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Back to School 2010-2011

NEW SCHEDULES FOR DURGÉE & BAKER - See page 2

Wednesday, September 8 - Full Day for Grades 1-12

This issue of *The Beacon* will provide you with back to school information, including public notifications that federal and state laws require school districts to provide to students, parents, and/or the public each year. You will also find a list of the most frequently called district numbers, and a calendar of professional development days (full and half-days) and parent-teacher conference days on the back page of the newsletter.

KBR a Success!

Baker High School's first after the ball celebration, Keep the Ball Rolling, held on May 29, was a huge success. Eighty-percent of the students who attended the senior ball also attended the celebration. The main purpose of the event, which was sponsored by Baker's PTSA, was to provide a drug-free and alcohol-free venue to continue celebrating. Prizes were awarded throughout the event, including computers, televisions, and gift cards. Senior Kyahrae Milton-Walker, at right, won the grand prize, a 2003 Toyota Corolla LE, donated by Burdick Automotive BMW, Ford, Lexus, and Toyota-Scion. Thank you to the many businesses and community members for their generous donations. If you would like to get involved with next year's event, or make a donation, contact Baker's PTSA president, Wendy Burke, at wendy.burke1@yahoo.com.



New Mural at McNamara

The next time you enter the front foyer of McNamara Elementary School, look to your left to check out the new mural surrounding the foyer's window. McNamara unveiled the mural on the last day of school in June. Fourth- and fifth-graders created the tiles that depict the history of Baldwinsville. The project, which was art teacher Leslie Nicoletti's idea, was funded by the school's PTA. Nicoletti said creating the mural incorporated the art and social studies curriculums while serving to enhance the aesthetics of the building. Local historian Bonnie Kesselstein generously donated her time, visiting Nicoletti's classes to provide students with a historical perspective on the people, events, animals, plants and businesses that their tiles would be depicting, including the Amos Mill, the Seneca Hotel, the Barge Canal, and Dr. Jonas Baldwin. Everyone who enters McNamara will now receive a mini-lesson on Baldwinsville's history. At right, standing in front of the mural are (back, l to r) Gabby George, Max Thurston, Jarrod Williams, Bonnie Kesselstein, historian, Principal Jane Nadolski, art teacher Leslie Nicoletti, (front, l to r) Briann Obert, Laura Dawley, Brianna Mueller, Bailey Thompson, Paige Smith, Casey Confer, Jonathan Berkebile, and Tiandra Benjamin.



Back to School

District Numbers

Superintendent of Schools.....	638-6043
Special Education Office.....	635-4500
Registrar.....	635-4569
Athletics.....	638-6053
Food Service.....	638-6063
Transportation.....	638-6097
Baker High School.....	638-6008
Durgee Jr. High School.....	638-6086
Ray Middle School.....	638-6106
Elden Elementary School.....	638-6118
McNamara Elementary School.....	638-6130
Palmer Elementary School.....	638-6127
Reynolds Elementary School.....	638-6124
Van Buren Elementary School.....	638-6121

New Traffic Patterns at Baker & Durgee

To improve student safety, the district has changed the traffic patterns for the bus loops at Baker High School and Durgee Junior High School, as well as the schedule of classes for both schools. These changes will begin with the first day of school, September 8.

Over the last few years, the high volume of traffic at dismissal times on the district campus has raised many safety concerns. During the time of day when traffic is busiest on the district campus, large groups of students were walking from Durgee over to Baker to board the buses there instead of boarding at Durgee. There are also many students who walk home along the district's main road.

To address these safety concerns, beginning on September 8, the drop off times in the morning and the dismissal times in the afternoon will switch at Baker and Durgee. The buses will drop off Baker students at their building first in the morning. At Baker, the bus loop entrance and exit will be opposite of what currently exists. Buses will enter the loop from the south end, instead of the north end. New stop signs will be installed at the north end of the loop as well as at the corners where the bus loop intersects with the district's main road. Please note that parking for visitors and staff will *no longer* be available in Baker's bus loop. These spaces *have been eliminated*.

