



Boyertown Junior High West

Week in Review

January 27, 2012

Monday 1/30	Day 1
Tuesday 1/31	Day 2
Wednesday 2/1	Day 3
Thursday 2/2	Day 4
Friday 2/3	Day 5 Early Dismissal

End of the Second Quarter

The second marking period ended last Friday. Report cards have been posted to Home Access Center.

Early Dismissal (Friday, February 3)

We will have an early dismissal day this Friday for staff development purposes. We will be dismissing at 11:35.

Grade 8 Parent Scheduling Meeting (Monday, January 30)

On Monday evening January 30 beginning at 7:00 PM, we will have a special program for parents to go over the course registration process and answer any questions that you may have. 9th grade is considered the first year of high school so it is important that students make good selections for the school year. Students are welcome to join their parents at this meeting.

Talent Show

On Thursday we had our annual student talent show. Our students did a great job! We had twenty different acts which included singers, dancers and other more unique talents. It was great to see so many people out to support our students. Proceeds from the talent show benefit our dance marathon.

Dance Marathon

Students received information this week during the flex period concerning the dance marathon. This is great event which we are very proud of. Last year West raised over \$24,000 for the Boyertown Relay for Life. We have raised over \$70,000 over the past four years. We will have registration information in next week's *Week in Review*.

Dance Marathon II

We are pleased to announce that donations to our dance marathon can now be made online. All proceeds from the dance marathon goes to the Boyertown Relay For Life. There is now a dance marathon page on their website. This morning, students learned how to make donations towards the dance marathon on our website. Attached is the electronic version of those directions. It is extremely important that a donor follow these directions so that the donation can be linked to a particular student. Please email Mr. Rohn at brohn@boyertownasd.org if you have any questions.

East-West Spelling Bee

On Wednesday, Junior High West hosted the annual East-West Spelling Bee. All of the students did their best and were respectful of one another. The top two spellers this year were from East. Congratulations to them and all of the contestants! It takes a lot of nerve to get up in front of an audience of your peers and spell. The top two students now advance to the Berks County bee held at the Reading Area Community College's Miller Center for the Arts at 7:00 PM on Monday, March 12, 2012. The public is invited to attend.

Upcoming Events

TSA Dance (Friday, February 10)

The Technology Student Association will sponsor the next dance which will be held on Friday, February 10. The dance runs from 7:00-9:30.

4Sight Testing (Friday, February 17)

We will be administering 4Sight reading tests to all students again on Friday, February 17. 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 will be running our two-hour delay schedule to minimize the amount of class time missed. If you have any questions, please give me a call.

President's Day (Monday, February 20)

We will not have school on Monday, February 20 in recognition of President's Day.

Walnut Street Theater Assembly: *Martin and Malcolm: How Long Must We Wait?* (Thursday, February 23)

On Thursday, February 23 we will have a special "No Place for Hate" assembly from the Walnut Street Theater Ensemble. The group will be presenting, *Martin and Malcolm: How Long Must We Wait?* The show explores the explosive issues and ideas that ignited a nation in the 1960s. Through the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X, the actors show how their messages are as relevant today as they were in that turbulent era of race riots, bus boycotts, sit-ins and marches. This professional production will be thought-provoking and provide an excellent starting point for discussion on freedom and equality in our nation.

Adventures in Orion (February 27)

On February 27th at 7:00 PM, the Boyertown Planetarium will showcase the constellation Orion the Hunter in our new star program, "Adventures in Orion". This star patterns shows numerous examples of stellar evolution from the birth of stars to one that is so unstable it most likely is already dead! Explore Orion through mythology and science as we take an in- depth look at one of the most popular constellations of the night sky. After this program you'll never look at Orion in quite the same way again.

Admission to the planetarium is \$4 for adults and \$2.50 for students and children. The planetarium is located in the back of the building at the Junior High East Center on Route 73. For more information call director Peter Detterline at 610-473-3906.

Course Registration

Grade 9 to 10

By now you should have received recommendation forms for next year. Last week we had a student assembly with Mrs. Shive from the high school to present important information to our students. Her power point is attached. There was also a parent program Wednesday evening concerning the same information. Registration cards will be collected February 6 and February 7 in English class.

Grade 8 to 9

By now you should have received recommendation forms for next year. There will be a parent/guardian meeting on Monday, January 30 at 7:00 PM in the West cafeteria. The focus of the meeting will be the different options that the 9th grade students have. We will review the differences between academic and honors courses. We will also talk about different electives available to the students. This week students learned about the different electives in their special area classes, English class and science class. We also held an assembly on Tuesday for them to learn about world language and ROTC electives. Our guidance counselors handed out registration materials this Thursday and Friday and will be collecting them on Wednesday, February 1 and Thursday, February 2.

In the Classroom

Grade 7 English

7th grade students are beginning to compose an essay which focuses on individuals' sense of pride. Students will be selecting a time in their lives when they have done a good deed and felt proud, and will examine the effect that their good deed had on others and themselves. This sense of pride will also be connected to classroom discussions involving care for our environment and the civil rights activists of the 1960's.

