

Baldwin Street Middle School
3835 Baldwin Street Hudsonville, MI 49426
(616) 669-7750

March 11, 2009

Dear Fifth Grade Parent/Guardian:

It is time to begin the process of welcoming your child to Baldwin Street Middle School and plan for this new world that is sixth grade. Whether they have older siblings who have been at BMS before or not, your student will encounter this transition in his or her own unique way, and we aim to make it a positive experience.

We are excited about the transition activities in store for you and have quite a program set up to make both you and your child comfortable with the change that awaits. The process gets under way on **Wednesday, March 18**, when we welcome all incoming sixth graders to Baldwin Street Middle School for a special visit. The schedule is as follows:

- 10:45 Students arrive at BMS and report to the gym.
- 10:50 Students will be introduced to our Middle School with a video and PowerPoint presentation. There will be **no** printed information going home with students on this day.
- 11:30 Concert featuring 6th Grade band, Choir, and Orchestra.
- 12:00 Music Aptitude Survey administered in the music rooms.
- 12:35 Tour of the building.
- 12:45 Lunch! Students are encouraged to buy lunch in our cafeteria/lunch program. Specifics for purchasing lunch will be sent home with students on Friday, 3/13.
- 1:30 Students board buses and return to the elementary schools.

In addition, you will want to make note of the following important dates regarding the transition to middle school:

- **4/14-16** Middle School Music Staff visit elementary buildings for instrument fittings.
- **4/22 & 4/23** 7:00 p.m. - Instrumental Music Parent Meetings (4/22 at BMS and 4/23 at RSMS -- parents may attend either meeting). Details to follow from Music Department.
- **4/28-30** Course Selection/Enrollment Sheets sent home with students for parent signature. "Getting Ready for 6th Grade" brochures also sent home.
- **5/4** 7:00 p.m. - Sixth Grade Orientation for BMS parents and students. **COMPLETED COURSE SELECTION/ENROLLMENT SHEETS TO BE RETURNED AT THIS MEETING.**
- **Wk of 5/4** Math placement testing for 5th graders will occur in the elementary buildings. Please watch for details in your school newsletter.
- **Mid-August** Student schedules will be mailed.
- **Early Sept.** BMS will be open for those wishing to visit. Dates and times to follow as set by District.

We hope you will find this information helpful. Please feel free to call should you have questions (669-7750).

Sincerely,

Dave Powers

Dave Powers, Principal