After unloading the Baker students in the morning, buses will exit at the north end of the loop and proceed to the Durgee Junior High School bus loop. They will enter the Durgee bus loop at the south end, instead of the north end. This process will be repeated in the afternoon at dismissal time, with Baker students picked up first, then Durgee students. After the buses are loaded at Durgee, they will exit the bus loop on to Albert Palmer Lane to leave the district campus.

Changing the traffic patterns has necessitated changing the schedule of classes for Baker and Durgee. *Below you will find the new schedules for both schools.* Please review the schedules with your children. *As of September 8, Baker High School will open and dismiss before Durgee Junior High School.* In addition, the dismissal times for half days have changed. On a half day, Baker will dismiss at 11:00 a.m. and Durgee will dismiss at 11:11 a.m.

New Schedules for Baker and Durgee

The start times and the periods for classes have changed for Baker High School and Durgee Junior High School for 2010-2011. Please review the schedules:

Baker High School

Doors Close	7:30 a.m.
Warning Bell	7:32 a.m.
Attendance	7:34 a.m.
Period 1	7:35 – 8:15
Period 2	8:20 – 9:00
Period 3	9:05 – 9:45
Period 4	9:50 – 10:30
Period 5	10:35 – 11:15
Period 6	11:20 – 12:00
Period 7	12:05 – 12:45
Period 8	12:50 – 1:30
Period 9	1:35 – 2:15
Announcements	2:15 – 2:20

Durgee Jr. High School

Doors Close	7:40 a.m.
Warning Bell	7:44 a.m.
Attendance	7:45 a.m.
Period 1	7:50 – 8:35
Period 2	8:39 – 9:19
Period 3	9:23 – 10:03
Period 4	10:07 – 10:47
Period 5	10:51 – 11:31
Period 6	11:35 – 12:15
Period 7	12:19 – 12:59
Period 8	1:03 – 1:43
Period 9	1:47 – 2:27
Homeroom	2:27 – 2:35

2010-2011 BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PRICES

Breakfast

K-7: \$1.25

Lunch

**K-5: \$1.90
6-12: \$2.15**

Milk: .50 Ice Cream: .75

You can deposit money into your child's school meal account online through MyNutrikids.com. You can link to this site on the district's food service web page at www.bville.org.

Public Notifications

District Attendance Policy

Schools cannot educate students who do not attend class. Students will attend school regularly and punctually. Only excused absences, as defined by the district's Code of Conduct, will be allowed. Daily attendance of any student is the legal responsibility of the parent or person in the parental relation. Students who enter a classroom after a lesson has begun are interfering with the rights of others to learn and study.

There is an attendance expectation of a minimum of 85% (153 days) of regular class sessions. Using this guideline, written notification will be initiated following the timeline below:

- * 7 absences/tardies in 10 weeks of school;
- * 14 accumulated absences/tardies in 20 weeks of school; and
- * 20 accumulated absences/tardies in 30 weeks of school.

Currently, the following intervention strategies are established to identify the cause(s) of absenteeism or tardiness, to reduce absenteeism or tardiness and to circumvent the need for action in the courts (e.g., PINS petitions):

1.) Teachers and other appropriate staff members (e.g., school nurse, social worker, guidance counselor, attendance officer) shall be responsible for preliminary contact with parents and students to discuss absenteeism/tardiness and devise a plan of improvement.

2.) Should #1 not result in attendance/tardiness improvement, the building principal or his/her designee, based on referrals of teachers and the established attendance records, shall identify intervention strategies. These interventions may include, but are not limited to communication with parent/guardian, counseling and other support services, mentoring, progressive disciplinary action, related community services.

Students who are absent/tardy for any reason have 3-5 days after returning to class to make up work that was missed. Students who are aware ahead of an absence (such as educational trips, sports, etc.) are expected to make arrangements prior to their departure to obtain appropriate class work.

Non-discrimination Policy

The Baldwinsville Central School District offers employment and educational opportunities, including vocational education opportunities, without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, ethnicity, creed, marital status, age, sexual orientation or handicap. Inquiries regarding this non-discrimination policy may be directed to:

Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Baldwinsville Central School District
29 E. Oneida St.
Baldwinsville, NY 13027

Safety Plans

Please take notice that the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education Act (Project SAVE) requires all New York School districts to adopt district-wide and building-level safety plans.

