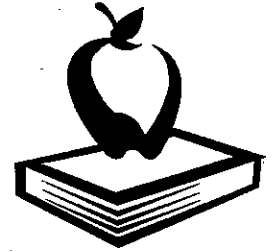


Let's Go Bulldogs!

Barhitte News



November, 2016

Core Democratic Values

4th Grade classes are working on Core-Democratic Values and decided to put "The Common Good" to practice! We are collecting small hotel size shampoo/conditioners, deodorants, small soaps, new men's socks, cheese crackers, granola bars, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc, to make small sacks to hand out to people who appear homeless at corners. If you would like to donate any of these items, it would be greatly appreciated! Any questions, please contact Amy Gusie here at the school.

Reminders

*Please remember that we **check ID's** for anyone coming to the office to sign their child out. Please have it ready when you come in!

*Please call the office, no later than **2:45pm** if you need to make a change in your child's transportation home. Announcements are made at 3:00 pm, so we need to know before then!

*The lost and found is getting quite full! Please come take a look for missing clothing, etc.

Upcoming Events:

- ✓ 10/31/16 1/2 Day of School. Dismissal 11:40am. Halloween Parade 10:30 am with parties following
- ✓ 10/31/16—11/4/16 Mrs. Mohr's Music InFormance
- ✓ 11/2/16 Late Start Wednesday 9:25-3:30
- ✓ 11/7/16—11/10/16 Scholastic Book Fair
- ✓ 11/8/16 *Election Day
- * Board Meeting 6:00pm
- ✓ 11/9/16 *Late Start Wed 9:25-3:30
- * Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:30
- ✓ 11/10/16 Parent Teacher Conferences 3:30-6:30
- ✓ 11/11/16 **No School**
- ✓ 11/15/16 Miss Cobb's 50's Party
- ✓ 11/16/16 Late Start Wed 9:25-3:30
- ✓ 11/17/16 *Picture retakes
- *Pawsitive Parents Meeting 6:00-7:00pm
- ✓ 11/22/16 *Charlie brown Thanksgiving for 2nd and 3rd Graders
- *Mrs. Gusie's Book Bowl 3:45-4:15pm
- ✓ 11/23/16-11/25-/16 **No School** Thanksgiving Break
- ✓ 11/30/16 Late Start Wed 9:25-3:30
- *Bark Bucks Drawing

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Please don't forget to sign up for Parent-Teacher conferences on November 9th or November 10th. Each year 92—97% of our parents attend conferences! That is spectacular because the partnership between parents and the teacher is crucial! Our goal this year is 100% and I believe we can do it! If you haven't scheduled a conference yet, please do so with your child's teacher.

Reminder!

Making the Most out of Parent-Teacher Conferences

Peggy Coppola of Dix Hills, New York, learned an important lesson when she showed up late — and unprepared — for her first parent teacher conference with her son's kindergarten teacher. "She told me things I didn't expect."

Coppola says she felt like "a deer in headlights" when she discovered Johnmarco wasn't performing well on tests and was staring at the ceiling when he was asked questions. "I walked out kicking myself," says Coppola. "I should have asked how I could help, whether his behavior was normal for his age, or what the school could do. If I had stopped and thought ahead of time, I would have been prepared."

This year, when 10-year-old Johnmarco entered 5th grade, Coppola made sure she was ready for that first teacher conference. Together, she and her son reviewed test scores and discussed what was going on in his classroom. Then, Coppola says, she felt she could "anticipate what the teacher would say."

While we expect teachers to prepare for these meetings, parents don't always take the time to do the same. That's unfortunate, since the parent-teacher conference is often one of the only opportunities parents get to meet with their child's teacher one-on-one. "You gain the perspective of a trained professional who spends an enormous amount of time with your child," says Gracemarie Rozea, New York State region director for the Parent Teacher Association (PTA). "The teacher has the opportunity to see your child interacting with other children, and is a more objective evaluator of your child than you as a parent might be."

That's important whether your child is just starting out in elementary school or on her way to high school. "Ninth grade is a critical time because it's the foundation of the high

school career," says Doris Ekert, a former high school English teacher from Massapequa, New York. "Having a notice come home isn't enough contact. This is the time to talk about your child."

Teachers Want Your Input

Teachers are just as interested in your input as you are in theirs. "There are many things about your child the teacher doesn't know," Rozea says. Teachers want to be apprised of any changes your child is facing in his personal or family life, and how he behaves at home in comparison to how he acts at school. Your child's comfort level in the classroom, whether he's found his niche among fellow students, and whether he seems stressed or happy are all important clues to his social and emotional well-being — and it's only by working together that you and your child's teacher can fully understand them.

