

Barton Bugle



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FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

As we begin to plan for the 2009-2010 school year, I want to remind Barton parents that we have a policy in place that there be no parent requests for specific teachers or classrooms for next year (with an exception explained below). Our primary goal is to create well-balanced heterogeneous rooms at all grade levels, classrooms that reflect the diversity of our student body in terms of gender, age, ability level, native language, ethnicity, special learning needs, etc. To accomplish the goal of balanced rooms, it is important that all parents be respectful of this policy.

The one exception to this process is an invitation to let me or your current teacher know if you would prefer a classroom/teacher change for next year if your child is the youngest in the multi-grade room this year. Our hope is for a two year teacher assignment for most students. Although we can't make any guarantees, we do our best to accommodate parent requests for a room change if that is your preference. You should email me or talk directly with your child's current teacher by May 1, 2009.

--Steven R. DeLapp, Principal (email address steven.delapp@mpls.k12.mn.us)

Haiku Poet Winners

Minneapolis and Ibaraki have been sister cities since 1980. Part of the mission of both cities is to help their citizens understand the culture and history of their sister city. Each year the emperor of Japan selects a theme for haiku poets. For this contest the theme is "sei" which translates in English to be "alive, energetic." Congratulations to the five haiku poets from Barton who were winners this year.

*Spread across the earth
Like a swaying spider web
Shadows of its soul.*

--Catherine Hastings, 1st Place Grades 6-8

*The winds swift dancing
Tempt the languid leaves to join
Oh, nature's tango.*

--Mahalia Damm, 3rd Place Grades 6-8

*Twisting through the grass,
Mud wrapping around my toes
Alive summer fun.*

--Molly Carolan, Honorable Mention
Grades 6-8

*Iridescent snow
Down come drops of frozen sun
Scintillating life.*

--Shana Crawford, Honorable Mention
Grades 6-8

*A gentle whisper
A cool humming all around
The wind keeps dancing.*

--Willy Dehn, Honorable Mention
Grades 6-8

Caution to Parent Drivers

Kids Are Walking & Riding!

Calendar 2009

April

- 23 Area C Parent Council at Washburn in the WHS auditorium 6:30-8 PM
- 24 Summer School Applications Due
- 30 Mixed Blood's *Hijab Tube* 8:45 AM
- 30 Leadership Council Meeting (6-8 PM)

May

- 1 Barton "Walk/Bike to School" Day
- 4 No Classes K-8: Reclassification Day
- 4-8 Kindergarten Registration Week
- 6 Spring Options Classes 12:55 PM
- 7 Kindergarten Round-Up 9:30 AM
- 7 Spring Options Classes 12:55 PM
- 8 Plant Sale Pick-Up 2-7 PM
- 9 Plant Sale Pick-Up 9 AM-3 PM
- 12 Spring Options Classes 12:55 PM
- 13 Spring Options Classes 12:55 PM
- 14 Leadership Council (4:30-6:30 PM)
- 14 Area C Parent Council at Southwest 6:30
- 19 Spring Strings Concerts 8:45 AM/7:00 PM
- 25 No Classes K-8: Memorial Day
- 26 Spring Band Concert 7:00 PM
- 27 Spring Band Concert 8:45 AM
- 28 Leadership Council Meeting (6-8 PM)

June

- 5 Lake Day Awards Program/Picnic
- 8 Eighth Grade Graduation Program 4 PM
- 9 Last Day for Students K-8
- 10 Last Day for Teaching Staff

July

- 7 First Week Summer School Classes (T-F)
- 13 Second Week Summer School (M-Th)
- 20 Third Week Summer School (M-Th)
- 27 Fourth Week Summer School (M-Th)
- 30 Last Day of Summer School Classes

August

- 25 First Day for Teaching Staff

September

- 1 School Begins for Grades 1-8
- 3 First Day for Kindergartners
- 7 No Classes K-8: Labor Day

Sarah's Nature Notes

By Sarah Pogany

Spring is finally here! You can really put that snow shovel away and get out the bikes! Go for a ride around your neighborhood or one of our beautiful Minneapolis Lakes.

7500 Is More than 100...

Letter to the Green Team
from the Barton Math Department

Go Barton Organics Composting Program!! No need to be shy and “fudge” the numbers (in order to save us from shame?). That estimate of “more than 100 baggies in the trash every week” reported in last week’s newsletter won’t shock anyone into making the changes the article suggests! Go ahead and use the real numbers! Give us the mathematical, factual truth. We can take it!