The Baldwinsville Central School District (the "District") has adopted a district-wide plan and a building-level plan for each of the district schools, as required by Project SAVE.

The following is a summary of the district-wide plan:

The district-wide plan contains policies and procedures for responding to threats of violence or acts of violence by students, staff and visitors; prevention and intervention strategies; policies and procedures for contacting law enforcement officials, parent/guardians, and emergency responders in the event of an incident; policies and procedures regarding school building security; protocols for responding to incidents; and strategies for improving communication and the reporting of potential incidents.

The following is a summary of the building-level plans:

Each building-level plan contains policies and procedures for the safe evacuation of students, staff and visitors in the event of an incident; designation of an emergency response team; designation of a post-incident response team; establishment of internal and external emergency communications; definitions of a chain-of-command; contacts for access to state and local mental health resources; and procedures for conducting drills and for review of the plan.

Copies of the district-wide plan are available upon request at the office of the District Clerk in the district office at 29 E. Oneida St.

Asbestos Management Plans

As provided under the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, (AHERA-EPA 40 CFR 763), the Baldwinsville Central School District hereby makes known the steps it has undertaken to comply with AHERA and the availability of asbestos management plans.

1. Beginning in 1989, all district owned facilities were inspected for asbestos and management plans were developed for each building according to the requirements of AHERA. Reinspections are conducted by the District every three years. The Onondaga/Cortland Madison BOCES Health, Safety & Risk Management was hired to complete the 2010 AHERA Triennial inspection and update the asbestos management plans.
2. Periodic surveillance is conducted every six months.
3. All custodial and maintenance staff have undergone 2-hour awareness training.
4. All response actions taken are within federal and state guidelines.

Management plans may be viewed in the facilities office at 29 E. Oneida St. during office hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Steven Rosenberger, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds, 638-6100.

Back to School

Notification of Rights: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records. These rights are:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days of the day the District receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal or Director of Special Education a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The District official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate.

Parents or eligible students may ask the District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate. They should write the school principal or Director of Special Education, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate. If the District official decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

a. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the District Board of Education; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another District official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

b. FERPA also authorizes the release of “directory information” without prior consent, unless the parent/guardian or eligible student (age 18 or older) requests, in writing, that directory information not be disclosed. The District considers the following information “directory information”:

- * Student’s name;
- * Student’s address;
- * Telephone number (s) and e-mail address(es);
- * Student’s date and place of birth;
- * Major field of study;
- * Participation in officially recognized activities and sports;
- * Student’s weight and height for members of athletic teams;
- * Dates of attendance (“from and to” dates of enrollment);
- * Student’s achievement awards or honors;
- * Date of graduation;
- * Student’s grade level; and
- * The most recent educational agency or institution attended.

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Photographs and video/digital images are also considered to be “directory information” by the District. Videotapes, digital movies and/or photographs may be shared with the public through, for example, public media outlets, the District newsletters, reports, web site and other District communications, unless the parent/guardian or eligible student requests, in writing, that videotapes, digital movies or photographs of the student not be publicized.

Two federal laws require the District to provide military recruiters and institutions of higher education, upon request, with three directory information categories of its secondary students: names, addresses and telephone numbers, unless parents or eligible students have advised the District that they do not want this information disclosed without their prior written consent.

Those parents/guardians or eligible students who do not want directory information released and/or do not want videotapes, digital movies and/or photographs published and/or do not want the limited release of directory information to military recruiters and/or institutions of higher education, *must notify the principal of the school which the child is attending in writing by October 1, 2010 regarding the desired limitations on release of directory information.*

c. The District, as authorized by FERPA, discloses personally identifiable student information without consent to other schools, school systems or institutions of postsecondary education in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or that are providing services to the student, upon receiving a request from any such institution. Parents/guardians or eligible students can receive a copy of all information disclosed upon request.

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Baldwinsville Central School District to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

Website “Opt Out”

The district is continuing with its “opt out” policy for the district website. Parents and guardians who do not want to have their child’s full name and/or photograph on the website must notify the district in writing. ***This request must be made every year.*** To notify the district, send an email to the district webmaster, Patricia McKenna, at pmckenna@bville.org or send your request in writing to her at the district office, 29 East Oneida St., Baldwinsville, NY 13027.

