

Middle School Guidance

P.S.S.A. Push



January 2007

With the start of the New Year, one thought comes to mind - **P.S.S.A.!** Only seven weeks remain, before school districts across the Commonwealth will be administering the state assessments in Writing, Mathematics and Reading to students. Students in grades five and eight will be taking the Writing assessment starting February 12 through February 23, 2007. Students in grades five, six, seven and eight will be taking the Mathematics and Reading assessment starting March 12 through March 23, 2007. Our goal here at Berlin Brothersvalley Middle School is for all students to score in the "Proficient" or "Advanced" range on the P.S.S.A. Assessments. In addition to the regular classroom curriculum which is geared toward improving P.S.S.A. scores, B.B.M.S. has implemented several curriculum additions that will hopefully yield de-

sired results from the assessments: After school tutoring programs this year have more emphasis placed on Mathematics and Reading. Another improvement would be that all students are required to take the 4Sight Assessment four times throughout the school year. This test is designed to be a predictor of how well students will perform on the P.S.S.A. This is a valuable tool for students because it introduces them to the type of questions that they will see on the assessment. It is also a great tool for our teachers because it analyzes the specific struggling areas of the students. Teachers then follow up each 4Sight Assessment with conferencing and analyzing weak areas with the students. During Jumpstart time this year, the focus is more on P.S.S.A. preparation with the purchase of P.S.S.A. Coach Assessment

Anchor workbooks for both Mathematics and Reading. For more information, you can visit the P.D.E. website by clicking on the following link:

[PA State Assessment](#)

Quote of the month

"How bad you want something is determined by how far and how hard you are willing to push yourself to reach it."
(Traci Connelly)



Happy New
Year

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Points of Interest:

- ✓ - Absent from school? Check out the teacher lesson plans by logging into the Logic House 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>

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Important Upcoming Events

The following are a listing of important dates to remember:

January 1, 2007 - Happy New Year!

January 2, 2007 - First day back from Christmas vacation.

January 12, 2007 - Middle School Fun Night #2 6:30 - 9:00.

January 17, 2007 - End of the Third Six Week Grading Period.

February 7, 2007 - Fourth Six

Week Grading Mid-Term.

February 9, 2007 - Middle School Valentine's Day Dance 6:30 - 9:00.

February 12 through February 23, 2007 - P.S.S.A. Writing Assessment for grades five and eight.

February 14, 2007 - Happy Valentine's Day!

March 2, 2007 - End of the

Fourth Six Week Grading Period.

March 12 through March 23, 2007 - P.S.S.A. Mathematics and Reading Assessment for grades five, six, seven and eight.

March 17, 2007 - Middle School St. Patrick's Day Dance 6:30 - 9:00.

March 26, 2007 - Fifth Six Week Grading Mid-Term.