



The Beacon



Shining a light on the Baldwinsville Central School District

Issue 83

September 2010

BOE Meeting Schedule for 2010-2011

District residents are welcome and encouraged to attend Board of Education meetings to view proceedings and to express their opinions on issues of concern to them. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and are usually held in the cafeteria of Durgee Junior High School, located on the district's main campus at 29 East Oneida Street. To verify the location of a meeting, please call the Superintendent's office at 638-6043 the Friday prior to a meeting. You can access an agenda for each meeting, as well as other documents related to each meeting on the district's website at www.bville.org. On the home page, follow the link to "BoardDocs" under the Board of Education heading at the top of the page. Meeting dates for the 2010-2011 school year are as follows:

September 20, 2010	November 15, 2010	January 24, 2011	March 21, 2011	May 2, 2011	June 20, 2011
October 4, 2010	December 6, 2010	February 7, 2011	March 28, 2011	May 10, 2011	
October 18, 2010	December 20, 2010	February 14, 2011	April 4, 2011	May 16, 2011	
November 1, 2010	January 3, 2011	March 7, 2011	April 25, 2011	June 6, 2011	

Board Adds New Student Member

On July 6, Elizabeth Ventura, a senior at Baker High School, was sworn in as the first student member of the Baldwinsville Central School District Board of Education. Voters approved the addition of an ex-officio student member to the Board this past May. As an ex-officio member, Ventura is a non-voting member, and she will not sit in on any executive sessions of the Board or be privy to any confidential information; however, she will attend every meeting and have a voice at the table. Her number one priority is to bring student concerns and ideas to the Board as well as to provide the Board with a student perspective on district issues. Her term on the Board of Education will end on June 30, 2011.



In order to be considered for the Board position, interested students were required to submit an application to a committee composed of Principal Joseph DeBarbieri, Assistant Principal Michelle Crisafulli, and several staff members and students. They were also required to interview with the committee before school ended for the summer. Applicants had to be entering their senior year in September 2010. Other criteria included involvement in community and school activities, leadership qualities, and all applicants had to meet the requirements of the district's academic and athletic codes of conduct.

Ventura applied for the Board position because she believes it is important for the district's students to have a voice on the Board. "It's important for someone to talk to the student body and bring student concerns to the attention of the Board of Education," she noted. She will make herself available to speak with her peers and listen to their ideas. She plans to periodically sit in on student council meetings, as well as to meet with Baker High School's extracurricular clubs and organizations. "I'm open to new ideas, to speak with everyone," she said.

Ventura is the daughter of Michael and Kathleen Ventura. She has attended school in the district since kindergarten. She is ranked in the top 10% of her class and is a member of the National Honor Society. She is a midfielder for the girls' varsity field hockey team, for which she was named a CNYCL All-League Honorable Mention for the fall 2009 season. Ventura has also acted as the junior varsity boys' lacrosse manager as well as the varsity boys' lacrosse manager. Other school activities she has been involved in include varsity indoor track, Key Club, Jenna's Mentors, and the Baldwinsville Community Scholarship Foundation's Dollars for Scholars Phone-a-thon. She is an avid equestrian and has been riding and showing horses competitively for most of her life. She works for Events Service Catering and volunteers her time and talent twice a week at Crouse Hospital, working in the hospital library as well as on the cardio unit. She also volunteers for the Baldwinsville Field Hockey Youth Clinics.

"We are very excited to welcome a student to the Baldwinsville Central School District Board of Education," said Board President Victor Jenkins. "We welcome Elizabeth's views and opinions on a wide variety of topics. She will bring a fresh perspective to issues that affect district students, giving them a voice at each Board meeting." Jenkins noted that students and all community members are always welcome to attend Board meetings and speak during the public comment period of each meeting.

Senior Parent Night
September 14
6:30 p.m. - Baker Auditorium

Palmer is Recipient of Kiwanis Grant

In June, the Baldwinsville Kiwanis Club presented Palmer Elementary School with a grant of \$750 to help fund the school's REAdy for Kindergarten program. REAdy for Kindergarten is jointly sponsored by the school, the Palmer PTA, and the Kiwanis Club. According to Principal Steven Frey, the grant will enable the school to purchase activity materials, books, and refreshments for the program.

The school invites future Palmer kindergarteners and their families into the building several nights during the school year before they enter kindergarten to ease the transition into the school the following year. Through various activities, staff members share learning strategies with parents that they can do with their children to prepare them for kindergarten and to help

them during the school year. The children meet their future teachers and participate in activities in physical education, art, music and library so that they become familiar with what they will be doing as kindergarteners.

The 2010-2011 school year will be the third year that Palmer will conduct the REAdy for Kindergarten program, and it is the third year that the Baldwinsville Kiwanis Club has given the school a grant to fund it. Principal Frey noted, "The staff, parents and students of Palmer Elementary School are very grateful to the Baldwinsville Kiwanis Club for their generous support of our students and our programs. The Kiwanis Club's commitment to the school reflects the strong connection between Palmer and the Baldwinsville community."

Sign Up to Receive Email News

If you're interested in receiving district news and updates from Superintendent Jeanne Dangle, through email, please visit www.bville.org/emailregistration/ to sign up. Signing up to receive these emails does not obligate you to be a key communicator or attend any meetings. The main purpose of the emails is to enhance district communications and to keep residents up to date on all of the district's news.

Have a Question About the District?

Do you have a question for Superintendent Jeanne Dangle, regarding the district? If so, please email your question to Kelly Cary, school information officer, at kcary@bville.org. She can also be contacted at 638-6180. She will field residents' questions, which Superintendent Dangle will answer in the district newsletter and on the district website.

Twins News Travels Across Country

Even though Baker High School is still waiting for official confirmation from Guinness World Records, word of the school's apparent record setting number of twins (13 sets) in one academic year traveled all the way across the country to California, thanks to a story the Associated Press released at the end of June. After reading the story in his local paper in Vacaville, California, Blanchard Rogers wrote to Joseph DeBarbieri, Principal of Baker High School, to fill him in on his own twin news. Mr. Rogers is the father of twin girls. He said his daughters were one of five sets of twins in their kindergarten class at Gerber Union Elementary School in Gerber, California, 56 years ago. The sets of twins created quite a stir of excitement in their small town of 500 and in school, considering there were only 27 students in the kindergarten class. More than a third of the students were twins!

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School News For
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