

BASSWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

APRIL, 2009 NEWSLETTER

Dennis Palm, Principal
15425 Bass Lake Road
Maple Grove, MN 55311
(763)494-3858
www.district279.org/elem/bw



APRIL

- 2 8:10AM – Student Council Meeting
7:00PM – 4th Grade Recorder Concert @ BW
- 3 Last Day before Spring Break
School Spirit Day – Wear your favorite sunglasses day
- 6-10 SPRING BREAK**
- 13 School resumes after Spring Break
- 14 8:55-1:40PM – 6th Grade Field Trip to Mill City Museum
- 15 MCA Testing
4:30-5:45PM – 6th Grade Orchestra Rehearsal @ EB
6:30PM – BW PTO General Meeting (Election of Officers)
- 16 MCA Testing
- 17 MCA Testing
School Spirit Day – Wear red and black day
Box Top Collection Day
School Store open during the lunch hour – Group 1
- 20 7:10PM – BW Night at the MN Twins Game
- 21 7:30PM – 6th Grade Orchestra Concert @ OJH
- 21 MCA Testing
- 22 MCA Testing
- 23 MCA Testing Make-ups
8:10AM – Student Council Meeting
School Store open during the lunch hour – Group 2
- 24 4:30-5:45PM – 5th Grade Orchestra Rehearsal @ EC
- 24 **NO SCHOOL** – Teacher Workshop Day
- 27 MAP Testing begins through May 22nd
- 28 4:30-5:45PM – 5th Grade Orchestra Rehearsal @ EC
- 29 8:00PM – 5th Grade Orchestra Concert @ OJH
- 30 9:30AM – Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast



NOTES FROM THE BASSWOOD OFFICE

ATTENTION BASSWOOD PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

- ❖ We are beginning to plan for the 2009-2010 school year. We would appreciate it if you would let us know if you are contemplating moving this summer or sending your child to a different school next fall. Please call Roxie, Basswood school secretary, at (763)494-3858, and let her know as soon as possible. Thank you for your assistance!
- ❖ **Wastebasket Revue** opens April 16th and runs through April 24th. Plan to attend this year's District 279 variety show that raises money for scholarships for graduating senior high students from Osseo, Maple Grove and Park Center Senior High Schools. Tickets are now on sale! To order call (763)391-7205 or visit the Wastebasket Revue website at <http://www.district279.org/wbr/>.

Keep your daughters and sons in school on April 23

Good attendance is linked to student achievement. Arranging a visit to your work place during the summer months will support your child's learning more than taking him or her out of school on a regular instructional day. "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day" is not considered an excused absence in the Osseo Area Schools.

We look forward to seeing your student in school on April 23 and every school day!



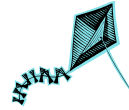
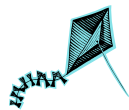
MCA-II TESTING STARTS IN APRIL!

Minnesota's rules for testing and the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act require that mathematics and reading tests be given in **Grades 3-8**. These tests are given every year to measure student performance on the Minnesota Academic Standards, which define what our students should know and do in a particular grade. **Elementary students will take the MATH test on April 15-16 and the READING test on April 21-22.** All students in Grade 5 will take the MCA-II Science online assessment on May 19th and May 21st. It is important that your child attends school on each of these dates and takes these tests. Please do not schedule other appointments during the school day for your child on these dates. Students who miss taking the tests on these dates will be required to take the make-up tests. Students cannot improve their score by cramming for this test, but you can help them by seeing that they have a good night's sleep and a nutritious breakfast on the morning of each the tests. Students are also encouraged to bring a water bottle for testing days.

For more information on the MCA-II's, go to the MN Department of Education's website:

http://education.state.mn.us/mde/Accountability_Programs/Assessment_and_Testing/Assessments/MCA_II/MCA_II_Parent_Info/index.html

MAP (NWEA) assessments will be given to all Grade 2-6 students online. The window for these assessments is April 27-May 22. Your child's teacher will be communicating the exact date and time their class will test.