New to the District?

If you are new to the district and need to register your child for school, please contact the district registrar at 635-4569 as soon as possible. To register you will need proof of age (original birth certificate or passport) and residency, immunization and health records, proof of custody if parents are divorced or separated, and a copy of your child’s latest report card or class schedule from his or her prior school. The district also requests a copy of a current dental certificate.

Back to School

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older or emancipated minors (eligible students) certain rights with respect to the conduct of surveys, analyses, or evaluations that are funded in whole or in part by the United States Department of Education (DOE). These rights include:

A. The right to consent before students are required to submit to a survey that is funded in whole or in part by a program of the DOE, which concerns one or more of the following protected areas (protected information survey):

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's parent;
8. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

B. The right of the parent and eligible student to receive notice and an opportunity to opt-out of:

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or selling or otherwise providing that information to others for marketing or sales purposes; and
3. Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student or of other students.

The right to receive notice and an opportunity to opt-out does not apply to the collection, disclosure or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions, such as the following:

- * College or other postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment;
- * Book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products;
- * Curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary and secondary students;
- * Tests and assessments used by elementary and secondary students to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude or achievement information about students (or generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments;
- * The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities; or
- * Student recognition programs.

In addition, the opportunity to opt-out of physical examinations and/or screenings does not apply to physical exams or screenings for hearing, vision, or scoliosis, or any other physical examinations or screenings that are permitted or required by state law.

C. The right to inspect, upon request and before administration or use the following:

- * Protected information surveys of students;
- * Instruments used to collect personal information from students for the purpose of marketing or selling that information; and
- * Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for the student.

The district has developed and adopted policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The district will directly notify parents and eligible stu-

Public Notifications

dents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after making any substantive changes to such policies. The district will also directly notify parents and eligible students at least annually at the start of each school year of the specific or approximate dates, if known, of the following activities and will provide parents and eligible students an opportunity to opt-out of student participation:

- * The collection, disclosure or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution;
- * The administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by the DOE; and
- * Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents and eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

Initial Notification Regarding Pesticide Use

New York State Education Law Section 409-H requires all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year.

The Baldwinsville Central School District is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff who wish to receive 48-hour prior written notification of certain pesticide applications. The following pesticide applications are not subject to prior notification requirements:

- 4 A school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72-hours following an application;
- 4 Anti-microbial products;
- 4 Nonvolatile rodenticides in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- 4 Nonvolatile insecticidal baits in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- 4 Silica gels and other nonvolatile ready-to-use pastes, foams, or gels in areas inaccessible to children;
- 4 Boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate;
- 4 The application of EPA designated biopesticides;
- 4 The application of EPA designated exempt materials under 40CFR152.25;
- 4 The use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps, and hornets.

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list.

If you would like to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in your school, please visit the district's website at www.bville.org to electronically submit a form. Follow the link from Facilities to the form, which can be filled out online.

You can also contact the district's pesticide representative, Mr. Steven Rosenberger, Supt. of Buildings and Grounds, 29 East Oneida St., Baldwinsville, NY 13027. You will need to provide the name of your child (ren) and the school (s), your name, address, day phone and evening phone, and an email address. For further information on these requirements you may contact Mr. Rosenberger at 638-6100 or fax 638-6141.

Early Dismissal Nov. 23 for Sheltering Drill

On November 23, the district will conduct a sheltering drill in all of the schools. Dismissal time at each school will be 15 minutes earlier on this day. Please plan on your children arriving home 15 minutes earlier on this day.

A sheltering drill must be conducted at least once a year in order to comply with the mandates of the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education act (Project SAVE).

ATTENTION PARENTS: Bus Routes to be Mailed Last Week in August

Parents can expect a mailing on their children's bus routes the week of August 30. The mailing will include the bus route, bus stop location, and time.

