

BARRE TOWN MIDDLE AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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December 2010



Louise O'Connor Photo

Winter Concerts

*Grade 4 Band Concert: December 10, 2:45 p.m.
Snow Date for Grade 4 Concert: December 13*



*Grades 5/6 Winter Concert: December 14, 1:30 and 6:30 p.m.
Grades 7/8 Winter Concert: December 15, 1:30 and 6:30 p.m.
Snow Date for Winter Concerts: December 16*

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Holiday Break Building Hours

Barre Town Middle and Elementary School will be closed on December 23, 24 and 31. The main office will be closed on those days, plus on Monday, December 27.

Office Hours: 7 a.m.-3 p.m.
Building Hours: 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.



Preschool Screening

Parents of Children Born in 2007 and 2008

Developmental screening will take place on January 31 and February 1, 2, 3, and 4 for Barre Town children born in 2007. Another screening for children born in 2008 will occur in the fall. If you are interested in having your child screened, please call the school at 476-6702 for an appointment or for more information. **THERE WILL BE NO PRESCHOOL THE WEEK OF JANUARY 31 THROUGH FEBRUARY 4.**

Preschool: SCREENING AND PRIORITIZATION

Barre Town screens and evaluates children throughout the school

year. Referrals for screening and evaluations are made by parents, physicians, agencies, other preschool programs, and daycares.

There are multiple purposes for screening. Screening provides parents and caregivers with information regarding general child development (norms and expectations in the areas of receptive and expressive language skills, and visual-receptive [seeing and understanding]), and fine motor skills), as well as specific information regarding areas of strengths and weaknesses. Hand-outs and exit conferences provide the opportunity to give parents

and caregivers more information on how they can promote their children's learning and development.

Screening results are also used to prioritize the children for the Barre Town preschool, and are used during kindergarten placement. We attempt to screen all Barre Town children prior to their entrance into kindergarten. This early developmental information helps families and schools best meet the individual educational needs of all students by preparing parents, students, and teachers for the children's entrance into our

school. When a child is prioritized for preschool, many areas are examined. A score is assigned in each of the following areas: age, speech and language skills, motor skills, social involvement, special needs, physical/health-related issues, and parent concerns.

This process produces a list of children who will be offered a placement in the Barre Town preschool, and a list of children who are on a waiting list.



No Preschool
January 31-February 4

PTO

The next PTO meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 21, at 6:30 p.m. in the library. This is an election year and all three officers' positions are open: President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each position holds a 2 year term. At the November meeting, we voted to hold nominations in December and the voting will take place in January. This will allow for plenty of transition time.

If you are interested in running for President, Secretary, or Treasurer you MUST attend the December meeting and submit your nomination in writing and verbally. Nominations that are submitted after the meeting cannot be accommodated. If you have questions, please contact Jen Bombard (current president) at villageveiw@aol.com or Rebecca Kerin (current Secretary) at K5ConsultingVT@gmail.com.

Popcorn: The PTO voted to purchase a new popcorn machine. We will send a notice home when the machine is here and ready to go!

The PTO bookstore will be open on Tuesday, December 7, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. This is a great opportunity for gift giving and stocking up on books to read during the holiday break!

Barre Town Middle School
Baseball Meeting
Students in grade 7 and 8 interested in trying out for baseball this spring please attend this meeting with your parents.
Monday, December 6, 2010
6:30 p.m., School Cafeteria

Family School Coordinator

Historical Society

109 State St., Montpelier

Crafty Second Saturdays - December 11, 1 – 3 p.m. Russell Porter, born December, 1871, in Springfield, was a well-respected telescope maker and expert. Commemorate his achievements and the Winter Solstice (December 21) by drawing chalk pictures of the night sky. Free with museum admission: \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors, students, and children ages 6 – 17, free to children 5 and under. Pre-registration is not necessary.



School Vacation Fun - This program is recommended for children ages 6–12. The cost is \$5 per student. Three or more children per family pay \$3. Pre-registration is suggested; space is limited. Call 828-2180.

The Sheep Boom! (1800-1840) - Wednesday, December 29. In the 1830's, Vermont had more sheep than people! Investigate how changes



in farming affected Vermont's landscape and economy and learn about community and family life in nineteenth century Vermont.

Tracks Across the Land

(1840-1870)

- Thursday, December 30. The railroad brought some people to Vermont, and carried others, including Civil War soldiers, away. Find out how the railroad changed the population and landscape of Vermont and try an authentic telegraph machine.



Aldrich Public Library

6 Washington St., Barre
Call Adrienne Succes at 476-7550 for details.

Story Hour

Mondays, 10:30 a.m., infants to age 2
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m., children ages 2 – 5

Children's Craft Program - Monday – Thursday, December 27 – 30 Holiday Season. Held daily from 1–3 p.m. for ages 3-12.