If 70% of our near 800 students bring a three-baggie-lunch daily, that’s approximately 1500 baggies daily! 7500 wasted bags weekly might tug at the old guilt strings, and sometimes that’s what it takes. Let’s all try to send our lunch courses in reusable containers; labeling each container with your child’s name helps get them home each day. Keep up the great work and thanks again to our Green Team for telling it (almost) like it is! We are proud to be part of such an environmentally-sound, forward-thinking school community.

--Allison & Katie

Barton Students in *Oliver!*

Morris Park Players presents the musical “*Oliver!*” The following Barton students are in this musical: Scout Peterson, Haley Richter, Mara Benowitz, Avery Katz, and Sadie and Harry Wendt. The musical runs April 24, 25 and May 1, 2 at 7:30 pm and a matinee performance on April 26 at 2:00 pm. It is at Folwell School, 3611 20th Avenue South, door #7. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students/seniors/groups of 10+. (I think you can also buy tickets from the students listed above for \$12!). Consider yourself invited!

Laura Balfour Dance Company

Laura Balfour Dance Company is offering classes for spring and summer. We are also offering a special Ballet Pointe class, 3 times a week. A few of

the dancers will be performing in the Barton Community Education performance of “*The Wizard of Oz*”. If you are interested in lessons, please contact LBDC at 612-920-8736.

Thank You for Plastic Tops

Troop 12083 thanks Barton School for all of their help in donating plastic tops for their recycled art project! The troop will be done collecting caps in two weeks. We hope that you can come to the Linden Hills festival to see our recycled art piece. Linden Hills Park also plans to keep the art at the park permanently. Thanks again so much for all of your help!

--Kim Lawrence and Troop 12083.

Safe Crossing Corridor to and from Barton Open

We are looking for people interested in helping with the Barton Crossing Guard Program this spring. In the morning we would like to have adults on 43rd & Bryant and 43rd & Colfax to get students safely to Barton on time. It would be great if adults could sign-up for a week to help out! Here are the dates for the last seven weeks of school:

April 27–May 1, May 4–May 8,
May 11–May 15, May 18–May 22,
May 26–May 29, June 1–June 5 &
June 8–June 9.

If you can work at a corner from 7:15 a.m. until 7:30 a.m. and would like to help please call Sue Buettgen (612-243-0321) or stop in and sign-up in Room 12.

After school we need students who get picked up or walk to school to help with the afternoon crossing guard shift. Student Crossing Guards need to be in 4th – 8th grade and can talk to Sue B. at school for more details. Both the morning adult shift and the student afternoon shift will only take about 15 minutes. If you are willing to help, please contact Sue Buettgen. Let’s end the year safely!!

Mixed Blood Theatre’s New American Muslim Play Comes to Barton

Mixed Blood Theatre’s premiere production of *Hijab Tube*, a new play about American Muslims, will be presented in the Barton Commons on Thursday, April 30th at 8:45 AM for our fifth through eighth graders. The play offers an entertaining, eye-opening look at elements of Islamic culture in 21st Century America. Barton parents are welcome to attend.

Written by Seema Sueko on a commission from Mixed Blood, *Hijab Tube* centers on 20-year old Rubiya, a second-generation American Muslim. Prompted by a class discussion, she is considering wearing the *hijab* (the traditional head covering of Muslim women) and takes her questions about it to YouTube. The range and variety of responses she receives offer illuminating perspectives on the great diversity of Islam in contemporary America.

This debut production of *Hijab Tube* features Eliza Rasheed as Rubiya and Ansa Akyea and Roneet Aliza Rahamim in a variety of roles. The production is directed by former Cricket Theatre artistic director Bill Partlan. *Hijab Tube* is produced by the Mixed Blood Theatre Company from its home in a century-old Minneapolis fire station. Founded in 1976 and dedicated to the spirit of Dr. King’s dream, Mixed Blood is a multi-racial professional company promoting cultural pluralism, individual equality and artistic excellence. *Hijab Tube* is one of seven programs toured nationally by Mixed Blood. The others are biographies of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jackie Robinson, and Dr. Ronald McNair; Daughters of Africa, a music history of African American women; The Deaf Duckling, a deaf culture play that integrates American Sign Language into the performance; and Minnekanos, a cultural history of Mexican Americans in Minnesota.