

BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWSLETTER
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2009– FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2009
<http://www.btschools.org>

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Congratulations to Mrs. Spadafora and Miss Swavely, and to all the Hoppock student performers for an outstanding holiday program on Tuesday. You ushered in the holiday season in great style and grace. We look forward to the Conley Holiday program on the evening of December 16.

This is just a reminder to please join us at our next board meeting on Tuesday, December 22, 2009 at 8:00 p.m. at the Conley School gymnasium. A special encore performance will be provided by the Hoppock School Madrigals.

On Wednesday, December 9, we called for a delayed opening through our Global Connect phone system. Communication appeared to go smoothly. However, if you need to adjust any information previously provided, please contact your child's respective school offices. I understand that some areas of the community experienced power outages which may have affected phone service. As we move forward, in anticipation of snow days or delayed openings, I want to remind you to check other resources, including the district information line for both schools (call Conley School, press option 2), the BTSD website – www.btschools.org , www.WFMZ.com/stormcenter, www.weatherclosings.com, and/or Channel 7 WABC-TV, where this information is also provided. (I know this only works if you have power but once power is turned back on these resources are available).

Have a good weekend!

Nancy Lubarsky
Superintendent

DISTRICT NEWS

Public Invited to Comment on National Core Standards:

National standards for language arts literacy and mathematics have been drafted, and the New Jersey Department of Education is inviting members of the public to comment on the proposal. The “Common Core Standards” were released by the National Governor’s Association and the Council of Chief State School Administrators. They represent the work of K-12 and post-secondary educators throughout the country. After final standards are approved, each state would need to adopt the standards individually. The draft standards are available a www.corestandards.org. Grade-by-Grade standards will not be ready for review until late December or early January. Those grade level standards would also have to go through a review and adoption process by the State Board of Education before they would apply in New Jersey. Members of the public may send comments to commoncore@doe.state.nj.us or via regular mail addressed to Education Commissioner Lucille E. Davy at 100 Riverview Plaza, Trenton, NJ 08625-0500.

Return to School Note for Influenza (flu) Like Illness:

During a pandemic period when increased illness may be occurring, school procedures requiring doctor’s notes for influenza-like-illness can place an inappropriate burden on the local healthcare system. The Health Department and the County Superintendent of Schools Office are strongly recommending that all school districts in Hunterdon County use the attached Return to School Note for Influenza (Flu) Like Illness. Having a parent/guardian sign the attached note instead of a note from the doctor, which also requires verification from the school nurse, will eliminate an undue burden on health care providers and help assure that returning students meet CDC recommendations. Your use of this note will contribute to providing a healthier learning environment and to keep healthcare resources available to those who are seriously ill.

Reminder: When calling a child out sick please include the child’s symptoms and whether the child has a fever.

Substitute School Nurse Employment Opportunity

Substitute Nurses Needed for the Thomas B. Conley School and Ethel Hoppock Middle School. The substitute nurse rate is \$130.00 per day – Effective immediately. New Jersey RN License Required.

To apply - Please send, email or fax resume and a copy of nurse's license to:

Janice Festa, Human Resources Coordinator,

940 Iron Bridge Road, Asbury NJ 08802.

Email address: jfesta@btschools.org Fax: 908-537-4309

HOPPOCK NEWS

Winter Sports	Boys Basketball	Girls Basketball	Cheerleading
Mon. Dec. 14	Hoppock until 4:15 pm	No practice	Hoppock until 4:15 pm
Tues. Dec. 15	No practice	Hoppock until 4:15 pm	Hoppock until 4:15 pm
Wed. Dec. 16	No practice	No practice	No Practice
Thurs. Dec. 17	Hoppock until 4:15 pm	No practice	Hoppock until 4:15 pm

Cheesecake Sale:

Hoppock parents look for the flyer sent home today for the Maddalena's Cheesecake Sale. This PTA fundraiser deadline has been extended to Monday. It will also help the 8th grade raise some money for their 8th grade trip.

Pajama Program:

The Student Council will be taking part in the Pajama Program which provides new pajamas and books to children in need. Many of these children live in group homes or shelters, and others have been abused or abandoned. Please join in with the Student Council and donate new pajamas for all sizes infant to size 17, and **new books** for these children to read. The drive will run from November 30 – December 18. We intend to make a difference-giving back is what it's all about. Please bring unwrapped pajamas and new books to rooms 10, 16 or the Hoppock office.

EMPTYES4CASH Fundraiser

Fundraise for the 8th grade and recycle at the same time. Whenever you or your family replace the ink cartridges in your printers, please send them to school in a Ziploc bag and deposit them in the green cardboard box near the office.

