



2018

8259 S. Lavergne
Burbank, IL 60459

Principal's Notes

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In February, teachers and students worked hard on the Common Assessment. This classroom-administered test shows what the students have learned in the classroom from the beginning of the year. The teacher-created assessment follows the Scope and Sequence of District #111. Thank you, teachers, for all of your hard work.

Students at Byrd participated in the Young Author's Contest that took place on February 22nd, at Tobin School. Over 250 students submitted stories for the contest. A student from every grade level was represented in the contest. The following students were grade level winners from Byrd School: 1st- "The Big Fast Growing Tree", By Antonio Jimenez, Mrs. Vallianatos, 2nd- "The Crazy Hat", By Logan Weissenstein, Mrs. Thome, 3rd- "Supercapsflash Saves the Day", By Criss Manzo, Mrs. O'Riordan, 4th- "Time to Shine", By Belen Pulido, Mrs. Abeja, 5th- "Hide and Seek", By Jimena Serna, Ms. Szeligowski, 6th- "Camping Trip Through Colorado", By Joshua Craig, Mrs. Hammad. Joshua Craig was a winner at the District level. Thank you to the Byrd School judges and teachers who really promoted this very important event.

Teachers have been working hard to prepare students for the upcoming PARCC and MAP assessments that will take place in March and May. Teachers have been practicing with their students for the upcoming PARCC assessment that begins on March 12th. Since the assessment is computer based, it is important to get the students acclimated to the assessment format. The 4th - 6th grade students had experience with the assessment last year. I am very proud of the teachers at Byrd School and their efforts to prepare your children for this assessment.

Registration for next year's kindergarten class will take place at Kennedy School on March 15th, Burbank School on March 22nd, and Maddock School on March 27th. The hours for registration are 3:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. We would like to have every kindergartener registered before the end of the school year. Please keep a close look out for the upcoming Kindergarten Tea that will take place on April 20th. This is a time for you and your soon-to-be kindergartener to become familiar with the teachers, the room, and the procedures for next year.

On February 23rd, all of the students at Byrd attended an all-school field trip to the Museum of Science and Industry to see the play Charlotte's Web. The students also toured the museum prior to watching the play. A special thank you to the PTO for paying for half of the bus fee. Also, thank you to the staff for chaperoning and planning the event.

The teachers planned a March Madness Math night that took place on Thursday, March 1st. There were over 50 families in attendance. The students really enjoyed the event and many parents were very grateful for the event as well. Great job Byrd staff!

The month of March is gearing up to be a very busy month. The PARCC assessments will begin on Monday, March 12th and will go through Thursday, March 29th. Don't forget to set your clocks one hour ahead on March 10th for Daylight Savings time. On March 14th, Liberty Junior High will host the annual St. Baldrick's event. I know many of you have been working very hard at fundraising and I am very grateful and proud of your hard work. On March 17th, Liberty will host the Solo & Ensemble Band Contest all day.

Upcoming important dates for the month of March are as follows: March 5th is Casimir Pulaski Day. Casimir Pulaski was an American Revolutionary war hero. He was a general in the Continental Army and started the Pulaski Cavalry Legion. General Pulaski was most noted for saving the life of George Washington during the Revolutionary War. There will be no school on that day. When we return after that long three-day weekend, we will be participating in a state wide tornado drill. There will be no school on March 20th due to the local primary elections. The first day of spring is on March 20th.

Students at Byrd School have been working hard to be a part of Byrd's monthly behavior reward program. In February, almost all of the students earned their Technology reward and were able to bring their tablet, computer, or DS to play a game of their choice at the end of the day. In March, the students will receive a Movie Day as their reward, and that will take place on March 29th. The first day of Spring Break will be March 30th and will end on April 8th.

I have discussed the school's dress code with the intermediate level students for the past couple weeks. Some students are choosing to wear non-regulation uniforms on non-dress down days. Our school has many dress down days, and that decision was made so that students would be comfortable on their regularly scheduled physical education days. On those days, the students should be in their Byrd spirit wear or in uniform. Please refer to the student handbook to see what District #111's uniform policy is. Thank you for your cooperation.

Parents, I understand that dismissal time can be a little crowded when picking up your child; however, it is imperative that parents who pick up their children at the end of the day use the pick-up and drop-off driveway. I have witnessed many cars in the parking lot just north of the school at the end of the day. This area is not a safe area to pick up your children because staff are leaving and there is no safe turn-around area. Please use the drop-off and pick-up driveway that is located on the southeast side of the school. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

I would like to thank you for making February and March wonderful fundraising months. The St. Baldrick's fundraiser, sponsored by Ms. Kijak and Miss Harrison, has gone very well. We hope to have many volunteers who are fundraising and are participating in the head shaving event that will take place on Wednesday, March 14th at Liberty Junior High at 6 p.m. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

All of the upcoming events mentioned in this newsletter are on Byrd School's website.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Mr. Martin