East Barre Branch

Story Hour

Call John Poeton at 476-5118 for details.

Tuesdays, 10 a.m., ages 0 –3
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m., ages 3 –5

North Branch Nature Center

713 Elm St., Montpelier

Holiday Open House - Sunday, December 12, 1-4 p.m. Fee: free. Come one, come all! Visit our holiday season open house and enjoy free refreshments and seasonal

activities. There will be tours of the Critter Room and activities for kids like making a holiday gift out of natural materials or adding a Monarch to our symbolic "Mexican" fir tree.

50th Plainfield Christmas Bird Count - Saturday, December 18, 7:15 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Fee: \$5 (to National Audubon if over 18, under 18 free). For over 100 years, birders have taken part in this national citizen science project. We will scour the Montpelier area for every bird we can find, leaving no Chickadee un-counted



in our attempt to "census" birds across North America. Bring warm clothes (layers), lunch, snacks, water, and thermos. Optional potluck dinner after the count.

Winter Solstice Celebration Sunday, December 19, 7-9 p.m. Fee: Donations accepted. Come relax and enjoy the winter's offerings around a campfire as we celebrate the solstice at the Nature Center with hiking, readings, and music. Snowshoes available.



Barre City

B.O.R. Ice Arena

25 Auditorium Hill, Barre



Public Skating Season!

Tuesdays: 6–7:15p.m.
Fridays: 7:15-8:45 p.m.
Saturdays & Sundays: 1:30-3 p.m.

Vacation Public Skating Schedule: 1:30–3 p.m. December 23, 27, 29, and 30.

There will be no public skating on December 10, 11, or 25. Skate rentals are always available.



Health Office

Healthy Snacks for Holiday Parties!

We've all seen it --- the glazed look of our kids after the sugar shock of a holiday party. Though we all know that an occasional treat is one part of healthy eating habits, the holidays can be packed with a steady stream of sugary confections. Here are a few recipes for some healthy snack alternatives from Veronica Eldred!

Apples and Dip: Cream together 8 oz. cream cheese, 1/2 c. brown sugar (or less) and 1 tsp. vanilla. Chill for a few hours and serve with any apple. My boys love Granny Smith apples with the peel left on.

Gorp: Any combination of popcorn, pretzels, raisins, craisins, chocolate chips, any dried fruit, or almonds.

100% Juice Pops: Freeze orange juice or grape juice to make popsicles.

Hummus and Crackers.

Yogurt (plain or frozen yogurt) Parfaits: Layer frozen yogurt, granola and fruit cocktail.

Veggies and Dip.

Fruit Kabobs: Alternate pineapple, cubed melon, strawberries and grapes on grilling skewers. Top each with a maraschino cherry. Clip the sharp tips before serving.

Help! Please Return Clothes!

During this muddy fall, we have had lots of students borrow clothing from the Health Office after a splashy recess. Now our stores are low. Please remember to have your child return these clothes to the Health Office. Thanks!!



Immunization Updates – Please Let Us Know!



Please notify the Health Office if your child receives any routine immunizations. Many parents do not know that all *kindergarteners and 7th graders are required to have a Varicella Booster (Chicken Pox) and a Tdap (Tetanus)*. Although **all children over the age of 6 months are encouraged to receive the seasonal flu vaccine**, we do not need to be notified of this vaccination. For more information on required immunizations, exemptions, and flu vaccine, go to the Vermont Department of Health website, www.healthvermont.gov, or contact the Barre Town School Health Office.

YMCA

In November, we joined Thatcher Brook Elementary Live Y'ers to see the 3D Movie "Mega Mind" in Williston. We are in the process of creating hundreds of snowflakes to decorate the cafeteria. Sandra has been teaching all of us how to create Origami art projects such as bracelets and gift boxes. We also made our own bubble paper for later craft projects and cards.

In December, we will make our own poems and cards for family. We will decorate and begin writing

projects in our new journals. We will be making popsicle stick snowflakes, Styrofoam turkeys, and decorated individual gift snacks. We will be making our own paper to be used in January for a future fundraising project in February.

We have plenty of room for many more children. If you are interested, stop by to pick up an application. It's that time of the year again...holiday shopping for the perfect gift. Our Y family punch card is really

the gift that keeps on giving for a family (classes, Kids Night Out's, family gyms, family fun nights and more!).

YMCA FAMILY PUNCH CARD - \$125 PER CARD - Good for one year from time of purchase. A great new way to save money while providing a year of active fun for your child and family. The value of the programs is estimated at \$250...that's \$125 savings for your family! The card includes 6 kid's night out visits, 3 family fun nights, 2 family

gyms, 1 free youth class (non-aquatic), \$25 off one birthday party, 2 family swims, and \$10 off one swim class.

