

Baldwin City USD 348

Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2007

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District Office, P.O. Box 67, 708 Chapel, Baldwin City, KS 66006

785-594-2721

THE SUPER'S CORNER

School has started and we are off and running. I hope by the time you receive this newsletter the weather has cooled off so we may have a pleasant fall. I always enjoy this time of year. Leaves start changing color, the summer heat ends and school busses start running routes.

The new school year brings new programs to the district. As many of you have heard we are implementing an automated phone system to contact parents in an expedient manner. This program will be a work in progress as we construct our first phone number lists. The system will only be as accurate as the phone numbers we have in the system. To help us with accuracy, parents please make sure the school has the contact numbers you want us to use. These contact numbers can be home, work or mobile. The calling system allows school administrators to send an automated phone message to all parents and staff in less than ten minutes.

We are installing or have installed, at each school building, a door monitoring system that will control access to our buildings. After school begins each day, you will find that the door is locked and on the door is a voice box with a button. Please push the button like a doorbell and a staff member can speak to you and will be able to see you. This may be an inconvenience, but we will have a good idea of who is in the building and why. These systems will provide added security to our buildings.

This year we will be following a new energy policy. Last year the school district spent \$125,300 on natural & propane gas and \$295,500 on electricity. Essentially, staff and students will be asked to conserve on energy by being conscious of turning off lights in rooms not in use and turning thermostats to 78 degrees for cooling and 68 degrees for heating. The idea here is not to make people uncomfortable, it is to free up money now spent on energy. The other reason for the policy is a more global one in that conserving energy helps our environment and why should the school district not do our part.

I hope that the start of the school year has been very smooth for all parents and I hope that all of the students have a successful school year.

Paul Dorathy

Paul Dorathy
Superintendent

SCHOOL DISTRICT Non-Profit Organization
NEWSLETTER US POSTAGE PAID
Baldwin USD 348 PERMIT #22
P.O. Box 67
Baldwin City, KS 66006

BALDWIN ELEMENTARY PRIMARY CENTER NEWS

Welcome! We are already into the swing of things. There are many new student names and faces to learn, and several new staff. Most recently joining us are Sue Schmidt who will be teaching in our Math Resource program, Lindsay Dennis and Jennie Stewart in the AM 4 Year Old program.

It is always interesting and sometimes challenging to maintain a comfortable temperature in an older building. The Primary Center is the oldest building in the District. We use the basement of the District Office building, which was constructed in 1923. The main parts of the Primary Center were built in 1956 and in the early 60s. The Early Childhood wing was added in 1985. Having your child dress in layers may help them be more comfortable. We don't have a lot of control over temperatures in the classroom spaces. Sometimes it's really hot; sometimes it's really chilly in the classrooms.

In an effort to increase the security of the District schools a buzzer system will be installed on the front doors. Although this may be somewhat inconvenient, it will help us keep students and staff safer while in the building.

SchoolReach, an automated calling system, will also be implemented this fall. SchoolReach will be used to inform parents of emergencies, school events, reminders, etc. As with any new system, there may be an "adjustment time". Please be patient with us as we figure out how to make it work effectively.

IMPORTANT DATES

Sept 3 No School - Labor Day

Sept 7 PEP Screening

Sept 10 Board of Education @ 7 PM

Sept 11 PTO/Site Council 6:30 @ IC

BALDWIN ELEMENTARY INTERMEDIATE CENTER NEWS

We are excited to welcome two new teachers to the IC team. Jo Heins will be teaching fourth grade. She most recently was a fifth grade teacher at Appanoose Elementary School. Jo is married and has two grown children. She loves technology and reading. Doug Woolery will be teaching fifth grade. Doug has been teaching at

an international school in Guatemala. Doug is married and has two young children attending the PC. Doug is a former Army Ranger and was most recently deployed in northern Iraq.

We are also pleased to welcome two student teachers from Kansas University who will be starting the year with us in the fourth grades. Lia Polgioli will be working with Cathy Maxon and Laura Hammond will be working with Nancy Parr.

Congratulations go out to fifth grade teacher, Kathy Dorsey. The Kansas Council on Economic Education recently named Kathy the 2007 Kansas Economic Educator of the Year.

