



BES Week in Review – November 15, 2019



New Information:



Cold Weather Guidelines

The cold weather is here! Please be aware that when the wind chill factor is 18 degrees or below, we keep the children inside and they have “indoor recess”. **Above 18 degrees, children will have outdoor recess.** Please be sure to dress your child accordingly and to put their names in their hats, scarves, gloves, mittens and coats. Shorts are no longer considered appropriate attire during the winter months. Thank you for your cooperation



Annual Can Drive: November 4 – November 20

We will be starting our annual can drive for the Salvation Army Monday, November 4, 2019! The last day for can collection will be November 20, 2019. Please consider sending in canned food with your child to help feed our local community during the holiday season. The classroom that collects the most cans will have a Philadelphia Pretzel Factory Party! Thank you in advance for your contribution to our local community and supporting this cause. Below you will find a list of some examples and ideas for donation.

Some examples of Items:

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| All canned goods | Mac n Cheese | Stuffing mixes |
| Gravy mix | Oatmeal | Cereal |
| Boxes of dried cake and/or muffin mixes | Pudding/Jell-O mix | Instant potato mix |

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:

November

- 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 Holiday Shoppe (PTO)
PTO Meeting @ 6:30 PM
- 13 Holiday Shoppe and Family Fun Night (PTO)
- 20 Early Dismissal 12:25 pm
- 23 No School – Winter Break
- 24 No School – Winter Break
- 25 No School – Winter Break
- 26 No School – Winter Break
- 27 No School – Winter Break
- 30 No School – Winter Break
- 31 No School – Winter Break

January

- 1 – No School – Winter Break
 - 2 – Schools Open
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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-3 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.

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:

Breakfast Available!

Did you know that students can buy breakfast daily? Check out the attachment from the Food Service Department for more information.

[Breakfast Announcement](#)

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.skipa.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.**