Back to School

Summary of District Code of Conduct

This is a summary of the Code of Conduct adopted by the Board of Education of the Baldwinsville Central School District. The Code contains the rules for conduct on District property and at District functions, as well as the penalties for unacceptable conduct. The Code applies to all activities in the school setting, and is not restricted to classroom settings. Students, parents, visitors, and District employees all have responsibilities regarding the education of the District students and are subject to the Code while on District property or at District functions.

The District expects students to come to school prepared to learn, and to conduct themselves in a safe and respectful manner while at school. Parents are expected to cooperate with the District in the education of their children, and to communicate with appropriate school personnel regarding questions or concerns. Teachers are expected to be prepared to teach and to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect in the classroom. Administrators are responsible for promoting a safe, healthy, and stimulating academic environment that is conducive to learning and student success.

4 Student Rights and Responsibilities

The Code contains a Bill of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students have the right to an education that offers them the opportunity for inquiry and development to their fullest potential. Students also have the right to be safe while on District property and at District functions, to receive guidance from District staff, to participate in extracurricular activities, and to receive appropriate educational and health services. Students are expected to attend school every day, perform all assignments to the best of their ability, respect the property of others, and set a positive example for others.

4 Cell Phones

The Code of Conduct prohibits students from possessing cell phones in school during the school day. Secondary school students must keep their cell phones in their lockers; students in the elementary schools must keep cell phones in their lockers or "cubbies." The prohibition on the possession of cell phones during the school day is intended to eliminate the classroom distractions and disruptions caused by the use of cell phones for photography, text-messaging, web-surfing, etc.

4 Visitors

The Code applies to visitors, who are subject to the authority of the building principal while on District premises or at District functions. Visitors must use the main entrance to the building and report to the principal's office upon arrival to sign the visitor's log. Visitors will receive an identification badge, which must be worn at all times while on District premises.

4 Dress Code

Students, teachers, and visitors must dress appropriately for all District programs and activities. Clothing which disrupts the educational process, or which promotes hatred, violence, alcohol, and tobacco use, or illegal activity is not permitted. All clothing must be safe in consideration of the environment, including shoes. Rollerblade footwear, backless shoes, and open-toed shoes are not permitted on the playgrounds. Underwear is to be completely covered by outer clothing. No hats or head-coverings, coats, or other heavy outerwear may be worn in school. The District does not allow overly revealing garments or any jewelry or other apparel that could be used to harm students. School officials will monitor student appearance, and intervene when there is a violation of the Code.

4 Conduct on School Buses

The Code governs the conduct of students on school buses. The standards of conduct that apply in the classroom also apply to conduct on school buses. All passengers are to obey the instructions of the bus driver. The District may suspend a student's right to ride the bus for any misconduct including behavior that distracts the driver.

4 Violations

The Code contains definitions of prohibited conduct. The Code is not meant to be an exhaustive list of all possible acts of misconduct. Any conduct that violates the Code, any federal or New York State statute, or any established practice of the District may be the basis for discipline.

4 Discipline

Students, employees and visitors who violate the Code will be subject to disciplinary action. District officials may use a range of responses to student misconduct. Before disciplining a student, District officials may issue a warning, conduct a parent conference, enter into a student behavior contract, or provide counseling or mediation. Disciplinary actions may include a school or activity suspension, personal liability and police notification. Any person other than a student found in violation of the Code shall be subject to appropriate criminal and/or civil penalties.

4 Due Process

Students are entitled to due process before the District imposes discipline. The District must inform the student of the misconduct and investigate the facts surrounding the misconduct. The District must allow all students to present their version of the facts. Beyond this, the level of due process ranges from parent notification and informal conferences to a formal hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. The Code also contains detailed procedures for dealing with misconduct

Public Notifications

by special education and disabled students.

4 **Teacher Removal of Disruptive Students**

The Code authorizes classroom teachers to remove disruptive students from classrooms. The Code spells out the procedures that must be followed when a teacher removes a student from the classroom, including notice to the student and the opportunity for parents to meet with the principal. No teacher may remove a student with a disability from a class until the teacher has verified with the principal or the chairperson of the Committee on Special Education that the removal will not violate the student's rights under state or federal law.

