

Barton Bugle



a publication of Clara Barton Open School
4237 Colfax Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55409
www.bartonopen.org

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

A warm welcome to new and returning Barton families! I hope all of you have had a great summer break from school routines (and our early start time) and are ready for the new academic year. I am pleased to welcome five new teachers to the Barton staff. As always, we are very fortunate to attract such top notch educators. Please join me in welcoming Penny Jones (2nd-3rd grade teacher in room 209), Rebekah Banks (1st-2nd grade teacher in room 106), Sara Doty Owens (7th-8th mathematics teacher in room 16), Joan Storlie (special education teacher in room 3) and Amy Treon (speech/language clinician in room 114A). You are invited to meet Barton staff members, and, of course, your child's homeroom teacher, at this year's **Meet Your Teacher** social scheduled for Thursday, August 28, from 3-4 PM. Following this event, families are invited to attend this year's fifth annual **All School Family Potluck Picnic** held at Beard's Plaisance. A few more details about this event are included in another section of this newsletter.

This fall's **Parent Information Night** is scheduled for the second Tuesday of the school year, Tuesday, September 9, from 6:30 to 8 PM. Although we have traditionally held this event on Thursday of the second week, we are avoiding this date because of conflicts with high school parent meetings that same evening. Parent Information Night involves a short meeting in the Commons to introduce teachers and to share a few comments about the upcoming school year. The heart of the evening are information meetings in classrooms where teachers talk about their goals and plans for the new year. Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend. We'll have one more reminder about this event coming home the first week of school.

My best wishes to everyone for a continuing safe and fun summer break.
--Steven R. DeLapp, Principal (email address steven.delapp@mpls.k12.mn.us)

Separate *Meet Your Teacher* Social for Kindergartners

Kindergartners assigned to either Gloria Livingston's AM & PM sessions or Kate Glasenapp's all-day class are encouraged to attend a "separate" meet your teacher event on Wednesday, September 4, rather than attend the August 28 all school event. Room 110 AM kindergartners and Room 114

kindergartners are invited to meet your teacher at 9 AM that day. Room 110 PM kindergartners are invited to come at 12:00 noon.

If it is better for your schedule to attend on August 28, please go ahead and do so, although you are then asked not to attend the September 4 session. A smaller group size will allow the teachers to spend more time with each family.

Calendar 2008-2009

August

- 25 First Day for Teaching Staff
- 28 "Meet Your Teacher" Social 3-4 PM
- 28 All School Family Picnic 5-7:30 PM at Beard's Plaisance, Lake Harriet

September

- 1 Labor Day Holiday
- 2 First Day for Students in Grades 1-8
- 3 Kindergarten "Meet Your Teacher" Rooms 114 & 110 AM at 9 AM and Room 110 PM at 12 Noon
- 4 First Day for Kindergartners
- 4 Leadership Council Meeting 6-8 PM
- 9 **Parent Information Night** 6:30-8 PM
- 25 Leadership Council 4:30-6:30 PM

October

- 1 School Picture Day
- 2 No Classes for AM/PM Kindergarten
- 3 No Classes K-8: Conference Day
- 9 Leadership Council Meeting 6-8 PM
- 14 Kindergarten Family Dinner 5:30-7 PM
- 16 No Classes K-8: Professional Day
- 17 No Classes K-8: Professional Day
- 29 Fall Options Classes Begin
- 30 Leadership Council 4:30-6:30 PM

November

- 3 No Classes K-8: Record Keeping Day
- 4 Election Day: Vote!
- 12 Wild Rumpus Book Fair 2-8 PM
- 20 Leadership Council Meeting 6-8 PM
- 24-25 Homeroom/Class Picture Days
- 26 No Classes K-8: Professional Day
- 27-28 No Classes K-8: Thanksgiving Break

December

- 10 Last Day for Fall Options Classes
- 11 Silent Auction/Marketplace & Family Theme Night 5:00-7:30 PM
- 22 Winter Break Begins

January

- 5 Classes Resume Following Break

The *Barton Bugle* is published weekly and distributed on Wednesdays. Articles should be submitted to the office on the preceding Friday of each week to be considered for publication.

