



Greeting everyone!

As we approach this very special time of the year, it is my hope that we all are able to appreciate the wonderful country we live in. Our opportunities are limitless compared with what others in the world may face, so even when times are difficult for us, I recommend we try to keep our perspective and always have our "glasses" half full. In the coming months, you will hear much about the latest buzz word: Regionalization! Moving our children to a different school, combining schools, closing schools, all sorts of scary scenarios will be brought forth. For most, it is a fearsome word that carries only negative thoughts for our local schools, but I urge you not to take everything you hear at face value as the issue is ripe for political reasons, and not always considering what is best for our young learners. Much information is already available about the many impediments to regionalization and much more is to come. Its popular to speak of saving money and reducing our taxes, something we all want to see happen, but once you get past the general statements and rhetoric you will most likely see that the advantages are few and more money not to be found as promised. Research proves that small schools work better than large ones and that is a fact that often does not enter into the current popular discussion. At this special time of the year, and throughout the year, let us fill our lives and the lives of our children with the spirit and light of knowledge, understanding and learning, and to cherish those great gifts so that our lives are truly illuminated and warmed by that glow. On behalf of our supportive Board of Education, our wonderful administrative team, and all of our Blairstown Elementary teachers and staff, I wish you all a peace filled and positive holiday break. See you all in the New Year!

Mark Saalfield
Superintendent



UPCOMING EVENTS...



Dec. 24th thru Jan. 1st- Winter Break
Jan. 2nd- School Resumes

COMMUNITY NEWS...



Check out the fastest growing sport in the USA. North Warren Junior Lacrosse Club is holding registrations for all kids, Kindergarten to 8th Grade. Please reach out to Alison Perst @ nwirlacrosse@yahoo.com for more info and a registration form. Follow us on FaceBook at North Warren Jr. Lacrosse Club.

REGISTER NOW FOR JANUARY & FEBRUARY RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS...

Clay Animals - For Grades 4-5-6 starting on Wednesday, January 9 – 30 from 3:15 – 4:30 pm in the Art Room.

Wacky Wednesdays – For Grades K – 3, opens on Wednesday, January 16 – 30 from 3:15 – 4:30 pm in the Gym.

Awesome Art -For grades 1-2-3 starting on, Wednesdays, February 6 – 27, 3:15 – 4:30 pm. In the Art Room

Tech Crew – For grades 4-5-6, starting Tuesdays, February 5 – 26, 3:15 – 4:30 pm. In the Small Cafeteria

*******Registration for all children's programs closes on week before the start of the program, or if the program fills at an earlier date.**

Zumba - Winter Session For teens and adults opens on Thursday, January 3rd. Registration remains open for all Workout programs due to various fee packages.

Social Connections - This is a program for Teens and Young Adults with developmental disabilities. Social activities are offered on a monthly basis to promote friendship and fun. Contact the Recreation Office for more info. Please visit our website for all the Departments offerings and happenings! The fun never ends! Check for upcoming Spring & Summer programs too..... www.blairstowntownship.org and click on **Recreation** or contact the Recreation Office at 908-362-6663 ext. 232 Pat Sagan, Director



SCHOOL NEWS.....

The Blairstown Elementary Chess Club begins on Thursday, Jan. 10th, and will continue every Thursday until Feb. 28th (3:15-4:15). Pick up is promptly at 4:15. Grades 2-6 are able to participate. Newcomers to the game are welcome! Permission forms will be in the main office. Any questions, please contact Mrs. Dell at ext. 113.