Attention 6th grade Parents

6th grade immunization records are past due. Please call Mrs. Myers with any questions or problems @ 908-479-6336 X 2225.

CONLEY NEWS

Birthday Books at Conley:

Donate a book to the library in honor of your birthday for just \$10.00. If interested have your child bring a check made out to BTPTA (or cash) to Ms. Bjerre. First, pick out a birthday book from the birthday box. Be the first to check out your book. Take the book home and sign your name and date of birth on the book plate. Please return to the library for others to read and enjoy. Any questions call Maria Cannillo at 479-9830.

PTA NEWS

Tyson Project A+ Label Collection Program:

Our school is taking part in a fundraising program sponsored by Tyson Foods, Inc. called Tyson Project A+. Start clipping & saving labels. Each label submitted is worth 24 cents! Through this program, our PTA has the opportunity to raise as much as \$12,000 this year! For more information on which labels to clip, visit <http://ProjectAPlus.tyson.com> or contact Ellen Clinebell at qponhunt@embarqmail.com. A collection box is located across from the main office at Conley or you may submit the labels to Ellen Clinebell c/o Becky Clinebell 8P at Hoppock.

Box Tops

This is a quick and easy way to make money for our school so keep clipping and send in those Box Tops! The next contest is in February for the classroom amount. So please write your child's classroom on the baggie/envelope you send in. Happy Clipping! Tricia Morris 735-4521 or morris5@comcast.net

Friday Morning Bowling League:

Looking to have some fun and socialize with the ladies/gentlemen of Bethlehem Township and surrounding towns – look no further!!! Come to Oakwood Lanes in Washington and bowl with a great group of people. No experience necessary and BABYSITTING IS FREE to all bowlers. We meet on Friday mornings at 9:20 a.m. for practice and start bowling at 9:30. We follow the school calendar for closing, delayed openings, etc. We currently have 8 teams and are looking to expand the league. Please direct any questions to Patti Doscher, 537-9265 or email pattigymbo@embarqmail.com. Thanks and hope to see you at the Lanes!!

BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP RECREATION NEWS

Warrior Lacrosse:

Registrations for the 2010 Warrior Lacrosse season are now being accepted. Registrations will be accepted via mail or in person. See webpage (www.leaguelineup.com/bulax) for all forms (handout tab) and additional information. Any questions, please contact Commissioner Audra Hillman at 537-7505 or via e-mail at llaxmomof2@comcast.net.

Recreation Committee:

Meetings: 1st Wednesday of every month, 7:30pm, Community Center on Mine Road. Open to All, more members, more activities. Sports for adults and kids, exercise classes, senior activities, bus trips. Be part of the fun and planning. Call Laurie Keefe for details 479-1272 or email keefe397@embarqmail.com.

BT Rec Basketball

Your commissioners will be Martin Auger (908-537-1248) and Julian Oliver (908-735-7690) Registration forms can be found on the BT Rec Web Page <http://www.freewebs.com/btrec/basketball.htm>

COMMUNITY NEWS

2010 Hunterdon Mohawks Girl's Lacrosse Registration

Registration is currently underway for girls in grades 3 through 8 interested in playing travel lacrosse for the spring 2010 season. The cost is \$160 per player until Dec 12. Thereafter, the cost increases to \$200. Please register early as the rosters fill quickly for this increasingly popular sport. Visit www.hunterdonmohawkslacrosse.com for more info, registration forms and instructions. Contact Tom Jaeger at 537-4380 with your questions.

Bethlehem Township Parent-Tot Time:

Holiday Story time with cookies and milk, Wednesday, December 16. Come sing, dance, rhyme and listen to stories with Gail Coe former Conley Kindergarten Teacher. We meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month (12/16, 1/20, 2/17, 3/17, 4/21, 5/19, 6/16). Children from birth to four and their parents are invited to attend. Please share this information with your Bethlehem Township neighbors. For more information contact Gail Coe at 537-2525 or gailcoe@comcast.net.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wed. Dec. 16	Teacher in-service Early Dismissal	Hoppock 12:00pm, Conley 12:50pm
Wed. Dec. 16	Holiday story time, cookies and milk	See Parent-Tot time above
Fri. Dec. 18	Grandparents' Day Conley 10:00 AM	Early Dismissal Conley only 12:50pm
Tues. Dec. 22	B.O.E. Meeting Conley Gym	Public Session 8:00 pm
Wed. Dec. 23	Early Dismissal	Hoppock 12:00pm, Conley 12:50pm

Thurs. Dec. 24 – Jan. 3	Winter Recess	
Mon. Jan. 4	Classes resume	