Grade 7 Tech Ed

7th grade Tech Ed have just finished manufacturing their Keychains using Solidworks(a 3D modeling software), a CNC milling machine and several machine and hand tools. The students learned machine and hand tool skills as well creating the drawing. Others created a bridge truss drawing in Solidworks, created a balsa wood and toothpick model of it and tested their design in West Point Bridge Builder , a free engineering software created by the US Army Corps of Engineers. We wish our first semester students well as they switch to FCS for the 2nd semester.

Grade 8 Science

This past week in 8th grade science we learned about the three types of volcanoes. Students worked both independently and with their peers to gain a better understanding of how volcanoes are created and where they form. Next week, we are looking forward to starting a new topic in our Geology unit – Soil, Weathering and Erosion. Students will be learning about Glaciers, flooding, and types of soil to name a few topics. This unit includes a soil lab and creative activity to illustrate types of erosion.

Grade 8 Tech Ed

Our 8th grade Tech Ed students have just finished racing their Co2 cars in class. This was the way they tested their car designs that they drew in Solidworks, a 3D modeling program. After they printed their designs, the students manufactured their car using a variety of machine and hand tools. They learned varied paint techniques that they applied to their car. Cars were tested for durability, top speed and compared to their drawings for accuracy. Best of luck to our first semester students as they switch to FCS for the 2nd semester and welcome to our new 8th grade students

Grade 9 Social Studies

Ralph Wadlow Emerson predicted that the acquisition of the Mexican Cession would divide the country. He was so right. The nation continues to splinter because of the Dred Scott Decision, the antislavery novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, the Compromise of 1850, the Fugitive Slave Act, the Kansas-Nebraska Act, and the attack at Harpers Ferry. Just to name a few. Political parties shatter and new ones arise. Political careers are destroyed and new faces appear – Abraham Lincoln. The Civil War is on the horizon.

Parent Programs

Parent-Principal Coffee (Thursday, March 1)

Our next Parent-Principal Coffee will be held on Thursday, March 1 at 9:00. The purpose of the coffee is to share information about upcoming events and get feedback from the parents. It is also an opportunity for parents to share any concerns they have. I hope you are able to join us.

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District News

Next School Board Meeting

The next school board meeting will be held Tuesday, February 14. The meeting will be held at the Education Center.

School Board Meetings

Attached is the list of Board of School Directors Meetings for 2012-2013, approved at the January 10, 2012 meeting. These meetings are open to the public. Many important decisions are made at the meetings so it is a great place to have your voice heard.

BASH Schedule Proposal for 2012-2013

Hello Parents/guardians:

Here is a link to a presentation that was provided to the board on 1/10/12 by Mr. Cooper, Principal, Mr. Crouse, and Mrs. DeMartino, members of his core team.

<http://www.boyertownasd.org/UserFiles/BASH%20Schedule%20Board%20Presentation%201%2010%2012.pdf>

The proposed schedule has a 6-day cycle, with extended periods on two of those days. The reason for this change is to allow for additional instruction and intervention opportunities to further student achievement. There would be no reduction in electives, activities, etc. as a result of this schedule change. This proposal is for the high school schedule only. Junior high and elementary schedules are remaining the same.

If you have questions, comments, or feedback, you are welcome to attend the following forums:

· Community Forum – Wednesday 2/15/12 – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – BASH LGI

Regards,
Dion Betts, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Junior High East Musical

Bovertown Junior High East presents “Once Upon a Mattress” (March 1-3, 2012)

If you thought you knew the story of “The Princess and The Pea”, you may be in for a walloping surprise! Did you know, for instance, that Princess Winnifred actually swam the moat to reach Prince Dauntless the Drab? Or that, in fact, it wasn’t the pea at all that caused the princess a sleepless night? Carried on a wave of wonderful songs, by turns hilarious and raucous, romantic and melodic, this rollicking spin on the familiar classic provides for some side-splitting shenanigans. Chances are you’ll never look at fairy tales quite the same way again.

“Once Upon a Mattress” Show and Ticket Information

Thursday, March 1, 2012 7 PM

Friday, March 2, 2012 7 PM

Saturday, March 3, 2012 2 PM

All shows will be in the Junior High East Auditorium.

Advanced Ticket Sales – DUE BY FEBRUARY 17, 2012 – See the attached form.

Adults-\$7

Students-\$6

Cash or Checks Payable to Boyertown JHE Activities Account

For more information, contact Karen Monzo @ (610) 473-3925

Ticket prices for orders placed after 2/17 or at the door will be: Adults - \$8, Students - \$7

Morning Drop-off

When you drop your child off in the morning please use the entrance across from Boyertown Community Park and drive all the way to the back parking lot, turn around and then drop them off on the sidewalk. If your child is here for tutoring, he or she can enter the building early. We have a lot of traffic here in the morning during a small window of time. We appreciate everyone’s help in keeping our students safe.

Homework Help

Accessing Assignments on Home Access Center

To view your son’s/daughter’s classwork on home access center, please follow the directions below.

- Log in to home access center
- **Today’s Schedule** will be on the main page. Click the course name that you want to view.
- A pop-up window will appear. Under **Files**, click on the file you wish to view.

