

# THE MOORE SCHOOL TIMES

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MOORE ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL



EDUCATING BRENTWOOD  
RESIDENTS SINCE 1914

## The Olweus Bully Prevention Program

Moore Elementary School cares about the safety and well-being of our students. We want to make sure our school is a comfortable place for students to learn. In order to ensure this, we will continue to implement the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program, as we do every school year. **Moore Elementary School is part of a K-12 adoption of this program that began in 2009.**

The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP) is one of the best-known bullying prevention programs. OBPP has been proven to prevent or reduce bullying. The program also works to make relationships better among students. The program is for all students, not just those who are being bullied or who are bullying others.

Parents and guardians play a key role in this program. Your child will be asked to tell an adult at school and at home if he or she is bullied or sees bullying happening at school. It will be very important that you take any bullying seriously and tell our school staff. Our school staff members have been trained to deal with bullying situations when they are reported to us. We do our best to investigate all reports thoroughly, and if the situation is found to be bullying, then we hold students accountable for their actions.

Bullying is when someone *repeatedly and on purpose* says or does mean or hurtful things to another person. Bullying can take many forms, such as hitting, verbal harassment, spreading false rumors, not letting someone be part of the group, and sending nasty messages on a cell phone or over the internet.

If you have any further questions or concerns about the program, please visit room 206 during the Moore School Open House on Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00 PM. Mrs. Donaldson, our school social worker and OBPP Trainer for the Brentwood School District, will be available to speak with you about the program. You may also contact her by phone at (412) 881-7776 ext# 4206.



## Open House Set for September 26

The Moore Elementary School Open House will be held on Thursday, September 26, 2013. Students and parents may visit classrooms between 6:00 and 8:00 PM. *Doors to the school will open at 5:55 PM.* This is a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher and see the classroom.

Open House is not, however, a good time to discuss your child's progress. This event is always very well attended and allows only enough time for teachers to meet each of their student's parents face-to-face. Conferences regarding student progress must be reserved for a more private setting. We encourage all parents to schedule conference times for *Parent-Teacher Conference Day* on November 11, 2013. Sign-up forms will be available in each classroom during Open House.

The Moore School PTA is sponsoring the Scholastic Book Fair in the gymnasium from 6:00 to 9:00 PM.

Parking will be available on the playground the evening of Open House.

The Moore Elementary School Faculty and Staff and the Moore School PTA eagerly welcome the Moore School Community to this annual event.

## Moore Elementary School Welcomes Ms Christina J. Gattens to Our Staff

We are extremely pleased to welcome Ms. Christina J. Gattens to the teaching staff at Moore Elementary School.



Ms. Gattens earned her undergraduate degree in communication with a minor in athletic coaching from Clarion University. She also attended graduate school at Clarion and received her master's degree in library science. After coaching college soccer at Clarion University she moved to Maryland and worked as a K-5 library media specialist with Frederick County Public Schools from 2009-2013.

Ms. Gattens will share her time between Moore and Elroy Elementary Schools.

## Buffo: "Be A Friend. Make It End"

That is the message we heard over and over again when *Buffo, The World's Strongest Clown* visited Moore Elementary School on September 13, 2013. Buffo was here to help us kick off our 2013-14 Olweus Bully Prevention campaign. Between Buffo's feats of strength, he sent a clear message that bullying behavior is wrong. The Moore School Olweus Bully Prevention Team would like to thank Buffo and the Moore PTA for helping us get our bully prevention program off to a "strong" start.



## Benchmark Assessments for Grades K-5

Each school year Moore Elementary School Students are administered a number of benchmark assessments in reading and mathematics.

Benchmark Assessments provide teachers and administrators with valuable information about student progress toward meeting the Pennsylvania State Academic Standards and, ultimately, the Pennsylvania Common Core. Benchmark assessments meet the requirements of No Child Left Behind. These assessments are given three times each year, generally in September, January and May.

The Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Assessments (DIBELS) are given to students in Kindergarten through third grades. The DIBELS Benchmark Tests provide teachers and staff with information regarding the student's ability to use sound / letter relationships and decode text.

Study Island Reading and Math Benchmark Assessments will be given to students in third through fifth grades.

Study Island has been used to provide our students with computer-based practice activities in reading, math, and science for a number of years. This benchmark component will enable teachers to target instruction to concept areas of most need to students before they take the PSSA assessments in March 2014.

This year we are piloting a new benchmark assessment in fifth grade mathematics. Assessment and Learning in Knowledge Spaces (ALEKS) is a Web-based, artificially intelligent assessment and learning system. ALEKS uses adaptive questioning to quickly and accurately determine exactly what a student knows and doesn't know in a course. ALEKS then instructs the student on the topics she or he is most ready to learn. As a student works through a course, ALEKS periodically reassesses the student to ensure that topics learned are also retained. ALEKS courses are very complete in their topic coverage and ALEKS avoids multiple-choice questions. A student who shows a high level of mastery of an ALEKS course will be successful in the actual course she or he is taking.

## Calendar

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|--------------|---|
| Sept 26:     | Open House: 6:00-8:00 PM                                    |
| Oct 09:      | PTA Meeting: 2:00 PM  |
| Oct 18:      | School Pictures   |
| Oct 25:      | PTA Halloween Dance   |
| Oct 31:      | Halloween Parade, 9:00 AM                                   |
| Oct 31:      | Early Dismissal, 11:10 AM                                   |
| Nov 05:      | Election Day: No School                                     |
| Nov 08:      | Report Cards  |
| Nov 11:      | Parent-Teacher Conference Day<br>12:00 – 6:00 PM, No School |
| Nov 27:      | Early Dismissal, 11:10 AM                                   |
| Nov 28-Dec 2 | Thanksgiving Recess – School Closed                         |