

Middle School Guidance



P.S.S.A. testing at B.B.M.S.

February 2013

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The start of the new year always brings mixed emotions for students and staff. Students are thinking that it is a step closer to the end of the school year. Staff on the other hand begin preparing students for the upcoming state assessments - P.S.S.A.'s.

The testing schedule this year has changed as to the subject matter that is tested first. Students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will be administered the P.S.S.A. English Language Arts: Writing Field Test on February 5, 2013. This year, the P.S.S.A. Writing Assessment will begin the testing window. Students in grades 5 and 8 will take this test on March 11 through March 15, 2013. The Mathematics and Reading P.S.S.A. will be

administered at B.B.M.S. beginning on Monday, April 8 through Friday, April 12, 2013. Finally, on April 22, 2013, the Science P.S.S.A. will be administered to the eighth graders on Monday, April 22 through Friday, April 26, 2013. Students are required by Pennsylvania law to take these assessments. If students are absent on any days of P.S.S.A. testing, they will be required to make-up those sections missed. This means that they will be missing their regular classroom instruction and assignments. Therefore, it is imperative that students make every effort to be present on the days of scheduled testing. More information will be following in the coming weeks

with the parent letters being mailed home. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me here at the school by phone or through e-mail.

Quote of the month

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore is not an act but a habit." (Aristotle)



**Happy
Valentine's Day!**

Points of Interest:

- ✓ - Unsure of your grades? Review grades by logging into the PowerSchool parent portal.
- ✓ - Excuses are due the day students return to school. A grace period of three days is allowed before becoming illegal.
- ✓ - Bullying information can be found at: <http://www.bbsd.com/bullying>

Contact Mr. Smith

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Important Upcoming Events

The following are a listing of important dates to remember:

February 2, 2013 - Ground Hog Day.

February 14, 2013 - Valentine's Day.

February 18, 2013 - President's Day.

February 20, 2013 - Third nine week mid-term.

March 11 through March 15, 2013 - P.S.S.A. Writing Assessment (Grades 5 and 8).

March 20, 2013 - First official day of Spring.

March 22, 2013 - End of third-nine week grading period.

March 29, 2013 - Good Friday, no school.

March 31, 2013 - Happy Easter.

April 1, 2013 - April Fool's Day.

April 8 through April 12, 2013 - P.S.S.A. Mathematics and Reading Assessment (Grades 5, 6, 7 and 8).

April 22 through April 26, 2013 - P.S.S.A. Science Assessment (Grade 8)

April 30, 2013 - Fourth nine week mid-term.

