



December 2015

Mrs. Laura Heineck

EVENTS

- 12/1 2nd grade planetarium visit
1:00 PM JHE
School Board Meeting
(Reorganization meeting)
7:00 PM Ed. Center
- 12/8 School Board Meeting
7:00 PM JHW
- 12/9 Chorus Concert
7:00 PM JHW
- 12/11 PTA Movie Night
- 12/16 4th grade field trip
Harrisburg
- 12/22 Grades 1 – 6 Sing Along
JHW
- 12/23 Grades K – 6 Sing Along
PFES
- 12/23 EARLY DISMISSAL
12:30 PM**
- 12/24 – 1/1/16 NO SCHOOL**



**JUNIOR HIGH WEST
HOLIDAY CONCERT**

On December 22, 2015, grades 1 – 6th will be attending the Junior High West Holiday Sing Along.



PTA NEWS

PTA will hold a Holiday Shoppe on December 7th and December 8th. Students will have a scheduled time during the day to purchase gifts for their family.



**5th & 6th GRADE
CHORUS CONCERT**

The concert will be held at Junior High West on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at 7PM. Students in Chorus are to report to the Junior High at 6:40 PM.



SCHOOL CLOSED

School will be closed Thursday, December 24, 2015 – Friday, January 1, 2016. School will reopen on Monday, January 4, 2016.

EARLY DISMISSALS

School will be **dismissed at 12:30 PM** on Wednesday, December 23, 2015.

KINDERGARTEN SCHEDULE

EARLY DISMISSALS

AM Kindergarten – 8:45 – 10:25 AM
PM Kindergarten – 10:25 – 12:30 PM



FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH

Any parent or guardian who has undergone a recent financial change which may qualify them for the free or reduced lunch program should call the office for an application. Information is confidential.

HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF

The No Child Left Behind requirements require all teachers and Title I instructional aides to be "highly qualified" according to guidelines established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. We are proud to say that all of the teachers and Title I aides in the Boyertown Area School District meet these criteria. If you have any questions regarding the educational background and certifications of your child's teacher, please contact the teacher or principal and we will gladly share this information with you.

HUMAN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION

PARENT NIGHT

Parents of children in grades 4, 5 and 6 are invited to preview the presentations for human growth & development and HIV/AIDS program. Parent Preview Night will be held on

January 6, 2016 at Junior High West, 380 South Madison Street, Boyertown.

You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions of the school nurse after the video presentations. Times to be determined at a later date. **Snow date: January 13, 2016.**

Presentations are as follows:

4th Grade Videos: Growth & development "*Just Around the Corner for Boys and Just Around the Corner for Girl*"; AIDS "*The Immune System: Doing Its Part*"

5th Grade Programs: Growth & development "*Always Changing for Boy** and *Always Changing for Girls**"; AIDS "*HIV and AIDS: Staying Safe*"

(*May be previewed online @ <http://www.pgschoolprograms.com/puberty/>, scroll to the bottom of the page under "Educator Materials." Select the video you would like to preview. During the lesson at school, students will only view the program for their gender.)

6th Grade Programs: Growth & development presented by the Weller Health Education Center - please feel free to contact the Weller Center at 610-258-8500, ext. 22 with any questions regarding their program; Videos "AIDS: Facts for Kids" along with "The Immune System: Our Internal Defender"

It is the school district's belief that this important activity should be a shared responsibility between home and school. You may wish to expand upon the knowledge you have given your son or daughter or possibly use the school's presentation as a basis for follow-up discussion. We encourage your presence to view the components of our program. You may have your child excused from the program by submitting a written request.

KEEPING TOUCHES SAFE & HEALTHY

Parents of **second grade students** are invited and encouraged to attend a parent preview of "Keeping Touches Safe & Healthy", which will be presented at the Junior High West Cafeteria on Tuesday, January 5, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. More information will follow.

BLACKBOARD CONNECT

Our **Blackboard Connect** telephone messaging service enables us to deliver important school information in the event of any emergency, including weather delays or closings. With the **Blackboard Connect** service, we are able to send a personalized voice message to parent/guardians and families with one recorded phone message. It is important that the school office is updated with any change in contact telephone numbers so that you will not miss any important communications. We are utilizing your phone numbers from our student information.



**HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS
DEVELOPING DURING THE NIGHT**

Heavy snowfall or other serious weather conditions may make it necessary to close schools, delay openings or dismiss early. In such cases, the following media locations will broadcast the information.

Radio

- 93.5 WSBG-FM Stroudsburg
- 96 WCTO-FM Allentown
- 99.9 WODE-FM Allentown
- 100.7 WLEV-FM Allentown
- 102.5 WRFY-FM Reading
- 104 WAEB-FM Allentown
- 105.1 WIOV-FM Reading
- 105.5 WMGH-FM Tamaqua
- 107.1 WWYY-FM Allentown
- 107.5 WFKB-FM Reading
- 790 WAEB-AM Allentown
- 830 WEEU-AM Reading
- 1060 KYW-AM (District #893)

Philadelphia

- 1160 WBYN-AM Boyertown
- 1240 WIOV-AM Reading
- 1340 WRAW-AM Reading
- 1370 WPAZ-AM Pottstown

Television

- CBS3 – TV Philadelphia
- WCAU-TV – NBC 10 Philadelphia
- WFMZ-TV–Channel 69 Allentown
- WPVI-TV6 Philadelphia

Websites

- www.wfmz.com www.b104.com
- www.wzzo.com www.waeb.com
- www.fox1470.com www.NBC10.com



DURING THE DAY

When weather conditions warrant doing so, a decision to close schools will be made as soon as possible. Junior high school students will be dismissed, followed by the senior high school students. Elementary school students will be dismissed as soon as the buses arrive. In some instances, the

school district may reverse this procedure by allowing the elementary students to be dismissed first. In either case, announcements will be made that will detail the plan. Afternoon kindergarten classes will not meet on days when schools are dismissed on the above schedule. When school is closed, all school and community activities in district buildings are canceled.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Parents are expected to anticipate early dismissal due to inclement weather and to make appropriate provisions for their children.

