



BES Week in Review – October 25, 2019



New Information:

ONE Boyertown Council Meeting-Please join us on Monday, October 28 at the Middle School West Auditorium at 6:00 PM for an in-depth look at our school district financials. This presentation is enlightening and has been shared with the Board, our extended leadership team, and our Parent Advisory Council. It provides an in-depth look at our financial status and sustainability. There will also be time for questions and answers.



You are cordially invited to attend a **ONE BOYERTOWN Council Meeting**

*Hosted by the Foundation for Boyertown Education and
the BASD Parent Advisory Committee*

**Monday, October 28, 2019 at 6:00 PM
Middle School West Auditorium**

In the interest of fostering open communication, active involvement, and purposeful collaboration among all members of the BASD learning community, our district has created or is in the process of creating Advisory Councils for four groups: Business Leaders, Parents, Teachers, and Students.

During our first Parent Advisory Council of 2019-2020, Mrs. Carol Pitts, BASD's new CFO, presented a report on the district's Fiscal Status and Sustainability.

Mrs. Pitts had previously shared this information with our Board and our extended Leadership Team. Thus far, the presentation has been well-received, eye-opening, and truly informative.

*Now, we would like to share this in-depth look at
our financials with the entire BASD learning community
via a ONE BOYERTOWN Council Meeting!*

Business owners, parents/guardians, faculty and staff, community members, property owners...come one...come all...and invite your friends!

The Evening's Agenda

Welcome	FBE and PAC
Setting the Stage for the Evening	Dr. Bedden
Vision/Mission/Goals Video	Mr. Wales
2018-2019 Budget vs. Revised Preliminary Results	Mrs. Pitts
Structural Deficit Factors and Future Needs	
6 Year Projections	
Questions and Answers	Dr. Bedden
Closing	

Safety & Well-Being ~ Acceptance & Respect ~ Communication & Collaboration ~ Learning & Growth

BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Fiscal Status and Sustainability



Early Dismissal Tuesday, November 5th



Early Dismissal Day Added to Calendar (Tuesday, November 5)

At the October 22nd Board meeting, the Board approved a change in the BASD 2019-2020 calendar. Tuesday, November 5, 2019, will be an early dismissal day for all BASD students. This early dismissal has been added to allow for critical, time-sensitive Professional Learning for the ENTIRE BASD team regarding SEL/Trauma-Informed Classroom/Cultural Sensitivity.

AM Kindergarten – 8:45 to 10:25 am

(AM K will be dismissed 1 hour earlier and arrive home 1 to 1 ¼ hours earlier than normal)

PM Kindergarten – 10:25 to 12:25 pm

(PM K will be picked up approximately 2 ¼ to 2 ½ hours earlier and arrive home 3 hours earlier than on a normal day)

Important Reminder:

If your child will be absent or late, please email the attendance secretary (attendanceBES@boyertownasd.org) or visit the BES website to electronically report the absence. If you call the attendance line, you will need to follow up with a written note. You must report the absence every day your child is out.



Upcoming Events:

October

28 Picture Retakes

November

5 Early Dismissal
8 4th Grade trip to Harrisburg
PTO – Fall Fest
14 PTO Meeting @ 4 PM
21 Parent Conferences (4:30 – 7:30)
22 5th Grade over to WEST for Philharmonic
25 Parent Conferences (4:30 – 7:30)
Early Dismissal 12:25 pm
26 Early Dismissal 12:25 pm
Parent Conferences (1 – 4)
27 Early Dismissal 12:25 pm
28 No School
29 No School

December

2 No School
4 Elementary band/orchestra dress rehearsal
5 Elementary band/orchestra concert @ BASH
9 4th and 5th grade Winter Concert – 7 PM
12 PTO Meeting @ 6:30 PM

Helpful links:

[BES Webpage](#)

[Educational Trip forms](#)

[Attendance – Absence Excuses](#)

[Boyertown Area School District Website](#)





From the Nurse

Physical & Dental Exams: All State-mandated Kindergarten and 3rd Grade private dental exam forms and all Kindergarten private physical exam forms are due now. If you have an upcoming appointment, please notify the health room of the appointment and we will make note of the date in your child's record.

Cold weather: Please remind your children to dress appropriately for outdoor recess. Also, October is the official start of the cold and flu season. Please remind your children to wash their hands often to prevent the spread of colds/flu at home and in our classrooms.

