

Gilbertsville Elementary

36 Congo Road, Gilbertsville, PA 19525

610-369-7485 (Main)

AttendanceGES@bovertownasd.org (Attendance Email)

www.bovertownasd.org

REMINDER: UPDATED ATTENDANCE POLICY

(as per the federal government's Every Student Succeeds Act)

1. Parents/guardians may send an email to attendanceGES@bovertownasd.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.

Parents/guardians may call the attendance line at 610-369-7518 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.



March Happenings

- Mar. 1 - Community Reader Day
Yearbook Sales Start
- Mar. 4 - **Cat in the Hat Day!**
End of the 2nd Trimester
HSA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 5 - **What Pet Will You Get Day!**
- Mar. 6 - **Un-Wacky Wednesday!**
Spring Pictures/5th
Grade Group Photo
Sr. Band Rehearsal
- Mar. 7 - **My Many Colored Days!**
Preschool Story Hour
11:00 a.m.
- Mar. 8 - **Green Eggs & Ham Day!**
Jr. Band/Orchestra
Rehearsal
Gr 1 Read Across America
Party
- Mar. 12 - School Board Meeting -
Ed Center - 6:30 p.m.
- Mar. 14 - Sr Orchestra Rehearsal
- Mar. 15 - Yearbook Sale Ends -
FINAL ORDERS
Spring Basket Party
- Mar. 19 - Gr 3 Spring Concert
- Mar. 20 - 12:30 Early Dismissal
- Mar. 21 - Sr. Band Rehearsal
Preschool Story Hour
11:00 a.m.
- Mar. 26 - Jr. Band/Orchestra
Rehearsal
School Board Meeting -
NHUF - 6:30 p.m.
- Mar. 28 - Grandparent's Day
Sr Orchestra Rehearsal
- Mar 30 - Community Walk &
Wellness Fair (BASH)

EARLY DISMISSAL – On March 20th, we have a 12:30 p.m. early dismissal.

The Kindergarten schedule is as follows on early dismissal days:

AM Kindergarten—8:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

PM Kindergarten—10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

3RD GRADE MUSIC PROGRAM - Hello from Mr. Horner, vocal music teacher at G.E.S. The 3rd Grade music program is coming up on Tuesday, March 19th from 7:00-7:35 p.m. in the gym! The purpose of this program is to demonstrate the musical skills and songs that we have learned throughout the year in music class, including “Do Re Mi” from the hit musical, “The Sound of Music”! Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. We will include the use of the rear playground for parking. Students should arrive at school between 6:30-6:50 p.m. and walk to my music room and then follow the signs to where your class will be waiting until the show starts. For our performances, all students should wear black or blue pants or jeans and your new black “GES” t-shirt which was purchased by our Gilbertsville HSA this year. We will also be performing during the school day on Tuesday, March 19th from 2:30-3:05 p.m. Please plan on attending the evening performance due to a limited amount of parking during the school day. Your child should be sure to wear their performance outfit to school on March 19th. I look forward to seeing you all!

EAST PARENT/GUARDIAN WELCOME TO GRADE 6 NIGHT – Grade 5 parents and guardians are invited to an evening program to hear about the transition from elementary to middle school. Although the presentation is geared toward adults, fifth graders are welcome to attend. See you in the MS East Auditorium at 7:00 PM on April 11!

IMPORTANT TO BE ON TIME -- School begins promptly at 8:45 a.m. Students arriving after 8:45 are considered tardy and need to be signed in to school by an adult in the office. Students are expected to be in their classrooms at the starting time. Getting to school on time is the responsibility of parents and students. Likewise, unless students have an appointment, they should remain at school through our scheduled dismissal time of 3:25pm. Thank you for your cooperation.

SNOW DAYS – On snow days, information about delays or cancellations will be provided through Blackboard Connect. You may also listen to one of the stations listed in the District Elementary School Handbook or call the district information line for specific information relating to weather. That phone number is 610-369-SNOW (-7669). Special announcements are also posted on the district website at <http://www.boyertownasd.org/>.

DELAYED OPENINGS – In the event of a 2-hr. delayed school opening, the following “Modified Schedule” is in effect for Kindergarten:

AM Session 10:45 to 12:40 Bus pick-up is two hours later than normal.

Students depart from school at approximately 12:40.

PM Session 12:50 to 3:30 Regular Schedule

This information is found in the District Elementary School Handbook.

STUDENT CLASS ASSIGNMENT 2018-2019 -- Each year we work diligently to determine student placements for the following school year. Since we consider the placement process to be one of our most important tasks, we would like to share the process with you. Student placement is determined and reviewed by a team of professionals consisting of your child’s present teacher, reading specialist, school counselor, and the principal. Additional personnel, such as the remediation teacher and special education teachers, are consulted when appropriate. Each child’s academic, social and emotional growth and needs are discussed as well as peer relations. We strive to create classes that are heterogeneous, function as cohesive groups, and provide each child with an educational environment that will meet his or her needs. We feel our time is well spent because we also have a personal investment in each child.