Congratulations also go out to fourth grader Timothy Trowbridge. Tim will receive the 2007 Outstanding Student Technology Award at an awards ceremony in Emporia on October 5. The Kansas Infinitec Coalition presents this award. Staff members Barb Schwering, Claire Kueffer and Meghan Othick supported Tim with his project. Way to go Tim!

Thanks once again to Wilda and Lee Robbins for their donation of notebook and other school supplies for our Student Council to use in their bookstore. This makes the second straight year the Robbins' have helped us out.

Thanks also to the Worden United Methodist Church for their donation of school supplies. These supplies were used to help students who were unable to purchase their own at this time.

And, one more thank you to Heather Brungardt. Heather continues to play a major role in the maintaining of our "dog bone" flower bed. Her efforts are greatly appreciated.

The IC will again be collecting: General Mills Box Tops, Tyson Project A+ labels and Baldwin City Market Grocery Receipts. Check out Box Tops web site: www.boxtops4education.com for the many products that now have box tops. We earn 10 cents for each box top. Student Council earned \$317 last year. For the Tyson Label Collection Program clip the entire Project A+ 1 2 3 label from participating Tyson products. We will receive 24 cents for each label. The Baldwin City Market cash register tapes will be collected from September 1, 2007 until March 30, 2008.

We collected over \$50,000, in receipts last year and redeemed them for a 3M Overhead and Metal Tripod. Thanks to all those who helped us last year.

IC SEPTEMBER DATES

Sept. 3 Labor Day- No school

Sept. 4 Assembly- 1:00 p.m.

Sept. 4 Stuco reps. campaign week

Sept. 7 Stuco reps. Election

Sept. 10 Art begins this week
 Sept. 11 We remember 9/11/01
 Sept. 11 PTO/Site Council- 6:30 p.m.
 Sept. 12 First Stuco meeting- 11:30 a.m.
 Sept. 14 National Anthem Day
 Sept. 14 Pony Express at BCPO
 Sept. 17 Constitution Day
 Sept. 17-27 Iowa Test of Basic Skills begins
 Sept. 29 4th/5th to William Allen White at ESU

MARION SPRINGS ELEMENTARY NEWS

We are all excited to be starting a new year at MSES. As you walk the halls you will notice many changes in classroom assignments. Dan Wallsmith will be teaching the fifth grade this year, Ashley Strand has switched to the fourth grade level and Michelle Leeker will move to third grade. Heather Wallsmith will be teaching a combination first-second grade class and will welcome the student who has moved the farthest to join our school, Anjali Peterson, who comes all the way from India. Tammy Lamb has become our Title I Reading teacher and is looking forward to working with students from all grades, K-5.

We are happy to welcome two new members to our staff. Jo Doerr will be piloting our all day 4-year-old program after a decade of experience teaching in a variety of interesting locations. Mary Ruppert, who was a substitute cook for us last year, will be serving up breakfasts and lunches full time.

The building looks great thanks to much hard work throughout the summer by Tami Broyles, our custodian, and we are glad to have our library moved back into our building once again. We also want to thank Doug Jamison for building cabinets and shelves for the third grade classroom this summer. His contribution of materials, time and effort is greatly appreciated.

MSES DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept. 3 No School (Labor Day)
 Sept. 11 Site Council Meeting 6:00 PM
 CSO Meeting 7:00 PM
 Sept. 21 District Field Day for 1st& 2nd graders
 Sept. 17-28 ITBS testing for grades 2-5

VINLAND ELEMENTARY NEWS

We would like to welcome our new students, first grader, Taylor LaFavor and second grader,

Aubrey Wood and welcome back third grader, Sylvie Mitchell. We are so glad you have joined our VES Family.

We would like to thank Jeff Quigley from Cosentinos Price Chopper and Gene and Dorothy Jesberg for once again donating school supplies to our school. And once again, we would like to thank Barbara Maycock for the donation of new backpacks and additional school supplies. The supplies will definitely be used. Thanks a million!

