



**October 2016**

**Mr. Stephan Pron, Principal**

**EVENTS**

- 10/8 Boyertown Unity Walk  
Boyertown Park 2:00 PM
- 10/10 Staff Development**  
**NO SCHOOL**
- 10/11 School Board Meeting  
Ed. Center 6:30 PM
- 10/14 PTA Fall Festival  
5 – 8 PM  
Book Fair  
5 – 8 PM
- 10/18 PTA Meeting  
7 PM
- 10/21 Parent Visitation Day
- 10/25 Picture Retake Day  
School Board Meeting  
Ed. Center 6:30 PM



**PICTURE RETAKE DAY**

Picture retake day is scheduled for Tuesday, October 25, 2016.



**BOOK FAIR**

The Scholastic Book Fair will be at our school from October 11<sup>th</sup> through October 14<sup>th</sup> with a special opportunity for parents to shop with their children on October 14, 2016 during the PTA Fall Festival. Stop into the library between 5 and 8 PM and shop the fair for some exciting books. If you are unable to join us on the 14<sup>th</sup>, you

are able to shop on-line. We will still receive credit for those sales to benefit our library program. In the past we have used book fair profits to add popular high-demand titles to our shelves, and we have also been able to purchase iPad minis for library and classroom use. We thank you for your support of the Pine Forge Library.

**HOME HEATING ASSISTANCE**

As fall and winter approach, please note that there is home heating assistance for families who may need it. Please see the flyer at the end of the newsletter for more information.

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING CHANGES**

Please note that all future board meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and are being held at the Education Center. Moving forward, there will be no Committee meetings. See the schedule below and refer to the district website for updated information.

- October 11
- October 25
- November 15
- November 29
- December 6 (Reorganization)
- December 13

**THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER**

We will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week during the week of October 24<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> here at Pine Forge Elementary school. This year's Red Ribbon Week is celebrating students making healthy choices. Many of the

decisions we make each day can contribute to us living a healthy lifestyle. For example, we can make healthy food decisions by reaching for an apple when we are hungry for a snack. We will have guest speaker from the Council on Chemical Abuse to speak with the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students on Refusal Skills. They will learn multiple ways to say, “no” when it comes to peer pressure. Each student will receive a Red Ribbon to wear the week of October 24<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> as a vow that you will try their best to live a healthy life style.

### HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF

The Title I requirements mandate that all teachers and instructional aides who work with students in our district’s Title I program must 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.



### PARENT VISITATION DAY

Parent Visitation Day will be held on Friday, October 21, 2016. The purpose of this day is to strengthen the home/school connection and for parents to experience the programs taking place at PFES. You are invited to attend the AM Session (9:00 am – 10:30 am) or the PM Session (1:15 pm – 2:30 pm). Due to space limitations, we ask that you only attend one of the sessions. We also request that siblings not accompany parents on this day.



### LOOKING AHEAD

*Parent/Teacher Conferences:*  
Thursday, November 17, 2016  
4:30 – 7:30 pm  
Monday, November 21, 2016  
1:00 – 4:00 pm  
Tuesday, November 22, 2016  
4:30 – 7:30 pm

### TESTING INFORMATION

Please mark your calendars with the following:

**PSSA** (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) Reading will be given to students in grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 during the week of April 3 - 7, 2017. **PSSA** (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) Math will be given to students in grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 during the week of April 24 – 28, 2017. **PSSA** Science will be given to students in grade 4 during the week of May 1 – 5, 2017. **Parents should make sure appointments are NOT scheduled during these time periods. Students will NOT be excused for “educational trips” during these testing periods.**



### NEWS FROM THE HEALTH ROOM

**Physical & Dental Exams:** All State-mandated Kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade private dental exam forms and all Kindergarten and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade 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 records.

**Cold weather:** Please remind your children to dress appropriately for outdoor recess. If your child is not dressed appropriately for the weather/temperature they will not be going out to 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 at <http://www.boyertownasd.org/> via link Services - student services - health: medication or by request from the health room. Please contact the health room if you have any questions.**

**Mandated health screenings:** Students in grades 1-6 have their annual mandated health screenings, from now through December. A team of school nurses check each student's height, weight and vision; students in grades 1-3 have hearing checks. Once all students have been screened, a "Screening Notification Letter" with the results of each child's screenings will be mailed to parents/guardians.

**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.

**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.



If you need help paying your heating bills, LIHEAP may be able to assist you.

The LIHEAP program will open **November 7, 2016**, and offers both a cash and a crisis grant. Cash grants help households pay their heating bills. The grant payment is sent directly to your utility company or fuel provider, and it will be credited on your bill. Crisis grants help households who have an emergency and are in immediate danger of being without heat. Emergency situations include:

- A fuel shortage that may leave you without heat
- Having utility service shut off
- Having broken heating equipment (like a furnace) or leaking lines.

To find out if you may be eligible to receive assistance through the LIHEAP program, please contact **Multi-Service at 610-367-6957**.