



Baldwin Union Free School District

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www.baldwinschools.org



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Update #13

Dear Baldwin Families,

I can't believe it's the end of May...Memorial Day weekend! It's amazing what is possible with teamwork and hard work, and this Baldwin family has accomplished both and triumphed. While we are near the "finish line," we have not crossed it yet, so please hang in there! As the weather gets warmer, it becomes more and more challenging to keep our children motivated, focused and engaged. On behalf of all our Baldwin students and teachers, I thank you in advance for your help and partnership.

When you pass by the high school, you might notice some "activity" near the old sign on Grand Avenue. I am excited to let you know that we have awarded the bid and have begun work on the installation of a grand sign on Grand Avenue. It has taken persistence, perseverance, and tenacity to get it done, but after four years of red tape and disappointment, we are almost there! Additionally, the total cost of the sign is completely covered by government grants! **No part of the cost of the sign came from our Baldwin budget.** The wait will be worth it. Trust me!

No Instruction Monday, May 25, 2020 (Memorial Day)

The end of this year has created some unique challenges and many changes in the calendar. End of year celebrations will be conducted virtually. Most dates have changed. You will receive specifics from your building principal. As a reminder, tomorrow, Thursday, May 21 and Friday, May 22 are still regular days of instruction. Monday, Memorial Day, is a federal holiday and therefore, a day off.

The last day of classes for students will be June 19, 2020.

Retrieving Personal Belongings in Schools

You should have received or will receive shortly, correspondence from your principal regarding scheduled times to retrieve articles left in school and to return district-owned items. The schedule for our middle and high school will be somewhat challenging given the number of students in our schools. It may take us into the summer to complete the process, but we want to guarantee physical distancing and ensure the health and safety of everyone in our school community.

Class of 2020 Celebratory Events

This has been particularly hard for our Senior Class of 2020. For this group of young people, the culminating 3½ months of their Baldwin school experience, which is normally the highlight of 13 years in our school district, has basically been canceled. A lot of thought and hard work have gone into celebrating

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our high school seniors. A schedule of celebratory events has been sent to parents and shared with students. This information and more can be found in our special Class of 2020 web page:

www.baldwinschools.org/classof2020 Initial reactions are very positive. I encourage you to “Congratulate a Senior” and share in the festivities where possible, as it will mean a lot to our graduating class.

Important Dates to Remember

- Elementary Moving Up will be a live “virtual” event with varying dates/times to be shared by the building principal
- Middle School Moving Up will be a live “virtual” event on June 18th
- Budget ballots for all school districts are due by 5 p.m. on June 9th
- Baldwin Budget Hearing will take place virtually on May 27th at 7 p.m.
- Celebration of tenure and retirements will take place virtually at the June 10th Board of Education meeting

Upcoming Budget Vote

We teach about civics in our 12th grade Participation in Government course. “Civics can teach you about the rights granted to citizens, as well as their responsibilities, such as serving on juries and engaging in the political process.” I encourage every registered voter to do their civic duty and both learn about our budget at www.baldwinschools.org/budgetinfo and return your absentee ballot no later than June 9th at 5 p.m. Our Baldwin schools are funded from primarily two sources: state aid and local residents. In the current climate, we are faced with the possibility of severe state aid cuts. Our budget stays within the tax cap of 2.78%. Baldwin is an outstanding school system, and we do not want to be in the position of forced cuts to our exceptional programs.

The Memorial Day holiday was created to **honor** the many American men and women who died in military service. This Memorial Day, let’s take a moment to also remember the nearly 100,000 Americans who have died these past few months from COVID-19, and pay tribute to their memory by staying safe, acting responsibly and protecting ourselves, our friends and our families.

My wishes for a peaceful, enjoyable and meaningful Memorial Day holiday.

With warmest regards,



Shari L. Camhi

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