The VES third, fourth and fifth graders will be enjoying learning about America's past at Johnson County's Ernie Miller Nature Park. Through the park's Heritage History Lab the students will travel back in time. During the 1700's they will meet Jacque, a French fur trapper, who describes his life on the waterways and on the prairies. They will also meet an Osage Indian who tells of the ways of his people. During the 1800's they will meet a newly arrived pioneer, who relays her family's hardships and their survival on the journey west. These living history presentations will be followed in the afternoon by "hands-on" participation in pioneer games, erecting a teepee, and activities that will better acquaint students with the prairie ecosystem lesson in history.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sept 3 Labor Day/No School
 Sept 11 PTO Meeting 6:45 PM
 Sept 14 K-5 Pony Express @ Baldwin Post Office
 Sept 21 Field Day 1st & 2nd
 Sept 26 Site Council 5:30 PM
 Sept 28 3-5 gr. to Ernie Miller Heritage History Lab
 Sept 30 Crop Walk

BALDWIN JUNIOR HIGH NEWS

BJHS welcomes our newest staff members. They are: Dennis Hollinger, seventh grade science; Julie Henry, food service director and FACS instructor; Cindy Foster, eighth grade paraprofessional; and Courtney Breen, seventh grade paraprofessional.

Our volleyball and football programs are in full swing. The first football contest is Tuesday, September 4 at 4:00 PM in Eudora. The volleyball teams played their first game on August 28. Come out and support our young athletes!

This is your last chance to buy your BASH family ticket! The BASH is this Friday, August 31 at Baker's Liston Stadium. For \$25, your

family can dine on exquisite picnic fare and then head over to the stadium for a football contest between the Baldwin Bulldogs and the Gardner-Edgerton Trailblazers. Your generosity will help our STUCO projects.

Parents, we need your help! Teachers are not on duty until 8:00 AM. Students should not arrive before 8:00 AM unless they have a special circumstance.

The Frontier League is combining four area district choirs including BJHS for a choir concert on Thursday, October 11. It will be held at Wheatridge Middle School at 7:00 PM. This concert includes all seventh and eighth graders enrolled in choir this semester and all members of the newly formed group, Choraliers. It will be an exciting event for our students to be involved. Those students will travel on a bus to Gardner during the afternoon for a rehearsal and they will stay until after the concert. Students will need to wear comfortable dress-up clothes. We ask that students do not wear jeans or t-shirts. Students will not have an opportunity to change attire during the day. Please come to school that day in the same clothes you will be wearing at the concert. Parents and family members are encouraged to attend the evening performance at Wheatridge Middle School.

BJHS is proud to present our new student council officers for 2007-08. They are: Alex Twombly, president; Claire Peterson, vice-president; Lakyn Clark, secretary; and Ellie Parr, treasurer.

Parents, we are looking for donations of plastic tubs (big enough to hold 8 1/2 by 11 inch paper) for our classrooms. This will aid in our all-school paper recycling project. If you have a tub you are willing to donate, please send it to the school office.

The first site council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 13 at 8:15 AM in the BJHS conference room.

Parent volunteers are needed to help in our concession stands during sporting events. Please contact Kim Callahan or Kim Christian if you can help with this vital endeavor.

The first day of junior high wrestling will be either October 18 or October 22, depending on facility arrangements with the Maple Leaf Festival. Plans will be announced at a later time. The team is open to all seventh and eighth graders. The team will compete in four duals and two tournaments. The team has one home dual on November 6. The season will end Saturday, November 10, at the Frontier League tournament. Contact Coach Kit Harris for more information at kharris@usd348.com or 594-2725. Go Bulldogs!

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

- Sept. 3 No School – Labor Day
- Sept. 4 Football at Eudora, 4 PM
- Sept. 6 Volleyball at Pioneer Ridge Middle School in Gardner, 4 PM
- Sept. 8 7th varsity volleyball at Eudora, 9 AM
- Sept. 10 7th & 8th volleyball here vs. Louisburg
- Sept. 11 7th & 8th football at Pioneer Ridge in Gardner, 4 PM
- Sept. 13 Site Council, 8:15 AM
- Sept. 13 7th & 8th jr. varsity football vs. Pioneer Ridge – here (BHS practice field)
- Sept. 15 7th jr. varsity volleyball at Eudora, 9 AM 8th jr. varsity volleyball at Tonganoxie 9 AM
- Sept. 17 ITBS testing begins
- Sept. 17 7th & 8th volleyball at Ottawa, 4 PM
- Sept. 18 7th & 8th football at Baker Stadium vs. Louisburg, 4 PM
- Sept. 19 Progress reports go home
- Sept. 22 8th varsity volleyball at Eudora, 9 AM
- Sept. 24 7th & 8th volleyball here vs. Paola, 4 PM
- Sept. 25 7th & 8th football at Ottawa, 4 PM
- Sept. 29 7th varsity volleyball at Bonner Springs, 9 AM
- Oct. 1 NO SCHOOL – Collaboration Day 7th & 8th volleyball here vs. Spring Hill, 4 PM

BALDWIN HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

ADDITIONAL PHONE NUMBERS

BHS has two additional phone numbers that may be helpful to you: 594-2728, Attendance; 594-2727, Athletic Director.

