



Baldwin's Bulletin

November 2016



Superintendent's Corner

As the leaves turn color and fall from the trees, it is inevitable that weather reports will begin referencing inclement weather in our not-too-distant future. The superintendent has the responsibility to close schools, open them late or dismiss them early in hazardous weather or in other extraordinary circumstances which might endanger the health or safety of pupils or school employees.

Many factors come into play when making these decisions. A careful analysis of all relevant factors is completed in consultation with school, township, and regional resources. This process can begin days ahead of an anticipated storm but ultimately plays out in the very early morning hours with decisions made by 5:30am so that the communication plan can be put into action to ensure all families and staff receive word.

Now is the time for families to review their plans for responding to these school closing events so that in the event that the phone call comes, plans can be implemented quickly to ensure that children are supervised appropriately.

Messages about emergency school closings or delays will be communicated through all available channels - print and online media outlets, radio station 1450am, broadcast television stations 2, 7, and 12, the district's Facebook and Twitter accounts, www.warrentboe.org, the district's telephone system, and through our school-to-home communication system, School Messenger.

Adjustments to the school calendar create challenges for everyone associated with the schools. Ultimately the decision to close or delay will be made based solely on whether it is in the best interest of students' and staff members' health and safety. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation. Let us now hope that all inclement weather falls on weekends and during school breaks!

Matthew A. Mingle, Ed.D.

Principal's Corner - Mrs. Tugya

It is universally agreed upon that a primary purpose of schooling is to educate students in the academic areas. We know it is important that students acquire the foundational content knowledge and skills to solve problems, locate information, and build upon in future years. I'd argue that another primary purpose of schooling is to support the development of students into caring, fair, thoughtful citizens who not only do the right thing, but stand up for others doing the right thing as well.

A few weeks ago, the PTO sponsored an assembly where students were reminded to "Wear the Cape." Wearing the Cape means making good choices, encouraging our friends to make good choices, and standing up for others when needed. Our guidance counselor, Ms. Katchen, has taught a series of classroom lessons to support our themes this month. Some of the topics students have explored are respect, bullying (and conflict), being an upstander, and friendship. Many students have participated in role playing activities, and all have watched videos and participated in discussions promoting good character.

And wow, do our students rise to the challenge. I am continuously impressed by and proud of the amazing things our students do. This is evidenced by the number of students that have participated in our Week of Respect and Week of Making Good Choices spirit days. The halls have been filled with pajamas, crazy socks, Central spirit wear, and color themes as student show their support. Similarly, the list of names read over the announcements each Friday recognizing students that have earned a link in the Chain of Kindness, seems to be growing. The chain itself has reached the end of the first hallway and is starting down another.

My challenge to students and adults is to continue to display these characteristics even when it's not specifically the Week of Respect or the Week of Making Good Choices. Our ultimate goal is for this to become so ingrained that it's just automatic. When our friends forget, we can remind them, and if we forget, hopefully they'll remind us too. As always, I'm proud to be the principal of such a wonderful school.

Grade One

We are off to a great start in first grade! The students have been developing new friendships, and learning about new classroom procedures. Throughout the month of September, students participated in Reading and Writing Workshop mini lessons that helped to set up our independent reading and writing work times during our Daily Five Literacy Block. The children learned that there are a total of five "Reading and Writing Options" during independent center time. The five options are Read to Self, Read to Someone, Listen to Reading, Word Work and Work on Writing. The students had daily practice sessions as they learned about expectations and routines for each option. Through these practice sessions, the readers and writers were building their stamina and endurance to read and write for longer periods of time. Athletes and musicians build their stamina in order to get better at performing. Readers and writers build their stamina in order to become better readers and writers. During Daily Five time, students challenge themselves to: Work the Whole Time, Stay in One Spot and Work Quietly.

We have finished the first two chapters in math, Addition and Subtraction Concepts. The students are now working on addition strategies. This year students will be expected to master addition and subtraction facts within 10.

We look forward to an exciting and productive year ahead full of learning and fun!

Physical education/health

The year is off to a great start and field day was a blast. Perfect weather, exciting games along with student cooperation and teamwork made for a fun-filled day.

Grades 4 & 5 are halfway done with health classes and grades 2 & 3 will start in December.

Our next physical education unit is bowling. The younger grades will be starting with basic rolling skills. The older classes will review the proper way to roll and then the gym will be set up with nine bowling alleys and away we will bowl!

Two VERY important reminders -

- 1) The weather is starting to change and students are starting to wear boots and other shoes. To participate in physical education class your child **MUST** wear athletic sneakers (rubber soles of any other type are not permitted).

- 2) If your child brings in a note not to participate in physical education class they will also not be able to participate in recess. At recess they will go to the nurse's office.

A Note from the School Nurse.....

As the new school year begins, I would like to review some guidelines when determining whether to keep your child home. Please keep your child home if he/she has a fever of 100 or greater. Children may return when fever free without the need for Tylenol and Advil. In addition, if the child has a continuous cough and runny nose (yellow or green nasal discharge), please keep him/her home. Also, if your child has had vomiting or several episodes of diarrhea in the last 24 hours keeping your child home will help keep a healthier school environment.

If your child has been diagnosed with a contagious disease that requires antibiotics, the child may return after being on antibiotics for 24 hours and fever free. PLEASE notify the health office so that notices can be sent out to the classroom.

When calling in an absence or lateness PLEASE DO NOT email the teacher, instead call the absence line and leave a message by 9:15 a.m. Homework requests can be made at the Main Office.

Please do not send in medication through your child's backpack. A parent needs to bring it to the health office. All medications whether prescription or over the counter require MD orders and parent signature. Medication forms can be downloaded on the Health Office district website (www.warrentboe.org).

Flu season begins in October and peaks typically during January and February. Please consider a flu vaccine, especially if your child has other medical conditions, such as asthma. In addition, avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth, cough or sneeze into a tissue or elbow and throw tissues into the garbage. Avoid sharing cups or utensils with people who are sick, clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as toys and doorknobs.

Most importantly, please keep your child home when they are sick to avoid spreading the germs to others.