Medication at school: Please see the BASD medication policy in the BASD handbook or on the BASD website to review the policy if your child needs to take any medications during school hours.

Your child may receive medications in school daily or as needed during school if the medication policy is followed:

- Complete a Medication Authorization form to be signed by the parent/guardian and the prescribing physician;
- the medication is to be hand delivered by a parent/guardian or designated adult
- the medication, whether over the counter or prescription, must be in its original container and labeled with the child's name, drug name, dosage, and time to be given in school.
- Medication forms are available on the BASD Web site (Boyertownasd.org – Departments – Student Services – Health) [Student Services](#). Please contact the health room if you have any questions.

Mandated health screenings: Students in grades K-5 have their annual state mandated health screenings from now through December. If your child has failed a screening, a referral letter will be sent home for you to follow up with a private physician.

Head Lice: During each school year, almost without fail, we can expect to find some cases of head lice among our students. To control outbreaks in our schools, the Boyertown Area School District follows the PA Guidelines for School Based Program for Control for Lice Infestation (2011). When an active head lice infestation is detected by the school nurse (findings of crawling insects or nits within one half inch of the scalp), the student's parent or guardian will be asked to come to school and take the student home for treatment.

The parent or guardian will have two options for treatment:

- (1) Contact their family physician for diagnosis and treatment or
- (2) use a checklist provided by the school nurse for at home treatment using an over-the-counter pediculicide (chemical shampoo that kills lice).

The school nurse will also check any siblings in grades K through 12 that may have been exposed or possibly be infested with head lice. Students with head lice will be excluded from school and from riding the school bus until the school nurse or child's physician determines the student has received proper treatment and is non-infectious. Students may return to school once they have been treated with an approved pediculicide. Parents or guardians must present proof of the pediculicide used for treatment (empty bottle or dated receipt) to the school nurse. Students should receive a second treatment in 7-10 days. Retreatment is recommended because no approved pediculicide completely kills all eggs. The school nurse will do a follow up check in 7 – 10 days to ensure the at home treatments have been effective.

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. Individuals become infested with lice by coming into close contact (usually head-to-head contact) with an lice-infested person, by wearing infested garments, by using infected combs and brushes, or by lying on infested carpets, beds, or upholstered furniture that have recently been used by an infested person. We strongly urge all parents to read about head lice and inspect the hair and scalp of their children regularly.

Please contact the school if you discover that your child has lice. The Boyertown Area School District trust that with the school and home working cooperatively, head lice can be kept under control with minimal inconvenience to our students and their families. 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.

Reminder: Anytime you have phone number changes, either at home, work, or for an alternate, please update it in infinite campus so your child's emergency contact information is current.



Previous news:



Score a TD for Health in the Fall Football Challenge! (Registration Deadline – October 20)

The BASD Wellness Committee would like to invite all BASD students and their families to participate in a FREE challenge. The Fall Fitness Football Challenge is designed to enhance your health and fitness. The goal is to complete cardiovascular, resistance, and flexibility exercises as well as eat healthy to gain yardage and score touchdowns! Winners will receive prizes! Directions on how to register and play are posted on our website at <https://www.boyertownasd.org/Page/5628>



Red Ribbon Week – October 28th – November 1st

❖ [Spirit Week Flyer](#)

4th and 5th Graders Ski Free!

Did you know that your 4th or 5th grader can ski free at many mountain slopes in Pennsylvania? By going online and registering for the Snowpass, your child will be able to ski free at 21 participating mountains with the purchase of an adult lift ticket. Visit www.skippa.com for more information.

[Snow Pass Program](#)

Calling all Poets!

Below is an entry form for a poetry contest. Any student who wants to enter is welcome to follow the directions with their family to submit their poem!

Keep your creative writing flowing and write a poem!

Any poems that are sent to the school have the chance to be displayed on a bulletin board, but they will not be sent to the publishing company. Thank you!

Mrs. Graff

[Entry Form](#)



Music News

4th and 5th Grade Winter Concert: Monday, December 9, 2019 at 7:00pm at BES

4th and 5th Grade Spring Concert: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 7:00 pm at BES

3rd Grade Music Program: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 7:00 pm at BES

Community Bulletin Board:

The district web page is now displaying community events. Check out the [Community Bulletin Board](#) on the district's website for flyers highlighting sports and club registrations within the Boyertown community. This can also be found by going to the district website, clicking on "Parents/Community" and then selecting "Community Bulletin Board".

