



# 2011 - 2012 ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

## "A Message from the Director"

Dear Parents,

The Elementary Counselors look forward to working with our students and their parents and guardians. Our department provides many services. From character education to career education, from parent workshops to pupil assistance committees, from study skills to self-awareness, our counselors are ready to assist.

Within the next few pages you will find articles on some of the many activities our department sponsors for the elementary schools. We hope you find them interesting and informative.

Counselors are always available to both students and parents to discuss concerns. Do not hesitate to contact us. Consult the following pages for the name and phone number for the counselor for your child.

Sincerely,  
Mary F. Moloney



The district theme for this year is...

**"Let There Be Peace in Bayonne"**

All of our schools are participating in activities to observe Respect Week held during the first week in October. Students will learn a song, make origami birds of peace, create bulletin boards and participate in individual classroom activities tied to the Core Curriculum Content Standards with Respect as the theme.

Help your children believe they have the power to change lives. Ask them to tell you about someone they respect and to explain why they do. Tell them about someone who made a difference in your life and the character traits they possess.

**"Let There Be Peace In Bayonne  
and Let It Begin with Me."**

## CHARACTER EDUCATION

### **"Student of the Month"**

The Bayonne Board of Education has committed itself to Character Education. The best way for parents to build responsibility in children is by giving them responsibility... and helping them to see the consequences of their actions.

The Department of Student Personnel Services supports Character Education and will recognize one student each month as an outstanding individual.

Criteria for eligibility are as follows:

- Uses appropriate language.
- Demonstrates respect for diversity.
- Assists student in need of aid.
- Shows patience in difficult situations.
- Shows pride and awareness of understanding of their own cultural heritage or another's cultural heritage.

# Bridges to Grade 9

Eighth grade students are already anticipating ninth grade. **Bridges to Grade 9** is a program designed to provide a smooth transition for students from elementary to high school. The elementary and high school guidance counselors work collaboratively with every eighth grader to formulate a program that is best for each child.

**November:** Eighth grade students are introduced to Bayonne High School with a field trip. Many clubs and activities make presentations to show the eighth graders some of the varied activities available.

**December:** Counselors in the classroom help students understand and identify abilities and interests and set goals.

**February:** Counselors explain state requirements for graduation and the academic requirements for promotion. Rules and regulations are outlined. Electives and extracurricular activities are described.

**March:** Eighth graders develop their high school program with their school counselor.

**June:** Eighth graders review plans before graduation.

**August:** Incoming freshman students are invited to tour Bayonne High School.

**September:** New ninth graders use the skills developed in Bridges to Grade 9 to become active members of the BHS family.

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## PROYECTO ACCESS

### "Experiencing the Best of University Life"



While many seventh graders enjoy their summer playing ball or going to the beach, a select group of Bayonne's students spend their time on the New Jersey City University campus attending Proyecto Access.

**Proyecto Access** is a free, four-week mathematics based academic enrichment program created by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities with support from NASA. Created in 1996, the program emphasizes the development of abstract reasoning and problem solving skills.

It helps students prepare for careers in the fields of mathematics, science, technology, and engineering.

In early spring, elementary counselors work with classroom teachers to identify eligible seventh grade students who meet the criteria to participate in the Proyecto Access Program. Applications are distributed to interested parents and children at an informational meeting held in March. If you have a child who is presently in the seventh grade, he/she may be eligible to participate in this challenging, yet rewarding program! Students are invited to return to the program after eighth and ninth grade.

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## "QUIZ BOWL"

**The Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl** is a competitive event that occurs annually throughout the state of New Jersey. Seventh and Eighth Grade students take a computer generated multiple choice test with questions covering a variety of topics which include literature, social studies, science, math, etc. They compete with students from other public and private schools in the state. The school groups are ranked in numerical order based on the scores of the test and the time it takes to complete the test.

## *“Positive Choices – Reducing Risk”*

Risk Reduction Education is the focus of presentations to **Eighth Grade students**. Catherine Lombardi, clinic coordinator from the Bayonne Health Department, visits each elementary school to present this program. The emphasis of these informal talk sessions is to help students make positive choices by exploring decision-making strategies.

Adolescent pregnancy prevention, alcohol and drug abuse prevention are addressed.

A questionnaire is distributed to students to get their input for topics that are of concern to them. Parents are sent permission slips to notify them that Ms. Lombardi will be visiting each of the elementary schools to give her presentation.



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## **Child Assault Prevention**

All students in grades K-6 at Walter F. Robinson School will participate in the Child Assault Prevention Council Workshop. This is a one hour session that includes a discussion of rights and role plays with guided discussion on bullying, strangers, and known adults. It helps children to learn to be "Safe, Strong and Free!"

