



# BASSWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## OCTOBER, 2009 NEWSLETTER

Dennis Palm, Principal  
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Maple Grove, MN 55311  
(763)494-3858  
[www.district279.org/elem/bw](http://www.district279.org/elem/bw)

### OCTOBER

5	Basswood Spirit Day – Vikings Packers Day
6	5-7PM – School Fundraiser @ MG Solo's Pizza for 1 <sup>st</sup> grade families
7 – 23	Sally Foster Fall PTO Fundraiser
8	8:10AM – Student Council Meeting for applicants (Gr. 4-6 only)
9	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Staff Workshop Day
12	K-6 Parent Teacher Conferences
13	K-6 Parent Teacher Conferences
14	Student Council applications due
15	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Release Day for Education MN Conference
16	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Conference Release Day
19	Kindergarten ONLY Parent Teacher Conferences
20	Kindergarten ONLY Parent Teacher Conferences
22	K-6 Parent Teacher Conferences
23	Box Tops Collection Day
26	Kindergarten ONLY Parent Teacher Conferences
27	Student Picture Day
28	8:00AM – 1 <sup>st</sup> Student Council Meeting
29 – 30	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> for ½ day Kindergarten Students ONLY (Conference Release Days)
30	Fall Festival Parties in participating grade levels

Dear Basswood Families,

**Fall parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for October 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>.** A strong home-school partnership contributes to early and regular communication with parents. The conference is an important opportunity to share information with your child's teacher that will help him/her best meet the needs of your child. The purpose of this conference is to discuss your child's interests, strengths, areas of need and to set goals to meet those needs. Please make every effort to attend this very important conference. Working together, we can provide the best education for your child.

Sincerely,

## NOTES FROM THE BASSWOOD OFFICE



### **STUDENT PICTURES – October 27<sup>th</sup>.**

Mark your calendar – Student Picture Day is coming - Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. Watch for all the details coming soon!

**NO SCHOOL** for K-6 Grade students Thursday and Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> due to Professional Teacher Meetings and a conference release day.

**NO SCHOOL** for kindergarten students only Thursday and Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> due to it being Conference Release Days for ½ day kindergarten teachers.

### **FALL FESTIVAL PARTIES – NO COSTUMES**

Participating grade levels will be having Fall Festival parties. As a building BW staff has decided that students will not be allowed to wear costumes on those days. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



#### **Please note:**

To report a student's absence or if they are going to be late, please use Basswood's main telephone number (763)494-3858, extension 1. This line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

When a student is late coming to school they either need a parent to come into the building to check them in, bring a signed note from the parent explaining why they are late or call the school office prior to the student arriving. If this does not occur, the school office will contact the parent.

For the safety of our students, please remember **ALL** visitors must check in at the office and get a visitor's pass before proceeding to other areas in the building. If you are dropping something off at school for your child, please do this through the office to minimize interruptions to the classroom. We have students that come at 10:00AM to make these deliveries. We greatly appreciate your assistance and understanding in this matter. Thank you!

**Notes from Basswood's Registered Nurse; MaryBeth Patton, BS, RNC**  
**Direct Line: 315-7670**

As we begin the new school year, here are some guidelines for.....

**Keeping your child home with illness:**

- ***Fever (100 degrees or higher)***
- ***Vomiting***
- ***Diarrhea***
- ***Colds or coughs*** that prevent your child from fully participating in school. *(Please read the "Don't Catch the Flu" information below)*
- ***Any contagious disease*** (strep, chickenpox, pinkeye, etc.) Please let the health office know if your child has a contagious illness so notices can be sent home with classmates. If antibiotics are started as treatment, he/she needs to have been on medication for 24 hours before returning to school.
- ***If a throat culture was taken for strep throat***, keep your child home until the official results are known *(this includes the 24 hour culture)*
- **District policy states that students must be symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school**
- Please remember to ***call the attendance line if your child is ill.***

You may call the health office directly at 763-315-7670 if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child.

**Medication policy:** Medication consent forms signed by the parent/guardian and physician must be completed for **ALL over-the-counter and prescription medications**. These forms are available in the health office or can be downloaded from the district website. All medications must be supplied in their original container and with the correct administration information.

**Emergency Information:** If you move or change your phone number(s) during the school year, please let Basswood Staff know of these changes. If something should happen to your child while at school, it is extremely important that have your emergency information be up to date.