CLASS RING SALES

The representative from Balfour will be at the high school on Wednesday, September 5 from 6:00 - 7:30 PM and Friday, September 7 at 11:00 AM in the commons. He will give information about class rings.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports will be sent home with students on Wednesday, September 19.

PICTURE RETAKES

Picture retakes will be Thursday morning, October 18.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher conferences will be Wednesday, September 19 from 5-7 PM.

SITE COUNCIL MEETINGS

The BHS Site Council meeting will be Tuesday, September 4 at 6:00 PM in the Library.

ATTENTION SENIOR PARENTS

Herff-Jones will meet with parents who want to purchase senior announcements on Wednesday, October 10 from 5-7 PM in the BHS commons.

MAGAZINE SALES

Students will be in the community searching for those magazine renewals. If anyone would like to renew or purchase or receive further information, you may contact principal Shaun Moseman or sponsor Mike Curran at 594-2725.

BHS YEARBOOK INFO

The 2007-08 Pioneers are on sale for \$43 or \$48 for a name stamped on the cover. Yearbooks will be available the first week of August 2008. Also, seniors are asked to submit their chosen senior photo and senior quote to the Pioneer staff. The photo selection must be a vertical pose. The Pioneer staff requires two prints and also the name of the photographer for the Baldwin City Signal to request permission to run the photo in its Senior Section in May. Contact BHS Journalism Adviser Kit Harris for more info (594-2725 or kharris@usd348.com).

SENIOR MASTERY PROJECT

All seniors should have proposals and mentor commitment page turned in. If a student is trying for the early deadline, his or her paper is due on September 18 (otherwise they will be on the regular deadline: Nov. 6). Mrs. Beaulieu will be available after school until 4:30 PM on Monday and Wednesday to help with papers. She can schedule by individual appointments if it needs to be another time due to school activities.

BHS STUDENT DIRECTORY

BHS Spanish students traveling to Costa Rica next spring will be publishing a student directory this fall as a fund-raiser. The "buzz book" will contain students' names by class, phone numbers and birthdays, as well as teacher contact information. Ads for the directories were sold to local and area businesses. We would like to say GRACIAS to all the advertisers for their support and all those who purchased at enrollment. Extras will also be available for sale.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Parents and students, please take time to check the daily bulletin on Power School for the latest scholarships available.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Tips for the New School Year

borrowed from FamilyEducation.com

One piece of advice is to wait a couple of weeks before pressing the alarm bell about a student's unhappiness at school. "Students need time to get comfortable in their new surroundings, and teachers need time to get to know the child and assess why they're having trouble. It's always wise to give your teacher a heads-up if you sense there's a problem, but understand that it takes a little time before he or she can give you an answer," Sally Smith, Language Arts teacher, Concord, Massachusetts.

Here are a few more tips from Sally for parents preparing to send their kids back to school:

As school begins, helping kids get organized is probably the most important thing parents can do. Carve out a workspace with them where they will be able to do work at home, uninterrupted in an orderly space. Assemble the supplies they will need and have them arrange everything so it feels like a comfortable place. Encourage them to keep it organized and to go there to do their work. Help them think about how they can organize a homework routine, knowing that there will be other demands, like sports or other after school activities that will compete with homework time.

Here's a tip that works to help kids get out the door in the morning without the usual hassles. It starts before they leave school at the end of the day. They need to have an assignment book and a system they faithfully use to record what's due. They should check it before leaving the building, so they can bring home what's needed. As they complete assignments, they should get in the habit of putting them in a book bag. When everything's done and the book bag is full of what is needed for the next day, it should be put in front of the front door. This will minimize the "dog ate my homework" refrains.

Teachers and parents should be allies -- both want success for the student. If problems occur between a teacher and a student, parents should be sympathetic but neutral listeners until they have heard both sides. Even then, it's most helpful to work together to find solutions. If parents talk disparagingly about a teacher, it gives the student tacit approval to disrespect him or her and stop participating. Learning is always

undermined when a student shuts down and a teacher feels disregarded. Don't let a bad situation linger. Follow through to find a fair and productive solution that works.