OASIS 2008-09

Osseo Area Source of Information and Support

Information and Support Group for Parents of Children with ADHD, ADD, LD, EODD, OCD, anxiety, autism, depression, and other learning and behavior differences.

**Weaver Lake Elementary School-Media Center
15900 Weaver Lake Road, Maple Grove (763) 420-3337**

Meet at 6:30 p.m. prior to our meeting, for a time of support and sharing with other parents.

Share your concerns, or just listen. Get the support of others who have struggled and found solutions. This part of our meeting is facilitated by Sue Sullivan, experienced teacher and parent.

Tuesday 7-9:00 p.m.

4/14/09-Understanding Nonverbal Learning Disorders- We hear about dyslexia and reading disorders (academic learning disorders) but are less familiar with nonverbal learning problems. These nonverbal difficulties can greatly interfere with academic success and social interactions (especially as children progress through middle school and high school). Learn what nonverbal learning disorders are, what they look like at various stages of development, and finally how parents and teachers can help children with NLD while also attending to social skills needs in general. **Ellie Covin Psy.D.L.P.** specializes in comprehensive cognitive, neuropsychological, and social emotional evaluations to address neurobehavioral concerns, including ADHD giftedness, learning disabilities, and other emotional and behavioral differences at Pediatric Consultation Specialists in Maple Grove and Plymouth.

News from the Volunteer Coordinator - Jane Williams
Direct Line: 315-6419



PLEASE SAVE THE DAY - THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2009

Basswood volunteers have worked very hard for our school this year, and it is with pleasure that I ask you to save the date of Thursday, April 30, when we will celebrate a successful and productive year at the **VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST**.

The breakfast will be in the Basswood Media Center that morning, starting at 9:30. This is an important day, when we take time to appreciate all the donations volunteers have made, and will continue to make in the coming months. Please plan to join us that morning to relax and visit with friends.

Invitations will go home to families after spring break. We are grateful to ALL of our volunteers, and hope that ALL of you will be able to join us for this tradition.

FROM THE KITCHEN- Pauline Nygard, Cook Manager

April 27 Brunch for Lunch
will be:

Waffles with syrup

Scrambled Eggs

Potato Patty

Veggie Sticks

Fruit Choices /Milk Choices



We strive to offer a vegetarian entrée on our printed menu most days. There have been some requests for a peanut butter sandwich as a vegetarian entrée, but we do not serve peanut butter because of the quantity of peanut allergies in our school. Our federal lunch program consists of at least 5 different components-protein, bread, fruit, vegetable, and milk. Out of the 5 components students are encouraged to take at least 3, and one of them does not have to be a protein. Feel free to contact our Cashier, Donna Wood, if you have any questions at 763-315-6417.

Notes from MaryBeth Patton, RNC
Direct Line: 315-7670



Food Allergies - It's on the Rise

Food allergies: Did you know that food allergies are on the rise? If not, it's something to think about when sending daily snacks or special treats to be shared with others, especially foods containing peanuts/tree nuts. Reading food labels for these food allergens and avoiding sending them to school is a good idea!

Ninety percent of food allergies are to: peanuts, tree nuts (i.e. almonds, pistachios, walnuts, pecans, and cashews), milk, eggs, shellfish, fish, wheat, or soy. Food allergies occur when the person's immune system thinks a particular food is harmful. If the allergic individual comes in contact with or eats the food, the immune system tries to fight the food source by releasing large amounts of chemicals and histamine. This reaction to the "harmful" food source is called an allergic reaction and can vary from mild to severe (life-threatening). Currently there is no cure for food allergies. The only way to prevent an allergic reaction is to avoid the food source. With this in mind, please be sure your child thoroughly washes his/her hands before coming to school. Thanks for your help in keeping our students healthy at Basswood Elementary.