"Social problems used to start in middle school, but now they're rearing their heads as young as 3rd grade, and this impacts academic performance," says Margaret Sagarese, author of *The Rollercoaster Years*.

With so much to talk about in so little time, here's how you can make the most of your meeting:

Before the Teacher Conference

- **Start preparing early.** Don't wait until the night before to get organized. Create a folder at the beginning of the year in which you store test scores, big homework assignments, and your notes (about things your child has told you or any other topics you want to address).
- **Talk to your child.** Ask how she's doing in class, what's going on during lunchtime, recess, and when she goes to special classes like music or gym. "You want to find out both the positive and negative," says Rozea. If you don't like what you're hearing, investigate. Talk to other parents to see if their children are expressing similar concerns. "You need to find out whether your child is perceiving everything accurately or if she's misunderstanding a situation," she says.

During the Teacher Conference

- **Arrive early.** With only a few precious minutes to spend, you don't want to be late. It will shorten your time with your child's teacher and affect her day's entire schedule.

- **Enter with the right attitude.** The goal of both the teacher and the parent should be the success of the student, but sometimes parents have a hard time discussing tough issues. Rather than put the teacher on the defensive, arrive with a compliment to start the conference off on the right foot. ("My son is really enjoying the unit on space" or "We had a great time on the field trip.") Then address any concerns in a respectful way.

Find out the communication protocol. Don't let this be the only time you talk to your child's teacher. Ask how she likes to communicate, suggests Sagarese, whether it's by e-mail, notes passed through a folder, or phone calls. "Reinforce that you are there if she wants to talk to you," she says. "Let the teacher know you want to be that kind of partner."

After the Teacher Conference

Follow up. If the teacher brings something to your attention that needs to be addressed with your child, take steps to put the plan in motion, whether it's helping with organizational skills, getting extra help, or addressing a social issue.

Update your child. Start with the positive things her teacher had to say, then fill her in on any concerns you and the teacher discussed. Explain how you can all work together to ensure your child has a successful year.

Attendance

Regular, consistent attendance at school is important for academic progress and future success.

Board Policy considers the following factors to be reasonable excuses for time missed at school:

- ⇒ Illness
- ⇒ Recovery from an accident
- ⇒ required court attendance,
- ⇒ Professional appointments
- ⇒ Death in the immediate family
- ⇒ Observation or celebration of a bona fide religious holiday,
- ⇒ Such other good cause as may be acceptable to the Superintendent.

If a student is going to be absent, the parents must contact the school office at 591-9661 the day of the absence or the following day. When no excuse is provided, the absence will be unexcused.

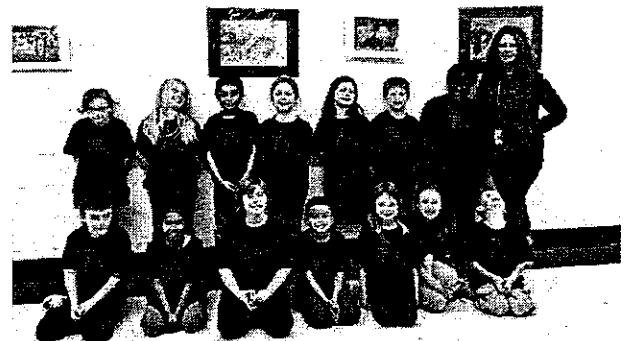
The school entry bell rings at 8:15 a.m. Children should be in their classroom promptly at 8:25 a.m. Tardy Slips are given out to all children arriving after 8:25 am. Any student missing more than 1 hour of instruction will be considered absent for that part of the day. Dismissal is at 3:30 p.m.

Students picked up early will be recorded as left early (equal to being Tardy).



Second Grade T.E.A.M

Mrs. Jensen's and Mrs. Tucker's Second Grade Students have classroom T.E.A.M t-shirts! They help promote a positive classroom community. T.E.A.M. stands for Together Everyone Achieves More! The students start out each day with their own unique T.E.A.M. cheer!





Barhitte
Elementary

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Visit us at
www.bentleyschools.org

Every Child, Every Day
- Whatever it Takes.

Principal's Corner

This is a reminder that the weather is turning much cooler, so please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately to play outside. We go out every day that it is not raining and is not below 0 degrees Fahrenheit.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the PAWSitive parent meetings and parent-teacher conferences.

Thanks for Giving

We are fortunate to have so many generous, caring people in our Community.

The Solid Rock congregation was instrumental in making our Open House a success. They provided dinner, school supplies, games and bounce houses for the children!

A Big Thank You to Tammi Browning for kindly donating pumpkins to every child here at Barhitte!

Dollar General generously donated \$2500 to support our Literacy program! Every Teacher also received a \$50 gift card to support their classrooms!