In view of the time and consideration taken in the placement of your child, we request that you do not ask for a specific teacher placement. Should your child need special consideration, such as a specific type of learning environment or you wish to share information about your child’s specific needs, please write the principal a letter stating those areas that should be taken into consideration when making next year’s placement. **Any written request of this nature must be submitted by April 12th. Letters that include specific teacher names and/or are received after April 12th will be returned. No requests will be considered after this date.** We ask that you respect our professional judgment and be assured that we strive to make the best possible match for your child.

TESTING INFORMATION –

Please mark your calendars with the following:

- PSSA (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) ELA will be given to students in grades 3, 4, and 5 from **April 24-26, 2019.**
- PSSA Math will be given to students in grades 3, 4 and 5 from **April 29-30, 2019.**
- PSSA Science will be given to students in grade 4 from **May 1-2, 2019.**

Parents should make sure appointments are NOT scheduled during these time periods.

Students will NOT be excused for educational trips during these testing periods.

EDUCATIONAL TRIP FORMS - When filling out a request for an Educational Trip Form, please complete all information on the form including date, nature and **location/destination** of trip, and the educational benefits to be derived from the absence. Trip forms not fully completed will be returned for further information, which delays the approval process. Without an approved Educational Trip Form on file for your child's absence, your child will be marked Unlawful for any absence that was not a medical reason.

More Important News from the Nurse...

School Health Services Report

- The health room's annual School Health Services report is due to the PA Department of Health on June 1 therefore **all mandated physical and dental forms for the 2018-19 school year must be submitted to the health room no later than May 31, 2019.**

PA Mandated Dental and Physical Exams for 2019 - 2020 School Year, NEXT YEAR

- The PA School Health Act #535 requires dental exams for all students entering Kindergarten, 3rd and 7th grades, and physical exams for students entering kindergarten and 6th grade. For students entering these grades in September 2019, physical or dental exams that are completed *on or after September 1, 2018* are acceptable. Physical and dental forms for the 2019-20 school year were mailed to our current 2nd, 5th grade parents with their child's screening notification letters. Please contact the health room if you need a form for an upcoming appointment or download a form from the BASD website @ <http://www.boyertownasd.org> under Departments - Student Services – Health link. Completed physical and dental forms can be submitted to the health room.

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 louse 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 Departments, Student Services, Health or from the school nurse. Please help us prevent head lice by following the policy and checking your children often.

Kindergarten registration: will be open enrollment, see BASD website for further information. The State requires proof of immunization for entry into school. If you will be registering your child for Kindergarten, please remember to bring a copy of their immunizations with you. **We still will need a copy if you complete your registration on line.**

The Pennsylvania Department of Health has issued new immunization requirements effective August 1, 2017. **Therefore, on the first day of school, your child must have all completed immunizations or a medical plan indicating the completion of the immunization series within the first five days of school or risk exclusion. Please note those immunizations that need only one dose must be completed by the first day of school.** Your Certified School Nurse will contact you if your child requires further immunizations to meet the new state requirements. Please also consult your child's Pediatrician.

- 4 doses of tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis*

(1 dose on or after the 4th birthday)

- 4 doses of polio (4th dose on or after 4th birthday and at least 6 months after previous dose given)**

- 2 doses of measles, mumps, rubella***
- 3 doses of hepatitis B
- 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or evidence of immunity

**Usually given as DT P or DTaP or if medically advisable, OT or Td*

*** A fourth dose is not necessary if the third dose was administered at age 4 years or older and at least **6** months after the previous dose*

****Usually given as MMR*

7TH Grade Entry:

- 1 dose of tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap) **by the first day.**
- 1 dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV) **by the first day.**

Please contact your health care provider or the Pennsylvania Department of Health at 1-877-PA-HEALTH (1-877-724-3258). Vaccine information can be found at: www.dontwaitvaccinate.pa.gov

Pennsylvania's school immunization requirements can be found in 28 Pa. CODE CH.23 (School Immunization).



Upcoming Special Events

April 3	Sr Band Rehearsal Grade 5 to Grade 6 Assembly for Middle School Transition	
April 4	Preschool Story Hour	11:00 a.m.
April 5	Jr. Band Rehearsal	
April 9	Sr. Band Rehearsal School Board Meeting – Ed Center	6:30 p.m.
April 10	5 th Grade Assembly (Transition to Middle School) – During school hours	
April 11	Sr Band Rehearsal	
April 15	Jr. Band/Orchestra Rehearsal	
April 16	Early Dismissal – 12:30 p.m.	
April 17-22	Spring Break	
April 19	Spring Family Fun Night	
April 23	School Board Meeting – Gilbertsville Elementary	6:30 p.m.
April 24-26	PSSA ELA Testing Grades 3-5	
April 26	Sr Band Rehearsal	
April 29-30	PSSA Math Testing Grades 3-5	