To view the newsletter online, visit the school website at www.bartonopen.org and look under "Barton Bugle Archives." To receive weekly notification of new information, submit your e-mail address under "E-Mail Updates."

5th Annual Barton Family Potluck Picnic

Thursday, August 28, 2008
5:00-7:30 PM

at **Beard's Plaisance**
On the west side of Lake Harriet
45th Street & Upton Avenue

*Eating areas will be organized by
homerooms so you can meet other
families in your child's room.*

**Tableware, water and lemonade
are provided.**

*Bring the following if your child's
last name begins with:*

A-E dessert or chips & dip
F-O salad or side dish
P-Z main course

*Volunteers are welcome. Please
contact Council member Peggy
Clark at 612-247-2632 or
pclarkschool@gmail.com if you can
help with the set-up, serving or
clean-up arrangements for the
family picnic. Thank you!*

Attendance Matters! **Be on time, ready to learn, every day.**

One of the positive ways to
strengthen student attendance this year
is for families to plan vacations around
the school release day calendar. Please
check the MPS Calendar on the
Minneapolis Public Schools website
(www.mpls.k12.mn.us) or the calendar
attached to this August newsletter
before planning family vacations this
year.

Let's all work together to minimize
the number of days that students are
absent from school and miss their
classroom instruction. Thank you.

School Supply Information Posted Online

School supply information for some
of our K-6 classrooms has been posted
online this year to save paper. Please
visit www.bartonopen.org and find the
link for your child's homeroom. As of
this printing the following homerooms
have supply lists online: Rooms 104,
116, 118, 209, 211, 214, 216, 218 and
220. Please check for periodic updates
to see if your child's homeroom is
included.

Volunteer at this Year's King of the Log

King of the Log is a game booth at
the Minnesota Renaissance Festival
that continues to win awards for the
best patron game at the Fest. The game
is also a fundraiser for Barton School!
It's a pillow fight on a log between
young and old, moms and sons, dads
and daughters, and yes, even between
Kings and Queens.

Barton families can volunteer for
one or more shifts during the 7
weekend run of the Festival from
August 16 through September 28.
Shifts are 8:30-2 or 1:30-7 on Saturday
or Sunday. We have costumes of all
sizes for kids to teens to adults. You
can volunteer for one or as many shifts
as you would like. You get into the
Fest at no charge - - work half the day
and enjoy the fun of the Fest on your
own the other half of the day.

You are invited to volunteer at King
of the Log by contacting their
volunteer information website at
www.kingofthelog.com. You will find
dates, coordinators, sign-up, costume
and location information. If you do
not have computer access, please feel
free to contact Brenda at 651-463-
3191 to get information about
volunteering.

www.kingofthelog.com

Barton Leadership Council 2008-2009

The Barton Leadership Council is
comprised of parents and staff
members who meet once or twice a
month to identify school improvement
priorities, guide overall staffing,
program and budget decisions, plan
and implement fundraising activities,
and encourage broad participation
from all members of the school
community.

Council meetings are held on
Thursdays in the second floor
resource area in the north wing.
Meeting times will alternate between
4:30-6:30 PM and 6-8 PM. All
meetings are open to any member of
the Barton community. If you have a
question, issue or concern that you
would like the Council to address,
please contact a member of the
Council or the principal. Agenda
planning takes place the prior week of
each scheduled Thursday meeting.

Parent Representatives

Megan Cummings-Krueger, parent co-chair
(mckmpls@msn.com)
Jennifer Bennett (jbennett3636@mac.com)
Peggy Clark 247-2632
(pclarkschool@gmail.com)
David Curle, treasurer, 824-5360
(david@curle.com)
Nasra Hassan (nasriinal@yahoo.com)
Tom Hockenberry
(Thockenberry@comcast.net)
Julia Paulsen Mullin
(juliaemmett@usiwireless.com)
Nettie Posey (nettiesoars@q.com)
Steve Richter (srichter3@comcast.net)
Julie Ristau (jristau@earthlink.net)
Anne Sterner 926-2473 (amsterner@msn.com)
Lori Zook-Stanley (lszook@earthlink.net)