4 **Referrals**

The principal must notify the Superintendent of Schools of any Code violation that constitutes a crime and substantially

affects the security of the school. The Superintendent, in turn, will notify local law enforcement.

In an attempt to identify possible discipline problems before they occur, teachers may refer students to the In-School Planning Room. Students referred to the In-School Planning Room will remain there until they have prepared a plan of action to improve their behavior. The District also provides a peer mediation program for students who come into conflict with one another.

4 **Review of Code**

Any person wishing to review the Code may do so. Copies of the Code are available at each school building. You can also access a PDF of the entire Code of Conduct book on the district's website, www.bville.org.

News from the Health Office

Before the new school year begins, please review the following information from the district's health office.

Physical Exams - Grades K, 2, 4, 7 & 10

4 Attention parents of students entering K, 2, 4, 7, and 10th grade: New York State education law mandates that proof of a physical exam, performed within the past school year or over the summer, be submitted to your school nurse. The exam may also be performed during the upcoming school year. If you have an exam scheduled for the upcoming school year, please contact the school nurse with this information. It is best to have a comprehensive physical exam performed by your primary medical provider. The primary doctor is best able to judge your child's health status. Physical forms are not automatically sent from the doctor to the school nurse. This is the parent's responsibility. Request a copy before leaving the doctor's office and send it in the mail or have your child bring it to the school nurse on the first day of school.

4 Athletes must have physicals every 12 months.

4 Students requesting working papers must have had a physical within the past year.

4 Students who do not meet the NYS requirements for immunizations for school entrance cannot be allowed to attend school.

Medications

4 Any medications, prescription and over the counter, that a

student needs to take at school must be personally delivered by the parent/guardian to the school nurse.

4 Medications given at school (prescription and over the counter) require a physician order and a parent request for school administration.

4 Forms for health care plans for students with specific medical needs can be found on the nurses' web page at www.bville.org. Click on the link to school nurses.

State Mandated Screenings

New York State requires the following screenings:

1. Scoliosis screening – yearly in grades 5-9.

2. Vision screening – grades K, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 10

3. Hearing screening – grades K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 10

4. Body mass index (BMI) cumulative reporting – NYS requests this information per grade level, not by individual student.

5. Dental certificates – NYS requests this for all students new to the district as well as those entering kindergarten and grades 2, 4, 7 and 10.

District News

Safety a District Priority

Over the past five years, the district has made student and staff safety a priority. Measures the district has taken to ensure a safe, secure environment include supporting a school resource officer program and installing new security systems in the schools located in the village – Baker High School, Durgee Junior High School, Elden Elementary School, and Van Buren Elementary School. These systems were installed in the buildings last summer, due to a federal COPS grant (Community Oriented Policing Services) that the district, in partnership with the Village of Baldwinsville, was awarded in 2007. The grant only covered the schools located within the village.

The system at each building features electronic door access controls and security cameras, as well as an intercom system. At all four schools, all exterior doors, including the main entrance, are locked. To enter these buildings, staff members use their identification badges to unlock the exterior doors. Visitors must be granted access by office staff members. The capital project that voters approved in December 2008 and is scheduled to begin in late 2010, will enable the district to provide this same level of security in the other school buildings – McNamara Elementary School, Palmer Elementary School, Ray Middle School, and Reynolds Elementary School. It will expand the district's video camera system to these buildings and it will largely eliminate the need for exterior door keys for most staff at all of the district's school buildings.

During the 2009-2010 academic year, the district piloted and implemented a new procedure for signing into Baker High School as a visitor, using a system from Raptor Technologies. This Houston-based company pioneered the technology that screens for sex offenders nationally.

With the Raptor system, every visitor at the high school without a district identification badge is required to present his or her driver's license. A staff member scans the license into the Raptor system, which is a database that instantly screens for registered sex offenders, domestic dispute offenders, and other trespassers. If the system detects a potential threat, Raptor's software instantly alerts designated officials, such as administrators and law enforcement, via email, phone, text messaging and/or page. If a visitor is cleared for entrance, the system will immediately print out a visitor's pass featuring the person's name, photo, date and time of entry into the building, as well as his or her destination.

