

BIRCHWOOD ELEMENTARY

Weekly Bulletin

September 13th, 2012

The weekly bulletin will be sent by email when our database is up-to-date for 2012-2013.

News & Notes

The first PTO meeting is Wednesday, Sept. 19th, 6:30pm at Birchwood. Everyone is welcome. The agenda is posted on the PTO website (<http://birchwood.niskypto.org/pto-meetings>).

Birchwood online... Bookmark these websites for Birchwood info anytime at a click!

- <http://www.nisk.k12.ny.us/birchwood> -- **Birchwood Elementary School** (for curricular information like classroom links, special subjects, policies, Media Center programs, etc.)
- <http://birchwood.niskypto.org> -- **Birchwood PTO** (for co-curricular information like Birchwood clothing sales, school-wide events like the BBQ, calendar of events, homeroom parent lists, etc.)

Note: Please see website photo opt-out form attached.

The ASEP (After School Enrichment Program) schedule is out! Register by September 21st.

All summer books, videos and DVDs are now due back to the Media Center. Materials may be renewed if needed. Also, don't forget to return your summer reading lists to your teacher.

The Media Center is bustling and we can use your help! A small portion of your time (1- or 2-hour shifts weekly or bi-weekly) can help students take advantage of all the fantastic programs and resources the center offers. No experience necessary! Tasks may include helping students select and check out books, stamping date-due cards, shelving books, mending, and other special projects. Parents, grandparents, and folks from the neighborhood are welcome to volunteer. We also use an army of volunteers to put on our twice-yearly book fairs.



A volunteer form is attached, or you can fill out an online form on the PTO Programs page: <http://birchwood.niskypto.org/pto-programs>. If you have questions, contact Mrs. Disque at 344-2910 (Ext. 10709), bdisque@niskyschools.org, or the parent coordinator, Jill Canestrari at 786-8392.

The 2013 Entertainment Book went home with students on September 12th. This is one of our most successful fundraisers—the PTO earns 40% of all sale proceeds. The coupon book is loaded with high-value coupons for local businesses and national retailers that will quickly save more than its \$30 cost.



Please consider purchasing the Entertainment Book for your family, and asking friends and family if they would like to buy one. The books make great holiday gifts, too. From college students to grandparents, everyone appreciates the gift of savings!

For every 5 books you sell or buy, you get one free! We have other great incentives for young salespersons too, like movie and iTunes gift cards. Contact: Elizabeth Reffelt at Elizabethre0125@gmail.com. (Note: Book orders should be fulfilled by the first week of October. If you do not wish to participate in the program, please return the book intact to school on one of the turn-in days--Sept. 19th or Sept. 26th.)

From the Birchwood Health Office...

Physicals: All students entering kindergarten, 2nd grade, and 4th grade, as well as all students new to the district, are required to provide physicals to the Health Office. These physicals can be done no earlier than September 4th of 2011, and must be presented to the school within 30 days of school starting in September 2012.

Medications: Medications administered at school must have:

- . Written order from physician including diagnosis, medication, dose, frequency and time for giving medication
- . Written request from the parent to administer medication as ordered
- . The original, labeled bottle from the pharmacy
- . For over-the-counter medication (e.g., tylenol, motrin), parents must provide student's own bottle with name labeled
- . A new order and parental permission is required each school year and the medication must be delivered to the nurse by the parent or guardian. Students are not allowed to keep medication on them, unless ordered by the physician for age appropriate students.

School menus can be printed from <http://birchwood.niskypto.org/communic-lias/newsletters>. The school also serves hot breakfast! For \$1.50, your choice of milk, juice, fruit, and hot entrée.

Upcoming Events:



Picture day is October 5th!

Lifetouch order forms were sent home with your child—please return them on or before Oct. 5th.

Carried over from last week's bulletin:

Sign up forms are available at: <http://birchwood.niskypto.org/bwoodptoevents> or in the main office.

- ▶ The **Birchwood Back-to-School BBQ** is Friday, September 14th, 2012 from 5:00-7:00pm. Meal orders due by Wed., Sept 12th and volunteers needed! Submit your family's vote to name the Birchwood mascot at the BBQ.
- ▶ **Curriculum (Back-to-School) Nights** will be Thursday, September 20th, 2012, 6:30pm for 3rd through 5th grade, and Thursday, September 27th, 2012, 6:30pm for Kindergarten through 2nd grade.
- ▶ **Staff Appreciation Breakfast**: Monday, October 15th, beginning at 7:30am. Parents are asked to contribute a dish. Contact Tiffanie Wood, woodiesroundup@hotmail.com.
- ▶ The **Monster Mash** committee is looking for families to plan and run a carnival-style game booth at the Monster Mash (Fri., Oct. 26th). Contact Tara if you can help! taralmckenna@gmail.com.
- ▶ **September school holidays**: Monday, Sept. 17th – Rosh Hashanah,
Wednesday, Sept. 26th – Yom Kippur



Bulletin information is online at: <http://birchwood.niskypto.org>

To submit information for the weekly bulletin, please email Birchwood@niskyPTO.org by Sunday night of the week you want it to appear (write "bulletin item" in the subject line).

The Birchwood Bulletin is produced by the PTO Communications Committee in cooperation with the Birchwood principal and staff.