Staff Representatives

Kristin Sonquist, staff co-chair
Kate Glasenapp, primary team representative
Mark Downing, older primary team rep
Katrina Belding, middles team representative
Amber Damm, uppers team representative
Karen Karis, representative at large
Fadumo Roble/Mary Charron, support staff
Trish Clarke, dean of students
Steven DeLapp, principal

Barton School Taxi Cab Fund

Parent and family member attendance at school events is a high priority for us at Barton School. The Leadership Council allocates funds each year to support a Barton School transportation account with the Minneapolis Yellow Cab Company. The taxi cab fund is set up to assist any Barton parent/family member to attend school events and conferences.

If you need assistance getting to school, please call Yellow Cab at 824-4444 and provide the Barton account number #4129. The Yellow Cab drivers will bring you to school and then fill out a voucher in the school office. You may also request that the office make taxi arrangements for you.

Be On Time! Everyday!

Parents are strongly encouraged to begin the school year in a positive manner by getting your child to class on time. This is especially critical for students who depend upon parent transportation in the morning. Although we might all agree it's an earlier start time than we would prefer, every family must still make sure that students are in class ready to learn at 7:30 AM. Teachers have been asked to record tardies and to ask for late passes for any child who arrives after 7:30 AM. A few minutes late to class does make a difference for your child. Please start the year off right and get your child to school on time!

Locking Exterior Doors

Please note that shortly after 7:30 AM everyday, all exterior doors to the building will be locked with the exception of door #2 (off the north parking lot west end) and door #3 (Colfax side closest to the north parking lot). The inconvenience this might cause will be balanced by the additional precaution to promote a safer environment for our students.

Medication at School

A written authorization from a doctor and parental permission is required for all medications given at school. This includes asthma medications, nasal sprays, pills and creams. It includes prescription medications as well as over the counter medications. Forms are available from the Health Office. Call Jennie, our health office assistant at 612-668-3580.

No Crossing Streets Between School Buses

Parents are reminded not to walk between the school buses when taking children to your car at the 1:45 PM dismissal time or when walking children onto the school sidewalks in the morning. When buses are present along Colfax Avenue, 43rd Street or Bryant Avenue, all street crossing should take place at the intersections. Please do not jeopardize your own safety or the safety of our children by walking between the buses.

Transportation Update

Please watch for bus stop information for grades K-8 mailed directly to homes from the District Transportation Department during the latter part of August. Kindergarten bus routes are frequently mailed in late August. Questions should be first directed to the Transportation Department at 668-2300.

Please send younger children (kindergarten through second grade) to school with a written bus tag attached to their backpack. The tag should include name, phone number, bus # and drop off address. This information will assist the school staff in getting children on the correct buses at the end of the school day. Bus tags can be picked up and completed at the meet your teacher social on August 28 (or September 4 for some kindergartners).

Barton Open School Mission Statement & Values

Barton Open School fosters a community of active learners centered on the following values:

Each Child is Unique

We strive to create a safe, caring and reflective environment that fosters personal responsibility, self-direction and a love of learning.

Personalized Teaching

Teachers and parents are trusted to know children, and to tailor curriculum that is emotionally, socially and intellectually meaningful.

Love of Learning

We strive for a school that fosters a love of learning through passionate engagement, fun, risk-taking and creative experiences in a community of learners.

Multi-Faceted Curriculum

We believe in an enriched curriculum that encourages choice, critical thinking, arts expression, social skills and intellectual engagement.

A Community of Mutual Respect

We strive for a diverse learning community based on mutual respect among children, teachers and parents.

From the Lunchroom...

Please contact Lisa Erwin at 668-3584 if you have any questions about your child's school lunch account. The cost for a full pay lunch is the same as last year (\$1.75). The cost of milk, when purchased separately from the school lunch, has gone up to \$.50 a carton from \$.35. Breakfast will continue to be provided free for all students.

You are encouraged to pre-pay for school meals using the online PAMS, Parent Account Management System. Learn more about it at:

www.paypams.com