The district has found that the Raptor technology is an effective and affordable means for schools and community facilities to keep out unwanted visitors and track those that are allowed into a building. In September, this extra level of security will be installed in all of the district's schools. Once the system is operational, anyone wishing to enter any of the schools of the Baldwinsville Central School District will be required to present a valid driver's license during regular school hours. Please keep this in mind when you need to visit your child's school.

Perfect Attendance for Transportation Staff

The district's Transportation Department would like to recognize the following staff members for their years of perfect attendance. Perfect attendance means they did not take any personal time or family illness, sick or unpaid leave. They are:

5 Years

Bill Eastman
Dan Roseman
Val Strong

3 Years

Janeen Pfeiffer

2 Years

Robin Brown
Wayne Goppelt
Yvonne Mayoski

Karen Merrifield
Bob Scherfling

1 Year

Roger Blanchard
Laura Cook
Ruth Fink

4 Years

Kevin Cunningham

Sharon Gay
Ray Loveless
Lloyd Noble
Robert Smith

OPEN HOUSE DATES 2010-2011

Elden September 30
6:30 - 7:00 p.m.
7:15 - 7:45 p.m.

McNamara September 21
6:15 - 6:45 p.m.
7:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Palmer September 30
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Reynolds September 14
6:00 - 6:30 p.m.
6:45 - 7:15 p.m.

Van Buren September 30
6:15 - 7:00 p.m.
7:15 - 8:00 p.m.

Ray 6th Grade September 15
6:15 - 8:00 p.m.

Ray 7th Grade September 22
6:15 - 8:00 p.m.

Durgee September 16
6:30 - 8:45 p.m.

Baker September 23
6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

District's Tenure Process

During the 2009-2010 school year, the Board of Education approved 44 staff members for tenure. In general, about 92% of the district's probationary staff members who are eligible for tenure in a given school year are granted it. Tenure, as defined by New York State education laws, is a classification of employment that a member of a district's teaching staff may earn upon successful completion of a period of probationary employment. For many new hires, this amount of time is usually three years if the individual has not previously worked in another school district. If they have worked in another district and achieved tenure in the same tenure area, or have achieved tenure in another tenure area in the Baldwinsville Central School District, they are eligible for a two-year probationary period.

The tenure process allows administrators to assess an individual's strengths and their growth over the probationary period. It also provides a staff member with time to work on areas needing more growth with the guidance of his or her administrator, as well as a mentor, who is a veteran teacher.

During each year of the probationary period, the building administrator, the subject supervisor, or a member of the district office's administrative team will observe a staff member a minimum of three times. After each observation, the building administrator meets with the individual to discuss strengths, areas needing growth, and strategies for growth. At the end of each school year, the building administrator and the tenure candidate

review the candidate's goals and the progress he or she has achieved. They also establish new goals for the next school year.

At the end of the second-year review, administrators discuss how the tenure candidate has grown as well as any areas where he or she may still need more growth. After a third year of observations (or after two years if it is a two-year probationary period), administrators decide if a candidate should be recommended to the Board of Education for approval of tenure. Board of Education approval is not a rubber stamp. The Board reviews every candidate thoughtfully and thoroughly before approving tenure.

Although the tenure process is rigorous, the district conveys its expectations for achieving tenure to each probationary staff member. The district supports them with several opportunities for professional development each year. To aid probationary teaching staff members in reaching their goals, the district has a widely respected and modeled mentoring program. The purpose of the program is to improve instruction by retaining highly qualified new and experienced teachers. Mentors provide guidance for the probationary teachers during their first three years with the district, sharing effective teaching strategies and ideas. The ultimate goal is to provide new staff with a support system so that they may expand their professional goals to be successful in their career development and to create a more positive learning environment for their students.

