

Middle School Guidance



May 2004

A Time for Growth and Renewal

Volume 1, Issue 9

The end of the 2003 - 2004 school year is quickly approaching. As we look around us, we can see the flowers, trees beginning to bud and bloom respectively.

Parenting has many times been likened to the coaching field. With that in mind, I would like to share an article from Up from Underachievement entitled "Eleven Positive Coaching Tips for Parents." (1) **USE MODERATION** - when it comes to criticism. (2) **BE POSITIVE** - in your comments about school. (3) **AGREE ON AND COMMUNICATE EXPECTATIONS** - sending the same message about school from both mother and father. (4) **LET THE LEARNER STRUGGLE** - allowing your child to develop feelings of

confidence and competence when he/she is able to overcome obstacles. (5) **CONNECT EFFORT WITH RESULTS** - use sports analogies to help your child see that effort equals improved results. (6) **ENFORCE ACADEMIC TIME** - providing a time and place for academic activities to take place outside of the school. (7) **SHARE DECISION MAKING** - involving your child in the decision making process will help provide ownership. (8) **USE INCENTIVES** - establishing positive incentives to motivate instead of negative. (9) **COMMUNICATE CLEARLY** - critical in developing feeling of safety and security. (10) **MINIMIZE ANXIETY** - home life should support both personal and aca-

demic development. (11) **BUILD SELF-ESTEEM** - provide opportunities for your child to experience success.

Quote of the month

"How do you define success? Success is found in one who has learned the lessons of life early."

(Anne Aziz)



**HAPPY
MOTHER'S DAY**

Special points of interest:

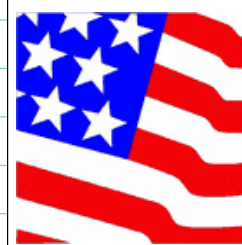
- ✓ - Absent from school, check out the teacher lesson plans at <http://www.bbsd.com/ms/plans.htm>
- ✓ - Excuses are due the day students return to school. A grace period of three days is allowed before becoming illegal.
- ✓ - Bullying information can be found at: <http://www.bbsd.com/bullying>

Contact Mr. Smith

Phone # 267-6931

E-mail - msmith@bbsd.com

Webpage - <http://www.bbsd.com/ms/faculty/marksmith>



Important Upcoming Events

The following are a listing of important dates to remember:

April 30, 2004 - Fourth nine week grading mid-term.

May 9, 2004 - Happy Mother's Day. Thank you mom!

May 14, 2004 - Middle School Staff versus the eighth graders in volleyball. (1:30 start)

May 17, 2004 through May 21, 2004 - Finals week for

middle school students.

May 24, 2004 - Middle School Honor Banquet at Berlin Borough Building (6:30 start).

May 25, 2004 - Field day at the Grove for grade 5.

May 26, 2004 - Field day at the Grove for grades 6, 7, and 8.

May 27, 2004 - Middle School Awards Assembly. (1:30 start)

May 31, 2004 - Memorial Day.

June 2, 2004 - Last student day for the 2003 - 2004 school year.

June 3, 2004 - Faith A. Erb-Elliott Community and Public and Education Program Coordinator from the Attorney General's Office to speak to community on drugs. (6:00 - 8:00)