BASD INFORMATION LINE

By dialing 610-369-7669 or logging onto the district website (www.boyertownasd.org), parents/guardians will be informed of current information regarding the status of the district’s schedule depending on conditions.

DELAYED OPENINGS

If there is a two hour delay, AM Kindergarten will be bused to school with grades 1 – 6 and will remain at school until the PM Kindergarten students arrive (approximately 12:40 PM.) The AM Kindergarten classes will be transported home approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes later than normal. PM Kindergarten will have a regular schedule with dismissal at closing time.

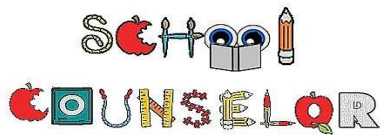
TESTING INFORMATION

Please mark your calendars with the following:

PSSA (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) Reading and Math will be given to students in grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 during the weeks of April 11 - 22, 2016.

PSSA Science will be given to students in grade 4 during the week of April 25 – 29, 2016.

Parents should make sure appointments are NOT scheduled during these time periods. Students will NOT be excused for “educational trips” during these testing periods.



THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Wintertime Ideas

Winter time can bring with it some challenges. The days are shorter and the opportunity for outside play and exercise are limited. Staying active helps boost immunity, and though we may want to hibernate it's not the healthiest option. When the chance to play outside arrives, here are some safety tips and ideas:

Safety Tips:

- Young children need to come inside frequently for breaks.
- Keep children indoors when it is bitterly cold outside or the wind chill is below 0.
- Dress your children in several layers of clothing. If they get too warm, have them remove a layer at a time.
- Children should wear hats that cover their ears and wear mittens rather than gloves for extra warmth.

Cold Weather Ideas:

- Walking is a great activity all year round, but in the winter it is best to walk at a slower pace.
- When it snows: skiing, sledding, snowshoeing, and building snowmen outside are activities to take advantage of.
- Indoor exercise and stretching like yoga.
- Indoor sports- going to a local YMCA or gym can allow for sports year round. Or maybe you cannot get out on the volleyball court, but you can bring one indoors at home with a balloon and some dividing line tape to burn off excesses energy and have fun.

Have a safe and fun winter!

Warmly,

Charlee Malfaro
School Counselor
610-473-1890

CMalfaro@boyertownasd.org



NEWS FROM THE NURSE *Health Screening Notification Letters*

Health Screening Notification letters will be mailed to students' parents/guardians this month. The letter contains the results of your child's annual health screenings. Parents/guardians of students that failed a vision or hearing screening at school will be contacted by the school nurse and referred for further medical evaluation; referral letters for an MD to complete at that evaluation will be sent home with the students. If you have not been directly contacted by the school nurse, your child passed the screenings that were done for their grade.

Physical and Dental Exams

Parents of K/1 and 6 grade students: Physical exams are now due.

Please return your child's physical form as soon as possible. If you need a new form, please contact the nurse's office or you may print a form from the district website at: www.boyertownasd.org and clicking on the Services tab and then clicking on student services.

Parents of K/1 and 3rd grade

students: Dental exams are now due. If you have not yet submitted your child's dental report, please return it to the health room as soon as possible. If you are in need of a form, please contact the nurse's office or you may print a form from the district website at: www.boyertownasd.org and clicking on the Services tab and then clicking the student services tab.

Cold and Flu Season

As the cold and flu season begins, here are a few reminders:

Please remind your children to dress appropriately for outdoor recess.

Please remind your children to wash their hands often to prevent the spread of colds/flu at home and in our classrooms.

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.

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 Services, Student Services, Health.

Students may not bring any medications to school.

Please consider getting your child chap-stick or Vaseline to use on their lips to prevent dryness and chapping. Encourage them to use it frequently.

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 Services, Student Services, Health or from the school nurse. Please help us prevent

head lice by following the policy and checking your children often.

4th, 5th, & 6th Grade Parent Preview Night

As part of the Boyertown Area School District Health curriculum, the children in grades 4, 5 and 6 are given the opportunity of receiving instruction in human growth & development and receive instruction regarding the prevention of human immune deficiency virus (HIV) infection/acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) and other life-threatening and communicable diseases.

Parents of children in grades 4, 5 and 6 are invited to preview the presentations for human growth & development and HIV/AIDS program. Parent Preview Night will be held on **January 6, 2016 at Junior High West, 380 South Madison Street, Boyertown.** You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions of the school nurse after the video presentations. Times to be determined at a later date.

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(*May be previewed online @

<http://www.pgschoolprograms.com/parents.php>

scroll to the bottom of the page under “Video” Select “Always Changing” the video you would like to preview, Boy or Girl (Original). During the lesson at school, students will only view the program for their gender.)

6th Grade Programs: Growth & development presented by the Weller

Health Education Center - please feel free to contact the Weller Center at 610-258-8500, ext. 22 with any questions regarding their program; Videos “AIDS: Facts for Kids” along with “The Immune System: Our Internal Defender”

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Reminder: Anytime you have phone number changes, either at home, work, or for an alternate, please notify the main office or health room in writing so we can keep your child’s emergency contact information current.