For continued reminders:

Student Car Rider Line

If you drive your child to or from school, you will have noticed many more cars this year. Due to the increase in cars, I wanted to take a moment to review our procedures.

- During morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up, please be sure to pull all the way forward before loading or unloading.
- Our morning drop-off area is from the light post to the crosswalk. Please be sure to pull forward and unload once you are in that area.
- If your child needs help loading or unloading, please park and help them across the crosswalk.
- Please teach your child to load and unload on the sidewalk side to help ensure safety.
- When pulling away, be sure to use caution because of pedestrians.
- The Car Rider Line is intended for cars to pick-up. Not for walk up service. Please **DO NOT** park and walk the car line.

All these helpful points are to keep our students safe.



Arrival and Dismissal

Students should not arrive 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.

PSSA Test Dates

PLEASE DO NOT PLAN TRIPS DURING THE STATE TESTING DAYS!

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) tests will be administered to all 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade students from **April 20th – May 8th, 2020.**

NO TRIPS WILL BE APPROVED FOR 3rd, 4th or 5th GRADE STUDENTS BETWEEN THESE DATES.

Attendance Policy

Please read carefully, as a phone call alone will not suffice as an excused absence.

The Boyertown Area School District recognizes that attendance is an important factor in educational success. Our district attendance policy has recently been updated in compliance with state and federal mandates. Details regarding attendance policies and procedures can be found on the BASD website under school policies and the elementary handbook.

Procedures for reporting and documenting absences have become more stringent as a result of the federal government's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Parents are now required to do one of the three procedures written below. Please read them carefully:

1. Parents/guardians may send an email to attendanceBES@boyertownasd.org from the email address of the parent/guardian on file with the district by 9:00am on any day that their child will be absent or tardy. This form of communication will not need a phone call or follow-up hand written note.
2. Parents/guardians may use the district website/app and fill out the absence note by 9:00am on any day that their child will be absent or tardy. This form of communication will not need a phone call or follow-up hand written note.
3. Parents/guardians may call the attendance line 610-369-7462, option 2, by 9:00am on any day that their child will be absent or tardy. However, **absences must now also be followed up with a handwritten parent note or doctor's note within three days of the student's return to school.** Failure to submit the appropriate note within three days will result in the absence being coded as unlawful, and this coding cannot be reversed even if a note is handed in after the three-day window. Once a student has received three unlawful absences, a truancy elimination plan may be enacted. This plan could lead to a citation from the District Magistrate.

A handwritten parent note or email communication for verification of absence is acceptable for the first 10 days of absence per school year. Any further absences require a doctor's note. Handwritten notes may be sent in to school with your child. However, it is your child's responsibility to present the note to their teacher or school secretary to be handed in to the office. Other acceptable ways to turn in a note are for a parent to drop it off personally to the school office

between the hours of 7:45am-4:30pm or to scan the handwritten note and email it as an attachment to the school attendance secretary attendanceBES@boyertownasd.org.

In the past, there have been occasional situations in which families have forgotten to submit an educational trip form for approval prior to their trip. Failure to submit a trip form prior to departure will result in trip days being counted as an unlawful absence. Trip forms continue to be available in the school office as well as on the BASD website.

We recognize that this represents a change from prior procedures. Therefore, reminders of these new procedures are also available via individual buildings' monthly e-newsletters, list serv messages, and school Twitter and Facebook accounts. Thank you for your cooperation as we enact these new requirements. We look forward to working with you to help our students succeed in a changing world.

Educational Trips during the school year

If you are planning a family trip that will infringe on school attendance, (even for 1 school day) please request an **Application to be Absent from School for an Educational Trip or Tour Form** in **advance**. Forms can be found on the **district website under Parents/Community – Forms** or you can use this link: [Elementary Trip Form](#)

Complete the form and return to the office for approval from the principal. Permission for non-school trip requests must be **submitted at least 2 days prior** to any trip taken for it to be counted as an excused absence. Parents are strongly encouraged to defer trips with their child/children to non-school days. **Please the District Elementary Handbook for Absence for Education Trips.**