

Middle School Guidance



May 2005

ACT 72, IS IT FOR YOU?

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With the May 30th deadline approaching for Pennsylvania School Boards to decide whether to opt in to ACT 72, or opt out of the program. Our local school board directors have a tough decision to make. What is ACT 72? ACT 72 is a tax reform slated to provide property tax relief. As soon as people hear the words "tax relief", immediately they are in favor of this legislation without educating themselves. Under ACT 72, no tax payer will receive any cast! There will be a tax shift from real estate to an income tax, which will be accomplished through raising the earned income tax. Who is eligible for tax reform? Only primary residential properties and farms are eligible for a real estate tax credit. What is EIT and PIT? Earned Income Taxes (EIT) are a tax on gross wages paid the municipality and school district where you live - not where you work. Personal Income Tax (PIT) is a broader based tax where you pay taxes on gross wages, and unearned income such as interest earnings and stock dividends. Pensions and social security are

not taxable. What does gambling in Pennsylvania have to do with tax reform? Legislation accompanying Act 72 authorizes the PA legislature to allow 61,000 slot machines in 14 locations throughout PA. Part of the real estate tax relief will come from the state claiming a 1/3 share of the gambling proceeds from these slot machines. Once the state has collected \$900,000,000 from gambling proceeds (\$500M for distribution and \$400M for reserve), the school districts that opt in will start to receive real estate tax reduction subsidies to distribute to home owners (at the earliest 2007-08.) Our school district's share of the gambling proceeds are projected to be smaller than the other districts, resulting in less money for our children and their education. The school district will be holding another informational night on ACT 72, which will be held on May 17, 2005 at 6:30 PM in the auditorium. If you are a taxpayer, this very important meeting where ACT 72 will be explained in great detail for you. After this meeting, you need to contact your school

board directors and voice your opinion on how you would like them to vote on the Act 72 legislation. Click here for more information:

[Tax Reform Act 72 of 2004](#)

Courtesy of Mr. Wayne Henderson

Quote of the month

"The sign on the door of success says, 'PUSH.'"
(Author Unknown)



**HAPPY MOTHER'S
DAY**

Points of Interest:

- ✓ - Absent from school? Check out the teacher lesson plans by logging in to 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>

Contact Mr. Smith

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Important Upcoming Events

The following are a listing of important dates to remember:

May 5, 2005 - Middle School Honors Banquet. (6:30 start).

May 6, 2005 - Eighth grade versus teachers volleyball game. (1:30 start).

May 8, 2005 - Happy Mother's Day. Thank you mom!

May 16, 2005 - Sixth six week grading period mid-term.

May 17, 2005 - ACT 72 Informational meeting for Berlin community at B.B.S.D. auditorium. Start time is 6:30.

May 26, 2005 - Middle School Awards Assembly. (1:30 - 3:00)

May 30, 2005 - Memorial Day.

June 4, 2005 - Berlin Brothersvalley Middle School End-of-Year dance. (7:00 - 9:00)

June 6, 2005 - Last student day for the 2004 - 2005 school year. Dismissal at 10:00.

June 14, 2005 - Flag day. Display the American Flag proudly.

July 4, 2005 - Independence Day.