Bethel Assembly of God big-heartedly donated back packs full of school supplies for children in need at our Open House.

Amber DeLaVergne, with The Prayer Shack, donated clothing to keep in our office, for children to use in case of spills.

Last but certainly not least, we appreciate our wonderful parent volunteers who pop corn every week and help in classrooms.

THANKS FOR GIVING!!!



Parents in the Know

Balancing Work & Home

Effects of Overworking

Being overworked negatively affects your:

- * relationships
- * health
- * family
- * productivity
- * sleep patterns
- * exercise
- * marriage
- * interactions with others

Finding a Healthy Balance

Most people today struggle with finding a healthy balance between work and home. However, there are several simple things you can do to help.

1. **Identify Your Priorities** – Determine what are your personal and professional priorities and say no to things that do not align with them.
2. **Organize Your Time** – Plan ahead for each day allowing enough time for each activity and removing activities that do not support your priorities.
3. **Decide to be Flexible** – Realize that you cannot predict or plan for everything that can get in the way of your schedule. Don't sweat the small stuff.
4. **Create Healthy Routines** – Include exercise in your daily schedule to help improve health and improve your response to stress.
5. **Find Support** – Identify family members and friends who can provide support and a listening ear when needed.
6. **Simply** – Eliminate things from your life that do not support your core priorities.

Based on: Gahmann, N. A., "A Balanced Life", <http://www.mommd.com/canvohaveitall.shtml>

Time Savers



Everyone is looking for ways to save time. Although we can't add more time to the day, we can work to maximize how we use our time!

Unsubscribe - From unwanted e-mails

One Touch - Decide what you are going to do about things the first time they come before you. Don't keep putting things aside for "later"

Clean Your Desk – Before you leave the office, make sure that your desk is cleaned off so that you can start your day fresh

Automate – Pay bills online or sign up for automated payments

Meal Planning – Plan your meals in advance and prepare as much as you can in advance of mealtime

Errand Day – Designate one day a week for errands and make a schedule to maximize your time

Dump Junk – Keep a recycling bin close to the mailbox so that you can dump junk mail before it stacks up

Learn to Delegate – Make sure that your children have jobs helping around the house

What Research Says



If you struggle with balancing family and work, you're not the only one.

- * 89% of Americans say work/life balance is a problem
- * 37% say that family time is the first thing to suffer due to work commitments
- * Families work an average of 11 hours more per week than 30 years ago

Based on: Parker, W., "Work Life Balance Statistics", <http://fatherhood.about.com/od/workingfathers/a/Work-Life-Balance-Statistics.htm>

Balancing Work & Home



Book Corner

Spotlight on Family Time

The Family Dinner: Great Ways to Connect with Your Kids, One Meal at a Time, by Laurie David

Playful Learning: Develop Your Child's Sense of Joy and Wonder, by Mariah Bruehl

The Book of New Family Traditions, by Meg Cox



Family Apps

Cozy Family Calendar and Lists app won the 2012 Appy Award for Best Family / Parenting app. Cozy makes it possible for families to share their calendar and lists for FREE! The app provides a shared calendar, grocery shopping lists, to do lists, and a journal that everyone in your family can have access to.

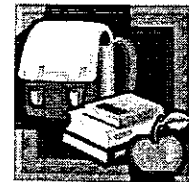
Pinterest is a pinboard that provides users an online area to share web resources that they like. It provides extensive resources related to any topic you can think of related to families and raising children.



Morning Routines

Mornings are especially stressful when you have to get your family off to school or daycare before getting to work on time. Advance planning can help reduce stress in the morning for you and your family. Try these suggestions to make your morning run smoothly:

1. Make sure your children have a set bedtime and go to bed on time each night.
2. Let your children choose their clothes the night before school.
3. Set the table, make lunches, and do any prep work you can the night before.
4. Designate a spot in your home for backpacks, gloves, boots, and any other supplies that your child needs. Make sure your children know where to keep their materials so you don't end up running around looking for things in the morning.
5. Post a family calendar on the refrigerator to help everyone know the schedule for each day.
6. Plan quick and nutritious breakfasts. Yogurt, fruit, muffins and breakfast bars are always a hit.
7. Make a morning checklist for your child so that he or she can start helping out with morning routines and responsibilities.
8. Stagger waking your children up if they need to share the bathroom in the morning.



Based on: Clinebell, V., "Tame Busy School Days with Smart Strategies", <http://www.sheknows.com/living/articles/968159/10-ways-to-save-time-during-the-school-year>

"Being successful means having a balance of success stories across the many areas of your life. You can't truly be considered successful in your business life if your home life is in shambles."

Zig Ziglar