Alternative Birthday treat ideas:

- **Food-free treats** such as bookmarks, pencils, fun pens, stickers, friendship bracelets, crazy straws, etc.
- **Peanut/nut-free treats** (remember to read labels) such as Nerds, Laffy Taffy, Sweet Tarts, Starburst fruit chews, Kemps popsicles, JelSert Flavor-Ice, etc.

Additional information on food allergies can be found at www.foodallergy.org or www.fankids.org

Emergency information reminder: If you have moved or recently changed your phone number (home, cell, or work), please notify your child's school. The safety of all of our students is top priority. If something should happen to your child while at school, we need to be able to reach you. Please call the school office at Basswood with any changes.

April 2009 Enrichment News

Marji Olson olsonmarji@district279.org

<http://www2.informns.k12.mn.us/schoolties/class/homeroom1.cfm?class=olsonmarji>

ExCEL/CML Information

Week(s) of:

- March 30-April 3 CogAT testing, grades 1-5
- April 6-10 Spring Break
- April 13-17 Differentiation Training
- April 20-24 Seminar #3, Session 1
- April 27-May 1 Seminar #3, Session 2

Acronyms and abbreviations:

TAG = Talented and Gifted

ExCEL = Extended Curriculum for Elementary Learners

CML = Continental Math League

ExCEL Seminars:

Grade 2: Experimenting with Physics: Students will learn what adhesion and cohesion are while experimenting with bubbles.

Grade 3: Problem Solving Strategies: Students will learn the Productive Thinking Skills, along with SCAMPER, to increase creative thinking.

Grade 4: Inventing: Students will learn the process involved in inventing something new. They will design an original invention.

Grade 5: In One Day: Students will collect and graph data regarding a research question.

Grade 6: Mock Trial: Students will learn the roles in a court room and participate in a trial.

Continental Math League:

Students have completed all CML classes and meets. During the coming months, each grade level will gather to complete evaluations and hand out awards and prizes. Congratulations to the following students who received a 5 or 6 on the March meet!

Scored 6 out of 6 !!

Grade 2 – Trevor Janicke

Grade 3 – Anjali Balakrishnan, Blake Iverson, Lucas Jackson, Jack Moseng, Andy Zhou

Grade 4 – Gabe Cantua, Jenn Galloway, Claire Kiewatt, Jack Pearl, Avery Wold

Grade 5 – Isaac Collins, Jake Ellingson, Conor Friedmann, Joey Graves, Cadia Gren, Noah Kaitz, Andrew Kivi, P.J. McCaffrey, Justin Peterson, Blake Theisen

Grade 6 – Sydney Scheunemann

Scored 5 out of 6

Grade 2 – Tyler Burkum, Reid Dumbauld, J.P. Galloway, Tanner Skanson

Grade 3 – Mitchell Hogue, Natan Lidukhover, Natalie Olson, Brett Wolff

Grade 4 – Jaden Baranick, Kyle Beacham, Clayton Cloutier, Mackenzie Dahlquist, Joshua Ferm, Hannah Fjellman, Priya George, Davis Pfaff

Grade 5 – Jessica Curtis, Alex Kafer, Matthew Kobberdahl, Kyle Krona, Jake O’Hearn, Arpan Pal

Grade 6 – Garrison Boots, Laura Brixius, Cole Evanson, Elise Larson, Charlie Moe, Grace Park, Daniel Volfson

Year of Transition:

As the Talented and Gifted Strategic Planning Committee completes their work from the program implementation scheduled for 2009-2010 school year, programmatic plans will be shared. The new department mission statement communicates alignment with the District 279 mission and gifted education research:

The mission of the Osseo Area Schools’ Talented and Gifted services is to recognize and appropriately serve the academic, social and emotional needs of its gifted\talented students so that they may grow and learn, achieve their dreams, contribute to community and engage in a lifetime of learning. Gifted/talented students, found in all the diverse cultures of our community, are those children and youth who demonstrate high performance or show the potential for high performance relative to others of their age, experience or environment.

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

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

