



DECEMBER

2017

8259 S. Lavergne
Burbank, IL 60459

Principal's Notes

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Wow, November was a fast month! November passed by quickly with Parent/Teacher Conferences, the Thanksgiving holiday, and all of the events.

The first successful event that took place at Byrd was the PTO sponsored Veterans' Day breakfast and assembly. Byrd School catered breakfast from Chuck's Barbeque for the 20 veterans that were in attendance, and it was delicious! Mrs. Munoz reserved the singing duo, Sweet Reminder, who performed patriotic songs reminiscent of the Andrews Sisters. In addition, the students created cards for the veterans. The veterans were very appreciative. A special thank you to Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Munoz, and Mrs. Medina for ordering, decorating, serving, and picking up the food from Chuck's.

Byrd staff participated in the All-Star Volleyball tournament at Liberty Junior High on November 4th. We had many families show up to the event to support the staff during the game.

One of Byrd School's most successful fundraisers is the All About Dips fundraiser. This fundraiser is organized and implemented by Mrs. Johnson. The event is very profitable. In addition to selling the dips, Mrs. Johnson and her family donated baskets for the many raffle prizes. Thank you Mrs. Johnson for organizing such a successful fundraiser.

Finally, the month of November ended with Parent/Teacher Conferences on the 20th and 21st of November. The conference times were extended by five minutes so that the teachers could communicate more comprehensively with the parents about the progress of their children. Thank you to the parents for coming to conferences, and thank you teachers for taking that extra time to discuss the progress of your students with parents.

If you thought November was busy, you should see how packed December will be! Byrd School is starting the month of December with the winter MAP assessments which is a measure of academic progress for math and reading for every student in the school. The data retrieved from this test is valuable for teaching your children, and the teachers use this data to better meet the needs of the students. The assessment window starts on December 4th and runs through December 15th. Thank you parents for making sure your children are arriving on time, and are well rested during the testing weeks.

Since the weather is starting to get colder, it is important to keep the students at Byrd dressed warm. To help the students keep warm, a hat and mitten exchange has been initiated by Mrs. Motola and the other teachers. The exchange, or what we like to call the Giving Tree, is available for those students in need of gloves or hats. All of the donations are from the staff at Byrd School. If you would like to donate to the exchange, please see Mrs. Johnson in the office.

There are four main events that I would like to bring to your attention this month. The first event is the PTO sponsored Holiday Shop on December 15th & 18th. Mrs. Munoz is the chairperson for this event. If you want to volunteer, please contact her. The second event is the PTO sponsored holiday movie which will take place on December 20th. Mrs. Kohler will be chairing this event as she has for the last several years. The third event is the Holiday Sing-a-Long which will take place on December 19th. The children will be performing for their classmates in the morning and will then repeat the performance for their family members in the afternoon. A schedule and invitation flyer will be coming home soon so that you will know when your child will be performing. The last event will be the classroom parties which will take place on December 21st in the morning of the half-day of school before Winter Break.

Parents, please take the time to go on the <https://survey.5-essentials.org/Illinois/5essentials> website. This is Byrd School's report card. Your input is very important. We need 20% parent participation to qualify for the report. I will be leaving computers in the foyer so that you can log-in if you would like. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Please take the time to visit Byrd's website. All of the important events and dates are on the site. The marquee in front of the school will have the important dates and events posted on it as well. Please don't hesitate to contact the school for any questions on scheduled events. I hope that everyone has a wonderful holiday break and Happy New Year!