to believe but the end of the first quarter is rapidly approaching. Friday, November 6th is the last day of the marking period. Thank you in advance for working with your child as he/she finishes out the marking period. Report cards will be distributed on Friday, November 13th.

Early Dismissal (Friday, November 13)

Students will be dismissed from school at 11:35 a.m. due to staff development activities on Friday afternoon.

Parent-Teacher Conferences (November 18 and November 24)

On Wednesday, November 18 and Tuesday, November 24, we will be holding our Parent-Teacher Conferences. Feel free to join us either night (or both if necessary) from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. I will be sending more information home in a few weeks.

Support Our Troops

The West Cheerleaders are working with *Socks for Soldiers* organization to collect Chap-stick. The Chap-stick will be put into care packages sent to our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. The goal is 500 Chap-sticks, we ask for no flavored Chap-stick. Collection boxes will be put in homerooms. The collection will begin October 12 through October 23. Please lend a hand in helping our real life heroes!

My Coke Rewards

Do you or your family members drink Coke products? If you do, you can help West earn points that can turn into school supplies for our students. Many Coke products have a code inside the bottle cap or inside the cardboard box carrier. By simply logging onto <http://www.mycokerewards.com/> and typing in the code, you can donate those points to West as a part of their My Coke Rewards program. (You'll see a place on the website that directs you to donating to a school.) If you start now, Coke will double the points through the month of October! We've saved hundreds of dollars by converting those points into materials such as construction paper and other classroom supplies. It's an easy way to help support our students and the work they do here at West.

660

That is the number of books that we have added to our classroom libraries which have been donated. 80 of them have been donated this year. Thank you to everyone who has sent books in.

School Pictures

Pictures retakes are Wednesday, November 4 from 1:00-3:00.

Homework Help

We are pleased to announce that we now have our after school homework help program back in place. Students who are struggling to finish their homework may be assigned to homework help. The program starts immediately after school and runs until 4:00. Homework help will be available Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays each week.

Math Hotline Open for Business

The math hotline opened on Monday, September 28th. Students can call one of the numbers below or stop in to Junior High West in Room 19 Monday-Thursday anytime between 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. The hotline has two high school students and a math teacher available to help. Visitors should enter Junior High West through the side door. This is a great opportunity for all the students to get help. (610) 473-3720, (610) 473-3721