

BASSWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ISD 279 – Osseo Area Schools

DECEMBER 2008 NEWSLETTER



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



DECEMBER CALENDAR

- | | |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 nd Trimester Begins |
| 2 | 7:40AM - BW Chorus Rehearsal |
| 3 | Report Cards go home with all students |
| 4 | 8:10AM – Student Council Meeting |
| 5 | BW Spirit Day – Wear Red and Black
School Store open |
| 9 | 7:40AM - BW Chorus Rehearsal |
| 11 | 8:10AM – Student Council Meeting |
| 15 | D.A.R.E. Graduation for 6 th Graders |
| 16 | Group Activity Pictures
7:40AM - BW Chorus Rehearsal |
| 18 | 8:10AM – Student Council Meeting
Kindergarten, 1 st and 2 nd Grade Winter Parties |
| 19 | Last day before Winter Break
Box Top Collection Day
BW Spirit Day – Pajama Day
School Store open
3 rd Grade Winter Party |

December 22-January 2 **NO SCHOOL - WINTER BREAK**
January 5 School Resumes after Winter Break

NOTES FROM THE BASSWOOD OFFICE



IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Students who are being dropped off in the morning should not arrive at school any earlier than 8:35AM.

Basswood staff is busy preparing for the day and are unable to supervise students prior to 8:35AM.

Students are to wait outside by the front doors until 8:40AM when the first bell rings and then, are allowed to enter the building to go to their lockers/classrooms.

BUILDING AND OFFICE HOURS AT BASSWOOD ELEMENTARY ARE 7:30AM-4:30PM.

All doors are locked at all other times. Students who are participating in an after-school activity will be brought to the front door by the instructor to meet their parents at the end of the session if it is after 4:30PM.

If a student has forgotten something at school in their desk or locker,

access to classrooms and lockers will be between the hours of 8:00AM-4:00PM ONLY.

Please check in at the office and you will be escorted to the classroom by a staff person to get what you need.

Please remember that **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 10:10AM to make these deliveries.



For safety and security reasons we greatly appreciate your assistance and understanding in these matters.
Thank you!

WITH COLDER WEATHER UPON US, we would like to remind parents to please send your child dressed appropriately for the weather. The district uses the 0 degree temperature as our guideline.

Students remain in the classroom for recess any time the "wind chill" factor falls below -5 degrees or the temperature is 0. All students will be expected to go outside for recess everyday, weather permitting, unless a student has a valid written medical excuse from a doctor.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM AT BASSWOOD

(763)494-3858

(Available 24 hours a day)



Please use the above main office number and extension 1 to report your child absent or late for school. Any student who is going to be absent or late for school for any reason must be called in by a parent or guardian. If the school does not receive a call, someone will be contacting you.

PLEASE NOTE:

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 late.

If this does not occur, the school office will contact the parent.

Our goal is to have good communication between parents and the school.

COMING UP IN JANUARY

- 5 School Resumes after Winter Break
- 6 7:40AM – BW Chorus Rehearsal
- 8 8:10AM – Student Council Meeting
- 9 BW Spirit Day – Wear Red and Black
School Store open
- 13 7:40AM – BW Chorus Rehearsal
- 14 2 hour Late Start Day
- 19 **NO SCHOOL** – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 20 7:40AM – BW Chorus Rehearsal
- 21 7:40AM – BW Chorus Rehearsal
6:30PM – BW PTO General Meeting
- 22 Scholastic Book Fair
Mid Trimester
8:10AM – Student Council Meeting
7:00PM – BW/OAK Chorus Program @ OAK
- 23 BW Spirit Day – Wacky Hair Day
School Store open
6:30-8:30PM – Scholastic Book Fair and Family Game Night
- 26 Scholastic Book Fair
Kindergarten only Conferences – 7:30-8:30AM and 3:30-8:30PM
- 27 Scholastic Book Fair
K-6 Conferences - 7:30-8:30AM and 3:40-6:20PM
- 28 Scholastic Book Fair
- 29 Scholastic Book Fair
K-6 Conferences – 7:30-8:30AM and 3:40-6:20PM
- 30 Scholastic Book Fair



Mark your Calendar:

Parent-Teacher Conferences for Grades K-6 will be January 27, 29, and February 3.

Kindergarten only parent-teacher conferences will be January 26 and February 4.

(Letters regarding conferences will be coming home in January.)