For all students

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 3:50. Homework help will be available Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays each week. The first date for homework help was Oct. 4th. If you are interested in your child attending homework help, please contact your child’s guidance counselor.

For Students In the Course: MICROSOFT WORD MOS

The Microsoft Office Specialist on Microsoft Office 2010 core certification exam is optional and will be offered at the end of the course. If students are serious about taking this certification exam at the end of the school year, they will benefit from quizzing themselves on the Microsoft Word terminology at home as well as in school. They can find flash cards, practice tests and games related to every chapter in the textbook at <http://scsite.com/wd2010/learn>

Sports Information

Sports Information

Attached are the locations and directions for the high school and junior high school winter sporting events. They will remain as attachments until all the winter sports are finished.

High School Cancellations

This is for individuals who have children who will be participating on athletic teams at the high school. Junior high cancellations will continue to be sent out through our e-mail system just as we have done in the past.

Please click on the link below to sign up for the "BASH Athletics Listserv" which will provide you with emails relative to BASH athletics updates including contest and practice postponements, cancellations, and updates.

<http://bovertownasd.org/pages/email-signup.aspx>

Sports Pick-up

I had a couple of parents contact me with concerns about sports pick-up. Most of our sports finish at 5:00 which means we have a large number of students being picked up in a small area at the same time. Please follow these rules as you pick-up your child after a sports practice. We don't want anyone to be hurt because of carelessness. Please remember that our students are tired when they come out of practice and don't always pay attention the way they should. We will be working with the Colebrookdale Police Department to make sure the parking lot is safe. Thanks in advance for your help in this matter.

- Follow the "One Way" signs so that all cars are entering and exiting the same direction.
- Maintain a safe speed. You should be traveling no faster than 10 mph.
- Park in the designated parking spots.
- Adhere to the driving lanes. Do not cross through the middle of the parking lot.
- Pay attention to parking restrictions (fire hydrants and handicapped spaces.)

Electronic Progress Reports and Report Cards

Electronic Progress Reports and Report Cards

In an effort to "go green" at the secondary level, we will be issuing electronic progress reports (mid-quarter reports) and report cards. In order to receive the electronic reports, you must be registered in the Home Access Center. You can sign up by clicking on the Home Access Center link on our webpage or typing in this address: <http://www.boyertownasd.org/our-schools/junior-high-east/Parent-Portal.aspx> All of the instructions necessary can be found on the site. If you experience difficulty with the sign-up procedure, please contact me or Mrs. Bobbie Eddinger at beddinger@boyertownasd.org. If you wish to receive a paper copy of either the quarterly progress report(s) and/or report card for your son/daughter, you will need to make a formal request. Please contact the junior high main office at (610) 369-7471 or srosen@boyertownasd.org to formally request the mailing of a paper copy.

Ways to Help

Giant A+ Rewards

If you do, please register your BONUSCARD and earn points from now through March 31 at any local Giant Store. This year the A+ SCHOOL REWARDS Program has expanded to our area, and we are inviting you to participate and help us at West. Through this simple program, you can help us earn cash for technology for our school. Thank you, as always, for supporting West!

Follow these easy steps to register at Giant:

1. Use the Website www.GiantFoodStores.com/aplus or you may register by phone from 9AM-5PM (EST) by calling 1-888-448-4642.
2. Enter the first three letters of your last name.
3. Enter your Giant Bonuscard number
4. Enter Boyertown's 5-digit ID code: 04183

You then are successfully entered! Feel free to call the "888" number, too, with any questions as to registration!

Redner's Save-a-tape

Please help support the art program and the efforts of the Select Crafts Club by saving your "save-a-tape" Redner's grocery receipts. Here is what you do to get involved: You go to the customer service desk at Redners and name Boyertown Junior High West's Select Crafts Club as your chosen beneficiary. They will give you a card which you present every time you check out at Redners. The register tapes can be dropped off at the Junior High West main office. The Select Crafts Club gathers and totals them and returns them to Redners for a 1% donation of the total to the Select Crafts fund. Last year we received a check from Redners for over \$400 thanks to supporters just like you. The proceeds go towards funding exciting works of art throughout the halls and court yards here at Junior High West. The Select Crafts Club hopes that it can count on you for your support.

Target – Take Charge of Education

When supporters use the Red Card, Target donates 1% to the school they designate. Please designate West by going to: Target.com/tcoe.

Coke Rewards

Another great way to help out our school is through Coke's reward program. Codes from these products can be found on bottle labels or inside the cardboard boxes. The rewards can be turned into great items for our school such as pencils, construction paper, educational DVDs or even calculators. They can be turned into the office. Thank you for your support!



Can Tabs

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.

Box Tops for Education/Labels for Education

We also collect Box Tops for Education and Labels for Education. Last year we collected over 1,000 Labels for Education, and 1,700 Box Tops for Education. These will be redeemed to purchase items for our school. Below are pictured the parts of packaging we need to receive credit for box tops and labels, as well as a website where you can find out about all the products that help support schools:

www.boxtops4education.org