

All the news from Birchwood Elementary for the week!

# BIRCHWOOD ELEMENTARY



## District News

**Board of Education  
meeting**

**Nov. 13th, 7:00pm**

**Van Antwerp Middle**

**School ([Map](#))**

***Agenda includes Middle  
School Visioning***

As many of you know, the Board of Education is considering cuts and reconfigurations of Niskayuna's school system due to an anticipated \$3.8 million budget shortfall. A series of community meetings on "Middle School Visioning" have been held since June 2012. At the Oct. 16th meeting, the following reconfiguration possibilities were discussed:

**Option 1** – Change nothing; leave the middle schools as they are

## Weekly bulletin -- November 8th, 2012

**November news from Principal**

**Berndt...** We had a beautiful Halloween parade!



Now we think of the holidays...Birchwood school will again support local charities. We're collecting canned spaghetti sauce and canned tuna for **Concerned for the Hungry** from now through Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>, and unwrapped toys for **Toys for Tots** starting Nov. 26th.

**UPDATE** on Birchwood's Nature Park proposal...Clorox has announced a **new start date for voting--Mon., Nov 12th** (and they promise an 'optimal experience' this time). Thank you to everyone who tried to vote last Monday when the site wasn't working. Please try again!

Vote here Monday: [Nomination page](#)

More info: [PTO Grants](#)

**Naming contest**--and the winner is...**BUDDY!** Congrats to Lillian Hinostroza, Connor Foley, Sage Kos for naming the Birchwood beagle (...who is always a *buddy*, not a *bully*!).



**Got feedback about the Monster Mash?** We want to hear it -- please complete a [short survey](#).

**Birchwood students talk about the election**-- read the article on the [school district website](#).

**Shop at Target much?** Thought so. Remember you can save 5% on everything by using a Target RED credit or

**Option 2** – Have 6<sup>th</sup> graders stay in the elementary schools; all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders go to Iroquois

**Option 3** – all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders move to Iroquois; all 6<sup>th</sup> graders move to Rosendale; Rosendale's K-5 students are redistricted to other elementary schools

**Option 4** - Build an addition to Iroquois to house all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders (during a transition period, all 6<sup>th</sup> graders go to Van Antwerp; all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders go to Iroquois)

Clearly, this issue affects all families with elementary and middle school children in the district. We encourage you to read up on the issue, and attend the Nov. 13th meeting to voice your opinion.

[District News](#) (Birchwood PTO webpage)

[Middle School Visioning](#) (District webpage)

debit card--and Birchwood gets 1%! 28 card-holders have already earned us \$135 this year. Feel better about all that money you spend at Target! Apply in person or [online](#), and designate Birchwood as your school [HERE](#).

We're up to **25 families using their PriceChopper AdvantEdge cards** to earn points for Birchwood. HOORAY and THANKS! Any other PriceChopper shoppers out there? Click [HERE](#) to register your card with school code **16029**.

Remember you can collect the Box Tops logo from groceries you buy anywhere to earn money for Birchwood. Your child can paste them on this sheet to be in the drawing for Nov. prizes!

[It's turkey time](#)



More info on our [PTO Fundraisers](#) page.

**School directories still available for \$5...**contact information for Birchwood families, faculty and class rosters, school policies and procedures, cute artwork, and LOTS more...All in good old-fashioned hard copy! Cash or check to Birchwood PTO in the main office.

**Book Fair week is coming Dec. 4th-7th.** Check your child's backpack in the coming weeks for a brochure and a raffle ticket that may be worth \$10 of books!

[Book Fair schedule](#)

[Volunteer to help](#)

or print and return this form: [Sign up and flier](#)

**Popcorn Friday tomorrow--50 cents at snack time.**

November at a glance

**TODAY, Thurs., Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> --**

**10:45am dismissal (Conferences)**

**Mon., Nov. 12th -- NO SCHOOL (Veteran's Day)**

Tues., Nov. 13th -- School picture re-takes

Tues., Nov. 13th -- Middle School Visioning meeting, Van Antwerp Middle School, 7:00pm ([Info](#) | [Map](#))

**\*NEW! Wed., Nov. 14th -- 10:45am dismissal  
(Conferences)**

**Thurs., Nov. 15th -- 10:45am dismissal  
(Conferences)**

**Wed., Thurs., Fri., Nov. 21st - 23rd --  
NO SCHOOL (Thanksgiving)**

Tues., Nov. 27th -- Media Center poster  
contest party 12:45

See all events (and click to copy to your Google calendar)  
on the [school calendar](#).



[November Lunch Menu](#)

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