



BES Week in Review – December 13, 2019

NEW

New Information:



2019-2020 Early Dismissal Days

- December 20
- January 29
- February 12
- March 18
- April 6
- May 1
- June 2, 3, 4 & 5

Parents of Second Grade Students are invited and encouraged to attend a parent preview of “*Keeping Touches Safe & Healthy*” which will be presented:

At: Washington Elementary School
On: Tuesday, January 7, 2020
(Snow Date: Wednesday, January 15, 2020)
Starting: 6:00 PM
Presenters: Victims Services Center of Montgomery County



Our annual “Giving Tree” is now on display in the lobby. Students may bring in hats, scarves, gloves, or mittens for the tree. These items will be donated to the Salvation Army and given to families in need. Students may begin to bring items to school now thru December 20th.

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:

December

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 – School Open
- 20 – No School

Helpful links:

[BES Webpage](#)

[Educational Trip forms](#)

[Attendance – Absence Excuses](#)

[Boyertown Area School District Website](#)



Reminders for Cold and Flu Season

- Please remind your children to dress appropriately for outdoor recess. All students are required to go outdoors for recess when the weather is suitable. Please note when the wind chill is 18° Fahrenheit or below, students will remain inside. The building principal will determine the location of recess based on all weather conditions.
- Influenza is a contagious disease of the respiratory tract (nose, throat, and lungs) that can lead to serious complications, including pneumonia and the worsening of other chronic health conditions. Flu symptoms may include fever, headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, and muscle aches. The best way to protect your family from new influenza strains is to get vaccinated each year. Please remind your children to wash their hands often to prevent the spread of colds/flu at home and in their classrooms.
- Follow good health guidelines: eat right, exercise, and get plenty of rest to help boost your immunity to fight the effects of colds and flu.
- The BASD medication policy does not allow elementary students to use cough drops at school because they present a choking hazard. Students may gargle with salt water or drink fluids during school hours to treat mild sore throats symptoms. Please consult your health care provider if your child has a severe sore throat or symptoms lasting more than 3 days.
- The upcoming cold weather will bring about new allergens and other aggravators of asthma. If your child has asthma please bring their medication, asthma action plan and orders from their physician so that we have them readily available in the health room. Asthma flare ups are preventable and can be the cause of missed days at school.
- 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 school, resources, nurse, BASD health services. **Students may not bring any medications to school; all medications must be brought by an adult via the office and given to the Nurse in the Health Room anytime between 825 am - 345 pm.**

When your child should stay at home from school for illness

Occasionally, it may be necessary for a student to remain home from school due to illness. The following guidelines should be followed when determining if he/she should stay at home. Please consider the rest of the school population when making these decisions. Health service is an important part of our school system. How well your child learns may depend on his/her physical well-being. Parents have the first responsibility for their children's health.

- If your child experiences a bout of nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or fever or rash 24 hours prior to school, the student should stay at home and be watched for further symptoms. Fever is defined as a temperature 100° or above without the use of fever-reducing medication. The student's temperature should remain normal without the use of fever-reducing medication for 24 hours prior to returning to school.
- It is advisable for the student to stay home from school if any of the following symptoms are exhibited: unusual skin eruptions, chills, discharge or redness of eye(s), or persistent cough.
- **Students should not be sent to school to be evaluated by the school nurse with an illness or injury that occurred at home. Any serious illness or injury occurring at home must be evaluated by the student's healthcare provider.**
- If your child was sent home from school the previous day for a fever or illness, they should remain home the following day.



Previous news:

BASH proudly presents *MAMMA MIA!* (April 2-5) – Tickets Available Online Now!

Come to see the rollicking smash musical, *MAMMA MIA!*, at BASH on April 2, 3, 4 at 7:00 PM or on April 5 at 2:00 PM. All tickets are being sold online at www.boyertownmusic.com. You will be able to choose your own seats and see what seats are available. Conveniently pay with your credit card safely through PayPal. Purchase your tickets today before they sell out! Please do not send order forms, cash, or checks to Jeff Brunner. Any questions about the website can be directed to Chris Cinquini at ccinquini@boyertownasd.org. The ticket lobby will be open every Wednesday night beginning December 18 from 6 – 8 PM. Cash and checks will be accepted when purchasing in the lobby.



Music News

5th and 4th Grade Chorus Dates:

Spring Choral Concert – Tuesday, May 12th at 7:00 pm at BES

Vocal Ensemble Dates:

Chicken Dinner – Saturday, March 7th in the afternoon

Reading Royals game – Friday, February 21st - Ticket sales will be a fundraiser!

Spring Choral Concert - Tuesday, May 12th at 7:00 pm at BES

Attention Parents and Guardians of All 4rd Grade Students:

Recorder Karate is a program in which students can work at an individual pace to become recorder masters. Your child may bring their free recorder home to practice but must remember to bring it back to music class each week. Thank you!

Attention Parents and Guardians of All 3rd Grade Students:

The Third Grade Music Program has a soccer theme this year! **"GOAL"** will be **Tuesday, February 25th at 7:00 pm** at BES. Please reserve this date, as we are looking forward to having all students participate in this event! Thanks!

Does your family love music?

To support our ANNUAL BASD MUSIC DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISER:

The Annual Chicken Dinner will take place at Middle School West on **Saturday, March 7th**. Come see **music groups of all ages** perform and eat **delicious Kaufmann's Chicken!**

The Boyertown Area Schools Music League meets at 7:30 pm on the first Monday of each month in the BASH Choir Room! The Music League is made up of parents and community members. The Music League supports ALL students K-12 in the district. There is no membership fee. Please consider attending a meeting!

For more information, click here: <https://goo.gl/forms/Q2DB0HuQWciYwZY33>



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

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](#)

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.

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.**

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.