The program will rotate through the elementary schools until all students have received this training. All parents will be invited to a workshop explaining the details of the program before it is presented to students.

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## **“PARTNERS IN PREVENTION”**

All third grade students will participate in a six week program to build a strong foundation of life skills. Through stories and student participation, Footprints addresses decision making, peer pressure, interpersonal skills and conflict resolution.

All seventh grade students will participate in KIV (Keys to Intervention). This is an integrated character development curriculum that focuses on self-concept and goal development. It specifically tries to change behaviors that can lead to violence, drug abuse and school failure.

# OTTO THE AUTO

Otto the Auto is a friendly talking car who educates youngsters to the lifesaving rules of Traffic Safety. Students in grades K-3 will enjoy this interactive presentation while learning valuable life skills.



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## NEW JERSEY TRANSIT

### “Safety Rules”

New Jersey Transit provides a program for our Pre-K through Eighth Graders. A representative speaks about safety near trains and tracks.

Dividing the students into two groups, (usually Pre-K -3 and 4-8 grade), the students receive valuable information and safety tips. A video is also shown to both groups. The younger students are given stickers, bookmarks and pencils to help

them remember the importance of transit safety. The older group receives a classroom poster, stickers and some realistic facts not only about safety, but also about appropriate behavior traveling on trains and the light rail.

Each presentation, lasts about 45 minutes, and proves to be beneficial to our students.



## ANTI-BULLYING

**The State of New Jersey has passed one of the strictest laws in the Country. Bullying is a very serious issue. Bullies can hurt their targets either physically or emotionally.**

**One of the fastest growing forms of bullying is cyber-bullying. Please remind your students never to post their names, addresses, phone numbers, or the name of the school they attend. Never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone you meet online. Never say something about someone online that would be hurtful. If someone says something about you that is cruel, don't react or respond. Always report the bullying to a trusted adult.**

# CAREER DEVELOPMENT

## When I Grow Up...



### **Grades 4 & 5 - Career Inventory**

The **CAREER GAME EXPLORER** is a hands-on activity in which students identify personal skills and talents in order to choose a possible job or career. This written exploration will allow youngsters to visit favorite places of interest, identify role models, discuss hobbies and list things of personal importance and interest.

The main goal of the program is to get students to start thinking about their futures. This exciting journey will open up a universe of ideas and choices for each traveler.

## Career Education

### **BMW Field Experience**

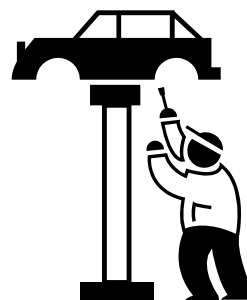
The BMW Group is one of the world's leading manufacturers of automobiles. The local BMW plant, in conjunction with the Bayonne Board of Education, has been providing sixth grade students in the Bayonne Public Schools with an exciting and informative opportunity to explore the variety of career opportunities available at their facility for the last six years.

During a facilities tour conducted by experienced BMW employees, students follow a new BMW from the time it is off-loaded from a container ship to the time it is cleared for delivery by BMW's own fleet of trucks to car dealerships. At the BMW plant, cars are carefully inspected before shipment. Body or

paintwork may be completed. BMW technicians can process almost 550 cars per day.

Sixth graders learn about qualifications needed to apply for jobs. BMW employees have many opportunities for advancement. BMW will pay tuitions costs for employees continuing their education. Students are usually impressed by the special leasing agreements for BMW's available to employees after one year of employment. Also, at the conclusion of the tour, every student receives an information packet about BMW and a BMW T-Shirt.

The BMW trip is one of the highlights of the career education program. Students return from the trip with strong impressions of the working conditions and opportunities they have seen.

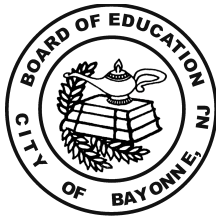


**Mary F. Moloney**  
 Director of Student Personnel  
 Services



**Elementary Guidance Counselors & Anti-Bullying Specialists**

# 1	Henry E. Harris School	Hopper, Rose	(201) 858-6270
# 2	Philip G. Vroom School	Meaney, Noel	(201) 436-5159
# 3	Walter F. Robinson School	Cirillo, Leslie	(201) 436-5160
# 4	Mary J. Donohoe School	Edmundson, Ann	(201) 436-5161
# 5	Lincoln Community School	Malanowski, Carolyn	(201) 339-3830
# 6	Horace Mann School	Battaglino, Lauren	(201) 436-5163
# 8	Midtown Community School	Mantone, Andrea	(201) 436-5171
# 9	Washington Community School	Petrillo, Maura	(201) 339-0982
#10	Woodrow Wilson School	Golotta, Daniella	(201) 436-5165
#12	John M. Bailey School	Boyle, Mark	(201) 436-5166



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