The Y provides vacation camps during February and April school vacations. Stop by to investigate dates and times. More information to follow very soon...



Data on Highly Qualified Teachers

Data on Highly Qualified Teachers
Barre Town Middle/Elementary School
2009 - 2010 School Year

The 2001 federal No child Left Behind Act (NCLBA) requires that all public school teachers of “core academic subjects” (English/Language Arts, English as a Second Language, Math, Science, Social Studies, Reading, Foreign/World Languages, Art, Music, and Elementary/Early childhood Education) meet the highly qualified teacher (HQT) requirements of the Act.

Under NCLBA educators must be properly licensed, endorsed, and have the required content knowledge, for the subjects and instructional levels they teach. The Vermont Department of Education determines the HQT status of educators for their core assignments both statewide and school-by-school. The Act also requires schools and school districts to report out data on the number/percentage of core classes taught by teachers who are not HQT for their assignments and data on the number/percentage of teachers who are teaching under emergency licenses.

There are a number of reasons why a class might be taught by an educator who is not HQT for his/her assignment. For example, a teacher may have moved in from another state and be in the process of transferring his/her license from the other state to Vermont; or a teacher may be in the process of completing the required course work for his/her endorsement area to meet HQT status. In any event, a plan must be in place for any teacher who is not HQT for his/her core area assignment to become so as soon as possible.

The following data represents the number and percentage of teachers within the Barre Town Middle/Elementary School who were not HQT for their core area assignments and who taught under emergency licenses for the 2009-2010 school year:

Barre Town Elementary/Middle School:

Number of Core Classes Taught by Non-HQT Teachers: 2
Total Number of Core Classes: 119
Percentage of Non-HQT Teachers Teaching Core Classes: 1.68%

Number of Teachers Teaching Under Emergency Licenses: 0
Total Number of Teachers: 72
Percentage of Teachers Teaching Under Emergency Licenses: 0%

Barre Supervisory Union:

Number of Core Classes Taught by Non-HQT Teachers: 6
Total Number of Core Classes: 523
Percentage of Non-HQT Teachers Teaching Core Classes: 1.15%

Number of Teachers Teaching Under Emergency Licenses: 1
Total Number of Teachers: 247
Percentage of Teachers Teaching Under Emergency Licenses: 0.1%

Data on Highly Qualified Teachers (continued)

The following data represents the number and percentage of teachers/professionals (SY 2009-2010) within the Barre Supervisory Union who hold Bachelor Degrees as compared to the number and percentage of teachers who hold Masters' Degrees.

Schools:	Number of Teachers/Professionals	Bachelor's Degree	Master's Degree
Spaulding High School and the Barre Technical Center	99	49 (49.5%)	50 (50.1%)
Barre City Elementary/Middle School	94	46 (49%)	48 (51%)
Barre Town Middle/Elementary School	79	36 (46%)	43 (54%)
Barre Supervisory Union	272	131 (48%)	141 (52%)

Other Offerings

SCHOOL SPIRIT NIGHT Barre City/Barre Town

Friday Night, December 17
Barre Auditorium

4 Games in 1 Night!
Games at 4:00, 5:15, 6:30, and 7:45 p.m.

Wear your school colors – Show Your School Spirit !!
Vermont Frost Heaves Players In Attendance!!
No Admission Fee = PLEASE bring cans for LOCAL food shelf!!!!
Concession stand run by BYSA Basketball: Pizza, hot dogs, nachos, and a whole lot more!



Calendar of Events

December

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	3 Dance - Rescheduled to January 21
6 3:40 p.m. - School Health Advisory Committee, 2nd Floor Conference Room	7 8 a.m.-1 p.m. - PTO Bookstore, Lobby	8	9	10 2:45 p.m. - Grade 4 Band Concert, LMP
13 Snow Date for Grade 4 Band Concert	14 1:30 & 6 p.m. - Grades 5/6 Winter Concert, Gym	15 1:30 & 6 p.m. - Grades 7/8 Winter Concert, Gym 6 p.m. - School Board Meeting, Library	16 Snow Date for Winter Concerts	17
20	21 6:30 p.m. - PTO Meeting, Library	22	23 VACATION	24 VACATION
27	28	29	30	31 
VACATION				

January

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4 8 a.m.-1 p.m. - PTO Bookstore, Lobby	5 6 p.m. - School Board Meeting, Library	6	7
10 3:40 p.m. - School Health Advisory Committee, 2nd Floor Conference Room	11	12	13	14
17 Staff Development Day - No School for Students	18 6:30 p.m. - PTO Meeting, Library	19 6 p.m. - School Board Meeting, Library	20	21 6:30-9 p.m. - Student Council Dance, Grades 7-8, Gym
24 No Preschool 31	25	26	27	28