

Middle School Guidance



February 2006

The Boy Crisis at Schools

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If you have been watching the news lately, you may have noticed that there is a lot of print and media exposure devoted to the crisis of boys not succeeding in schools across America. Educators across the country have been searching for new tools and techniques to help tackle the problem. Recently, the administrative team watched the P.B.S. documentary by Michael Thompson "Raising Cain" in an effort to try and better understand what is happening with our male youth in school and society today. Newsweek magazine states, "boys are biologically, and developmentally and psychologically different from girls, and teachers need to learn how to bring out the best in everyone." According to the article, thirty years ago it was the girls, not the

boys who were lagging behind. Through legislation the girls have not only closed the learning gap, but dramatically surpassed their counterparts. The article further expands on "one of the most reliable predictors of whether a boy will succeed or fail in high school rests on a single question: does he have a man in his life to look up to? Too often, the answer is no." Gurian, states "an older man reminds a boy in a million different ways that school is crucial to their mission in life." Colleges today are seeing the gender balance swing in favor of more females (60 -40) attending college. For more information about this growing dilemma, click on the Newsweek link below:

[Newsweek Article "The Boy Crisis"](#)

This is a serious problem that the administration is looking at very closely here at Berlin Brothersvalley Schools.

Quote of the month

"The past is an experience. The present is an experiment. The future is expectations. Use your experience in your experiment to achieve your expectations."

(Unknown Author)



Happy
Valentine'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>

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Important Upcoming Events

The following are a listing of important dates to remember:

February 2, 2006 - Ground Hog Day.

February 9, 2006 - Fourth Six Week Grading Mid-Term.

February 13 through February 24, 2006 - P.S.S.A. Writing Assessment for grades five and eight.

February 14, 2006 - Happy

Valentine's Day!

March 6, 2006 - End of the Fourth Six Week Grading Period.

March 20 through March 31, 2006 - P.S.S.A. Math and Reading Assessment for grades five, six, seven and eight.

March 27, 2006 - Fifth Six Week Grading Mid-Term.

