



BARNES BUTTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
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Mr. Jim Bates, Principal

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Monday, February 1, 2016

Dear Barnes Butte Families,

There are many positive reasons for making the switch to a standards-based report card, but that doesn't mean the process won't be without a struggle or two.

The Elementary Principals, Assistant Principals, Academic Coaches and our Superintendent, Dr. Yecha met recently to talk about this topic and to add some clarity to this very important work. Let me begin by saying that our goal is to be true to the intent of standards-based grading while striving for consistency within and between buildings, ultimately aligning classroom teacher grades with each student's performance on the end of year summative assessments (currently SBAC).

One topic in particular has been a part of our conversations lately. Teachers would like to recognize and reward students that score in the 95% to 100% range on assessments with an "E". On the other hand, in a true standards-based grading system, in order to award an "E", the assessment itself would have to have the ability to show that the student is "above and beyond" simply meeting the standard. Many of our current assessments available within existing curriculum (mainly our reading Wonders) does not allow students to demonstrate skill attainment that is truly "above and beyond". This is especially true with most, if not all, multiple choice assessments.

Only those assessments that provide opportunities for students to demonstrate that their skill or ability is truly above and beyond simply meeting the standard, are eligible for students to earn an "E". Assessments such as Engage NY mid and end of module assessments, or projects and assignments that can be scored using a rubric and have the capacity to reach above simply concept attainment would fit into this category. Multiple choice assessments, would have an "M" as the highest possible mark for students because they may only determine that a student has simply met, not exceeded the standard.

Because we do not want to limit any student's ability to achieve the highest possible marks, we will encourage staff members to seek and

administer an assessment that has the capability of showing that a student does indeed exceed the standard, to those students that are in that 95% to 100% range on multiple choice assessments.

There are challenges in making this switch to standards-based grading. However, I would argue that each staff member's knowledge of grade-level standards is greater than it has ever been, and our ability to communicate student progress to parents is growing by leaps and bounds. We are doing great things on behalf of the young people in our community and I am proud of our teachers.

Thanks for your hard work at home with your students and for your partnership in this very important task.

Your Principal – Jim Bates

PTO Meeting
Wednesday, Feb. 3
3:30 & 6:00

School Library

All are invited to attend.

Please attend the meeting that best works with your schedule.

Childcare provided!



Healthy Hearts
Family Dance

sponsored by PTO

Saturday, February 6
6:00 – 8:00

Barnes Butte Gym

\$1 per child or \$5 per family.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Light snacks will be provided.

Fun for the whole family!



Meet Our Second Grade Team

Ms. Martucci has been teaching for 26 years and she loves teaching 2nd. Her favorite thing to do is read a good book, take long walks, and spend time with her two grown up sons, three dogs and two cats. **Mrs. Bartolotti** has been teaching for 12 years. She loves her job, arts and crafts, being outdoors, and spending time with her family. She is married with two kids, 4 and 7 and a 110 lb. black lab. **Ms. Dumoulin** is in her 1st year of teaching and is happy to be part of the dual language program. She loves surfing, traveling, stand-up paddle boarding, snowboarding and being adventurous. **Mrs. Cross** is in her 13th year of teaching. She loves to read, ride bikes, camp, and most of all she enjoys spending her time with friends and family. She has three daughters between the ages of 5 and 17, and a husband of 10 years. They keep her busy and full of life. **Ms. Goler** is in her 23rd year of teaching. She loves children, reading, art, gardening, skiing, swimming, and enjoying nature. Her children; Ryan, Allen, and Brianna are all grown up! She is still waiting for that magical day when she becomes a Grandmother so she adopted a puppy, Luigi! **Our team loves teaching second grade and working with your children each day.**



Barnes Butte Happenings



- Wed. Feb. 3 PTO Meeting
School Library 3:30 & 6:00
- Sat. Feb. 6 Family Dance
Barnes Butte Gym 6:00
Sponsored by PTO
- Mon. Feb. 8 Crook County School
Board Meeting 6:30
- Wed. Feb. 10 Kindergarten Registration
Barnes Butte Elementary
3:30-7:00
- Fri. Feb. 12 Valentine Parties
- Mon. Feb. 15 No School
Presidents Day
- Fri. Feb. 26 No School
Continuous Improvement
- Wed. Mar. 2 PTO Meeting
School Library 3:30 & 6:00
- Tues. Mar. 8 Family Reading Night
5:30 – 7:15
- Thur. Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day
- Mon. – Fri.
Mar. 21 – 25 Spring Break
No School

**KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION
FOR THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR
Wednesday, February 10
3:30 – 7:00**

Barnes Butte Elementary

If you have a child who will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2016, this is the time to register.

Please bring the following information:

Official Proof of Age

(Birth Certificate, hospital records of birth)

Proof of Residency (Utility bill, etc.)

Current Immunization Records

Emergency Phone Numbers

For more information, please call the school office at 541-416-4150

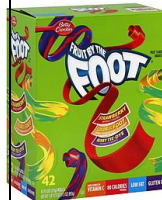
**Spirit Day
Friday, Feb. 5
Dress up in**



**your favorite *sports uniform*
or *team clothing*.**

Students can buy

**Fruit by the Foot for 50¢
at Bonus Badger Recess**



DAILY COLOR SCHEDULE

Tuesday	Orange
Wednesday	Red
Thursday	Blue
Friday	Green
Monday	Orange
Please wear appropriate shoes on PE days.	