



# THE MOORE SCHOOL TIMES

November 2011

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## Weather Watch 4



Mike Harvey, head meteorologist for WTAE-TV News, visited Moore Elementary School on Wednesday, November 16, 2011. After a delicious lunch provided by the

Moore School PTA, Mr. Harvey and a presenter from the Carnegie Science Center discussed a number of weather related topics and thrilled the students with various demonstrations.

Afterwards, Mr. Harvey was presented with a beautiful cake to take back to the newsroom.

We would like to thank the Moore School PTA for scheduling this event and for providing lunch for the Channel 4 personalities. We would also like to thank Eric Colonie, a former Moore School student, for baking the magnificent cake.

You may view the video clip of the Weather Watch 4 School Visit at:

<http://www.wtae.com/video/29788730/detail.html>



## Pennies Add Up to Much-Needed Help for Family Decimated by Illness

Once again, the Moore School students, faculty, and staff came through in a big way for a very needy Brentwood family. A total of \$1,328.36 was raised by our students through a Penny War. Mrs. Wilson's third graders and Mrs. Kovacs' fourth graders were the top classrooms in the primary and intermediate levels respectively.

The Penny War was organized as a service project by high school students Brooke McWilliams, Conner McWilliams, Natalie Andrews, and Sydney Bauer. Their efforts, along with the generosity of the Moore School Community, will make the Holidays a little brighter for some very good friends of Moore School.

### Holiday Program

*The 2011 Moore School Winter Holiday Program will be held on Friday, December 16 at 1:00 pm.*

### Inside MST

Parking Concerns: Page 2  
School Delays and Closings: Page 2  
Food Safety Policy: Page 3

## Reading Workshop Expanded: Page 3

# Safety is Our First Concern; Courtesy, Our Second

Most folks who visit Moore School around 3:00 PM know something about parking challenges. Narrow streets, an abundance of cars, and 230 students leaving the building at one time are the ingredients for a parking nightmare. By adding patience and planning to this recipe, the experience will be safer for students and more tolerable for motorists.

Parking in the lot beside and behind the school before or after school is not permitted. You place the safety of your child and others at risk by using the parking lot as a pick-up or drop-off area.

Please help us be a good neighbor to those who live on Dalewood Street or Elton Avenue. You can do this by taking care not to block or partially block a resident's driveway. I often talk about the Moore School Community. That community includes the people who live near the school.

Teach your child to listen to and show respect to our crossing guard. She is there to help keep our children safe.

Have a meeting place arranged with your child ahead of time. In the event you cannot be at that prearranged spot, have a back-up plan ready. Circle the block until a space to park is available. Make sure your child knows what to do and where to go if your original plan for dismissal goes awry.

*If your child is picked up at school or waits for an older sibling on a routine basis, please make sure the child knows to wait at school if his way home does not arrive on time.*



## School Delays and Closings

Inclement weather poses hardships to students, parents and school personnel alike. Frigid temperatures, heavy snowfalls, and poor road and sidewalk conditions may make it necessary to cancel or delay classes. When



we are experiencing extremely low temperatures, heavy snowfalls, and/or high winds, please begin monitoring radio or television broadcasts for school delays or closings. **The Brentwood Borough School District notifies KDKA, WTAE, and WPXI television as well as KDKA-AM (1020), KQV-AM (1410), and FROGGY-FM (104.3) radio when the weather forces a change in the school schedule. The District also utilizes the Alert Now calling system to notify parents when school is delayed or closed.**

To prepare for the effects of inclement weather on the school schedule, follow these procedures:

- Working parents may want to make arrangements with a friend or relative to care for their children in case of delay or cancellation of school *before* the necessity arises. This practice will insure that your child will be closely supervised.
- When classes are delayed, arrange to have your child arrive at school *no sooner than 20 minutes before the start of classes*. Typically, the Brentwood Borough School District plans a 10:00 AM start during inclement weather.
- Make sure your child has breakfast at home. Breakfast is not served on days when school is delayed.
- *Never drop off your child at the school unless you are certain classes are in session.* If the school looks vacant, it may be closed. Children must not be left with secretaries, custodians, or crossing guards.

School delays and/or closings are planned to protect your child's health and safety. Proper planning will help ease the hardships that these disruptions to the school schedule can cause to students, parents, and district personnel.

# Food Safety Policy

Many school age children have food related allergies. We have a number of students who have moderate to very severe allergies to peanut products and peanut oil residues. For these children even casual contact with nut oils can cause a severe allergic reaction. Since our peanut allergy students have siblings in the building and many of our pupils move from classroom to classroom during a typical day, we are creating peanut free zones in all classrooms.

For the general health of our school community, Moore Elementary School is instituting new guidelines for food celebrations in the classrooms. Here are our basic guidelines for party and birthday snacks:

- Please do not send in any nut based foods for a snack or birthday treat. Nuts are identified in the ingredients or labeled with statements like "Made in a facility that processes peanuts or tree nuts".
- Since nut products are often used to prepare a variety of foods, all classroom and party treats, including student birthday treats, *must be individually packaged (one package for one student) from the manufacturer and labeled.*
- Please do not send homemade or store made (supermarket or bakery) snacks or cakes since we cannot determine if these foods were prepared in peanut free kitchens (cross contamination from nut oils).

Please do not be offended if we cannot distribute treats that do not meet these criteria. In the case of store made or homemade cakes, cookies, donuts, or cup cakes, they will be returned home if possible. If a bagged snack contains peanuts, the snack may be sent with students to be consumed at home.

Small, individually wrapped snacks work best for parties and birthday treats.

The Moore Elementary School Community has a rich tradition of considering the best interests and safety of our students. Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation in this matter.

# Reading Workshop Extends to Second Grade

In October, we continued our implementation of an added component to the primary level reading program. For thirty minutes each day, second grade students attend a Reading Workshop in one of three locations in the school. In those workshops, Mrs. Kim Binek, Mrs. Shannon Schubert, and Mrs. Lindsay Vinay, our reading specialist, lead activities designed to reinforce, review, and/or enhance skills presented in the reading program. One of the benefits of this program is that students can be moved in and out of each of the workshops as their individual needs change.

The teachers work in small groups or have students progress through learning centers in the classrooms. The groups or centers are designed to build or enhance important reading skills.

All students will continue to receive our typical reading instruction in their assigned second grade classroom. The *Reading Workshop* is supplemental to that instructional sequence.

We believe that the reading workshop will help us provide students with the individualized help they need to be the best readers possible. *Reading Workshop* now includes all students in Kindergarten, first, and second grades. We are planning to add the *Reading Workshop* in third grade next year.



# Calendar

**Dec 5-6**      Santa's Secret Store

Dec 16      Moore Holiday Program, 1:00PM

**Dec 23**      K-5 Students Dismissed at 11:10 AM

**Dec 26-Jan 02**      Winter Holiday: Schools Closed

**Jan 03**      Classes Resume