Congratulations to the following staff members who were granted tenure during the 2009-2010 school year:

Kelly Abrams	Michelle Collins	Patricia Glisson	Susan Lawrence	Patricia Patterson	Kelly E. Sheridan	Kathryn Weagraff
Laurie Baldino	Michelle Danchick	Colleen Goss	David Mancini	Amy Pope	Marilyn Sindone	Daniel Young
Chastity Bausch	Mary Dressel	Tearney Hirschey	Amy McDougall	Michael Pope	Beth Stewart	
Nicole Bibbens	Rebecca Dusart	Wendi Hitchcock	Tiffany Mersfelder	Sharon Porch	Renee Teich	
Michelle Branigan	Jennifer Fasulo	Erin Jenkuskay	Geoffrey Morton	Megan Rickert	Jaime Thompson	
Deborah Casilio	Lisa Froelick	Jill Joseph	Nicholas Ohrazda	Meredith Riggs	Jennifer Vacanti	
Maria Coglitore	Nancy Furcinito	Mary Kowalski	Rosemary Painter	Kerri Schrader	Mary Varga	

Online Payment Option for School Meals

Did you know that the district offers a convenient, easy and secure online prepayment service to deposit money into your child's school meal account? This service is provided by MyNutrikids and can be accessed from a link on Food Service's page on the district website, www.bville.org.

After creating your child's account online, you can add money to it at anytime using the online payment option. You can also set the account to email you a low balance warning when the balance falls below an amount that you specify. If you have more than one child in school, you can prepay for their meals at one time, eliminating the need to send in cash or a check to prepay. Brian Wright, the district's food service director, said these payment options are still available for any parents who prefer them to the online payment service. Students may also still pay for their purchases daily at the cash register.

Wondering what your child is buying in the cafeteria? The MyNutrikids system provides parents with a history of what their children have purchased over the past 30 days. You can view this online, and you can print out a history as well. If you do not want your child purchasing certain items, such as ice cream, you can have Food Service set a message on the account so that the cashier is alerted when your child is making a purchase. If your child has food allergies and you have contacted the school nurse, this information will pop up on the cashier's screen if your child is buying something he or she cannot safely eat.

For more information on MyNutrikids and how to set up an account, visit the Food Service page on the district's website. Questions can also be directed to Food Service at 638-6063.

2010-11 Professional Development Days and Parent Conference Days

Sept. 24	1/2 day for all - professional development day <i>AM kindergarten will attend, PM kindergarten will not</i>
Oct. 12	NO SCHOOL - professional development day
Oct. 28	1/2 day for K-5 - parent conferences <i>PM kindergarten will attend, AM kindergarten will not</i>
Oct. 29	1/2 day for K-5 - parent conferences <i>AM kindergarten will attend, PM kindergarten will not</i>
Nov. 18	1/2 day for K-5 - parent conferences <i>PM kindergarten will attend, AM kindergarten will not</i>
Nov. 19	1/2 day for K-5 - parent conferences <i>AM kindergarten will attend, PM kindergarten will not</i>
Dec. 10	1/2 day for all - professional development day <i>PM kindergarten will attend, AM kindergarten will not</i>
Jan. 31	1/2 day for all - professional development day <i>AM kindergarten will attend, PM kindergarten will not</i>
March 18	No School - professional development day
March 30	1/2 day for K-5 - parent conferences <i>PM kindergarten will attend, AM kindergarten will not</i>
May 27	1/2 day for all - professional development day <i>AM kindergarten will attend, PM kindergarten will not</i>

Dismissal times for 1/2 day Professional Development

K-5.....12:15 p.m.	Durgee Jr. High.....11:11 a.m.
Ray Middle School.....11:15 a.m.	Baker High School.....11:00 a.m.

Dismissal for K-5 for parent-teacher conferences: 11:30 a.m.

BALDWINVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

29 E. Oneida St.
Baldwinsville, NY 13027

The Beacon is an official publication of the Baldwinsville Central School District.

29 East Oneida St.
Baldwinsville, NY 13027
(315)638-6043
www.bville.org

Jeanne Dangle

Superintendent of Schools

Dawn Wilczynski

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

James Rodems

Assistant Superintendent for Management Services

Matthew McDonald

Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

School Board Members:

Victor Jenkins, Pres.

Burrill Wells, Vice Pres.

Cynthia Cronin

Kenneth Dwyer

James Goulet

Colin Kahl

Mark Manning

Joan Reeves

Steven Schweitzer

Elizabeth Ventura,

Ex-officio Student Member

The Beacon

is written and produced by

Kelly Cary

School Information Officer

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