**Hearing and Vision screenings:** This October 6-8, 2009 we will be screening all students Grades 2 thru 5. *Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> grade students will be screened in January 2010.* Contact Jane Williams, our Volunteer Coordinator, if you are interested in helping out with these screenings. We need a lot of volunteers! Re-screenings from the October screens will be done November 5, 2009.

**Don't catch the flu, don't spread the flu**

You and your family can help reduce the spread of flu by doing four important things:

1. Cover your cough
2. Wash your hands frequently
3. Stay home for at least 24 hrs after your fever has ended without the use of medicine
4. Get a flu shot



At this time, the state department of health is recommending that Minnesota schools remain open during flu outbreaks. Learn more by visiting [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov), or our district web site at [www.district279.org](http://www.district279.org).

Our district health service department is in regular contact with local and state health agencies and is monitoring the situation carefully. We will continue to follow the recommendations of the Minnesota Dept. of Health.

## FROM THE KITCHEN- Pauline Nygard, Cook Manager

### October 5 and 26 – Brunch for Lunch

Smucker's Maple Waffle with Syrup

Scrambled Eggs

Oven Crisp Potato Patty

Fresh Veggie Sticks

Fruit and Milk Choices



**Please feel free to call our cashier, Donna Wood, at 763-315-6417 if you need a balance update on your student's account or have any other lunch account questions. Her hours are 9:45-2:00-please leave a message with a phone number she can reach you at, and she will return your call. You may also email her at [woodd@district279.org](mailto:woodd@district279.org). Thanks!**

## Jane Williams - BW Volunteer Coordinator

Basswood continues to have the best volunteers in the district! Our hard working Busy Bees have had a very hectic month, and the Wednesday Envelope stuffers have put in plenty of overtime getting this year off to a great start. Thank you for all of your efforts. Thank you also to everyone who helped our youngest students with the first days of lunch, and to all the volunteers who worked at the Fun Run.

**Hearing and Vision screenings** will be on October 6, 7, and 8. Please return your volunteer slip for this important task, if you have not already done so. It takes about **65** volunteers to screen our students in three days, so please consider helping with the screenings in October. We would love to have your assistance! Please just call me at 763-315-6419, if you do not have a volunteer form.

**It is never too late to return your Volunteer Application Form (from the yellow handbook that went home the first week of school). Please let me know if you need a new copy. It is important that I receive an updated form from each family every year. Thank you!**



# October 2009 Gifted Education News

Marji Olson [olsonmarji@district279.org](mailto:olsonmarji@district279.org)

## Needs Based Classes (NBC) Information

### Week(s) of:

- Sept. 28-Oct. 2 NBC #1 (Affective), session 1
- Oct. 5-9 NBC #1, session 2 (Friday workshop day)
- Oct. 12-16 NBC #1, session 3 (MEA week)
- Oct. 19-23 NBC #1, session 4
- Oct. 26-30 NBC #1, session 5

### Acronyms and abbreviations:

GE= Gifted Education

NBC= Needs Based Classes

CBS=Cluster Based Service

## Collaboration in the Classroom (CBS) Information

- Sept. 7 – 11 GE and Classroom Collaboration, K-6
- Sept. 21 – 25 GE and Classroom Collaboration, K-6

### Grades KDG and 1: Collaborative enrichment

During these sessions, the GE teacher goes in to each classroom to teach an enrichment lesson. The focus in KDG is on thinking skills and in Grade 1 the focus is on word use.

### Grades 2 – 6: Cluster collaboration

During this session, the GE teacher goes in to each cluster classroom to survey students to guide the students in learning about themselves.

### NBC #1:

Grades 2-6: Affective

During this class, students will learn about the brain, test taking strategies, creativity, and psychology.

### Changes in GE services:

Many changes have occurred for the 2009-2010 school year. Here are a few of the changes:

- NBC pull-out classes have replaced ExCEL classes
- CML is not a part of the GE curriculum and services
- More services in the regular classroom provided by the gifted education teacher
- GE services now include Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade

### **Thank you:**

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the Informational Parent Meeting at Basswood Elementary on September 21<sup>st</sup>. I look forward to seeing you at fall conferences.

## GE Identification Information:

### Sixth Grade—Junior High Classes:

**\* The first trimester grades earned by sixth graders are a critical factor in determining placement in seventh grade classes.** \* Math acceleration from sixth grade to junior high also includes the RIT testing results from the NWEA/MAP assessment.

For more information about GE Services, please access our web site:

<http://www.district279.org/services/TalentedGifted/GeneralInformation/>