PSAT

The PSAT will be administered to sophomores and juniors on October 17 at 8:15 AM. To sign up, students need to bring a check for \$15 made out to BHS starting September 4. PSAT stands for Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. It is a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT Reasoning Test. The PSAT is taken in the fall by juniors competing for National Merit Scholarships. Sophomores can take the PSAT for practice and tend to score better when they take it again as juniors. National test dates are set each year by College Board. This is a highly competitive test, but worthwhile if you are a good student. Visit www.collegeboard.com for links to tips and sample questions.

COLLEGE NOW

Composition I students interested in enrolling for dual credit through JCCC received information and enrollment materials on Monday, August 20. Additional information can be found on the website: www.jccc.edu/collegenow. Application deadline is September 4 and the enrollment/payment deadline is September 10. Contact Ms. Schmidt-Konkel with additional questions.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Sept. 4 Sign up for PSAT begins
College Now application deadline
- Sept. 6 Neosho County Community College representative @ BHS
- Sept. 10 Registration deadline for October SAT
College Now enrollment & payment deadline
- Sept. 13 K-State representative @ BHS during seminar
- Sept. 14 Late registration deadline for October SAT
- Sept. 20 Washburn representative @ BHS during seminar
- Sept. 21 Registration deadline for October ACT
- Oct. 5 Late Registration deadline for October ACT
- Oct. 6 SAT
- Oct. 17 PSAT
- Oct. 27 ACT

FREE SCREENING FOR CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OF AGE

USD 348 and the East Central Kansas Cooperative in Education conduct monthly screenings for children under 5 years of age. The next screening will be September 7 at BES-PC. Areas screened include: motor skills, self-help skills, speech-language skills, personal-social skill, pre-academic skills, hearing and vision. Please call the BES-PC office at 594-2444 to schedule an appointment.

TRANSPORTATION NEWS

Just a reminder that all students riding a bus other than their own home, must either have a note or a phone call to the bus garage, 594-RIDE (7433). Also, check with Linda Russell for lost and found items left on the bus.

MAPLE LEAF ESSAY CONTEST

The Maple Leaf Committee will be hosting a Essay Contest for children from Kindergarten through Fifth Grade. A child from each grade will be invited to be in the parade as future Grand Marshals. Flyers with information will be handed out through each class or can be found on our website www.mapleleaffestival.com under parade. The deadline will be September 21, 2007.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Parking Lot Safety Tips

Don't approach your vehicle if a van or other large vehicle with tinted windows is parked next to it. Find a security guard to walk you to your car; they are paid to do so. If a security guard isn't available, look for a nearby couple walking to their car and say something like, "That car/van wasn't there when I parked. Would you mind walking with me to make certain nobody bothers me when I try to get into my car?" Most people would be happy to lend a moment and ensure your safety.

Walk with purpose. Multiple studies have shown that a quick, purposeful walk sends a subconscious signals to predators that you are an easy mark. They typically decide to wait for another victim.

Keep one hand free at all times. This at least gives you the opportunity to attempt to fend off a would-be attacker.

Have your key ready to open the car door. Never stand next to your car searching through your purse. Predators watch for this type of

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distraction.

Once in your car, lock the doors immediately. This is the time a bystander could quickly and simply open a car door and let himself in.

Get moving. Don't sit inside of your vehicle adjusting the stereo, rummaging through shopping bags or your purse, or talking on your phone. Instead, drive to a well-lit area and stop the car (but leave it running) and then search for the items, make a phone call, etc.

If you have an unlocking button or keyless entry system, make certain you unlock only the driver door. Most keyless systems let you unlock either the driver door or use two punches to unlock all doors. Unlocking all doors allows a predator to simply slide into your car from the passenger side and do whatever he wants.

Make sure that your dome light is always functions properly. As you unlock your vehicle at night, glance into the back seat and make sure that an attacker has not gained access to your car.

Never approach your vehicle if a single male is loitering anywhere near it. Period.

If you are or about to be attacked, fight back. Yell, scream, hit, kick, and continue trying to squirm out of his grasp. The attacker is looking for an easy victim and will probably give up if you put up a fight.