FROM THE KITCHEN- Pauline Nygard, Cook Manager

December 1st Brunch for lunch menu
will be:

Scrambled Eggs
Oven Crisp Potato Patty
Cinnamon Tastrie
Veggie Sticks
Fruit Choices/Milk Choices



December 17th School Planned Day
will be:

California Hamburger on a Bun
Fixings
Bag of Baked Chips
Hot Vegetable
Veggie Sticks
Fruit Choices /Milk Choices

Please write your child's PIN lunch number on your check when you add money to his/her account. If you are dropping off cash, please put a note with it and include their PIN number. This insures the money will get into the right lunch account. You may also write one check for more than one student. Please separate the amounts how you'd like in each account, and write that information and the PIN numbers on the memo line.

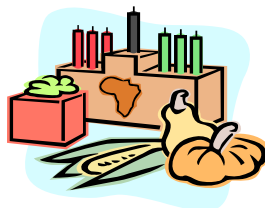
Milk is always included in the lunch price, but orange juice (40 cents) and bottled water (55 cents) is an extra cost. A second entrée is also available for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders on most days and is an extra \$1.25.

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



*Holidays Greetings
to all
Basswood Volunteers*

*Happy New Year
Peace on Earth*



December 2008 TAG & 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:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| • Dec. 1-5 | CML Session 4 (meet #2 grades 4-6) |
| • Dec. 8-12 | Affective Session 6 |
| • Dec. 15-19 | Differentiation Training |

Acronyms and abbreviations:

TAG = Talented And Gifted

ExCEL = Extended Curriculum for Elementary Learners

CML = Continental Math League

ExCEL Seminar #1:

All Grades- Affective

The fall Affective seminar has been redesigned to be a six week seminar for core and talent pool students. Seminar registration to provide student choice took place in mid-November. This is a change in the timeline.

Continental Math League:

During CML class, students will learn the strategies for problem solving in math. They will also compete in meets against students across the country in their grade level. Grades 4-6 have completed their first meet. Awards and certificates are given out to national winners at the end of the year.

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.

TAG Identification Information:

Parents of first grade students should watch the public mail for a mailing from Talented and Gifted Program Services. Included in this mailing is information about the characteristics of gifted children. The information is designed to provide a guide for parents to recognize the characteristic of gifted learners, and to make a decision about requesting assessment for possible service from the gifted and talented teacher. The mailing includes a "Permission-to-Test" form and "Parent Information Form." If the gifted characteristics describe your first grader, please complete both forms and return them to the classroom teacher on or before **December 15, 2008**.

Testing for participation in Talented and Gifted programs will also take place for students in grades 2, 3, 4, and 5 in the month of January. If you are interested in a packet of information to review gifted characteristics in consideration of testing for your child, please contact Marji Olson.

All parents of sixth graders have received two informational flyers through the Wednesday envelope, providing information about High Performance programming at each junior high school. The report card envelope will contain additional information and the application for possible placement in HP English, HP science, HP social studies, and HP math. Sixth graders will test in January for junior high placement in high performance classes. Students and parents are asked to work together to complete the application and sign it, if interested. The signed application should be returned to school on or before **December 12, 2008**. Check in the report card envelope for these forms. Please contact Marji Olson at 763-494-3858 if you have additional questions.



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



Hearing and Vision Re-Screens: I'd like to say "Thank You" to all the wonderful volunteers who helped out at the Hearing and Vision Re-Screens held on November 6th!! Your help in screening our students at Basswood is truly appreciated!! Vision & hearing referral letters have been sent home with those students in Grades 2 -6 requiring further follow up with their physicians.

Parents of 6th Graders: Now is a good time to make sure your child receives the necessary immunizations they will need for seventh grade. The **Hepatitis B series** of 3 shots takes 6 months to complete, so please start as soon as possible. **Boosters** for **Td or Tdap**, **MMR**, and **Varicella #2** (if your child did not have the Chicken pox disease) are also required. *Please inform the health office when your child has received immunizations* so their information can be updated in the computer system. If you have questions regarding your child's immunization history, contact the health office at 763-315-7670.

Free Dental Care Programs: On February 6th & 7th, 2009, the "Give Kids a Smile" will again be offered by local dental professionals who donate their time and resources to provide free dental care to eligible children ages 3-18. After January 1st parents can call United Way (just call 2-1-1) and operators will direct you to participating dentists within our area to set up an appointment. *All patients must have appointments in advance and be accompanied by a parent of legal guardian.* To learn more go to: <http://www.mndental.org/>.

Early Childhood Screenings: Did you know that childhood screenings are required by the State of MN? If you have a preschooler at home, this screening can be done after their third birthday. This screening needs to be completed before they start kindergarten. The screening includes a vision and hearing check, height and weight, a review of immunizations, developmental progress and a review of family information. To set up an appointment call: 763-391-8776. There is no cost to be screened by District 279. I have brochures available for those who are interested in learning more.



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FROM
THE BASSWOOD STAFF!**

