

The Voice From Within

April 2019

BAMBERG SCHOOL DISTRICT TWO

Our Focus:

*Student Achievement, Accountability, Attendance
Turning It All Around*

Dr. Thelma F. Sojourner, Superintendent



Dear Parents:

In view of the recent concerns about the lunch being served to our students, the district has taken many steps to ensure that our students are being served a healthy, nutritious lunch each day. We met with the district's food service coordinator and the SC Department of Education's Director of the Office of Health and Nutrition. As a result of that meeting, the following food offerings will be implemented in addition to the current menu each day:

- Adding more fresh fruit to daily menus (with only one that is canned)
- Adding a third vegetable offering daily (which may be carrots and celery sticks on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and tossed salad or other vegetable offerings on Tuesday and Thursday)
- There will be a process of moving away from heavily processed menu items which will be replaced with less processed foods.

In addition, the entire cafeteria staff will be involved in training to create ideas for food quality and presentation. There is also a concerted effort to enhance the menu items offered for the lunch program so that students are empowered to make healthier, more nutritious food choices.

The district provides two meals for students: breakfast and lunch. Fresh fruit is provided after lunch for students in grades PK-5 as a healthy snack. Students who participate in the afterschool school program are provided a snack prior to beginning their class Monday through Thursday. The PK program provides snacks for the students on a daily basis after their lunch. Usually, these students eat fairly early during the school day, therefore, a snack is available for them each day.

Bamberg School District Two participates in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) the School Breakfast Program (SBP). All nutrition standards are met daily as required through the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). Students are served fruits, vegetables, grains, meat/meat alternative and milk daily. Often meals include additional offerings.

School meals must be prepared according to age-appropriate minimum to maximum calorie count, saturated fats, sodium limit requirements and trans fats content. Meals cannot contain added trans fats and no more than 10% of calories can come from saturated fats. Students have access to fountain or bottled water during lunch and breakfast. Additionally, the district's three school cafeterias have received a grade of "A" from DHEC.

Students are encouraged to participate in the lunch program each day. As a parent, you have the ability to make the school meals a positive and exciting experience for your child. School meals provide whole grains, fruits and vegetables, low fat milk and reduced salt and fat. These factors encourage healthy eating and healthy bodies as children grown to adulthood. Help us help them develop strong healthier bodies and bright minds. We do appreciate you and all you do to motivate your child to become the very best they can be. Let us know how else you feel we can help. Thanks for all you do.

Sincerely,

Dr. Thelma F. Sojourner
Superintendent



The Third Annual District-Wide Spelling Bee
has been rescheduled from Thursday, April 25, to
Thursday, May 2, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.
at the Denmark-Olar Middle School Gymnasium.

STUDENTS of the MONTH

April 2019

Congratulations to the following students who were selected Students of the Month at their respective schools and received plaques and certificates from the Board of Trustees and Superintendent at the April 1 Board meeting.



Reginae' Youmans
D-O Elementary School



Marcus Wheeler
D-O Middle School



Aaliyah Warren
D-O High School

RECENTLY RE-ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS SWORN IN



Pictured left to right: Mrs. Beverly Boneparte, Mrs. Loretta Goodman and Mrs. Blossom Thompson

Mrs. Beverly Boneparte, Mrs. Loretta Goodman and Mrs. Blossom Thompson were administered the oath of office at a special board meeting held April 25. Board elections were held April 9 and they were re-elected to the board to represent their respective districts. The administration of the oath was witnessed by numerous family members and friends.

The board also held election of officers and unanimously elected the following slate of officers:

Mrs. Beverly Boneparte, Chair
Mrs. Blossom Thompson, Vice Chair
Mrs. Loretta Goodman, Secretary

The district extends its appreciation to the recently re-elected board members and to the full board of trustees for their dedication and untiring efforts to provide the best educational opportunities for our students.

Construction Site Update



The new elementary facilities and stadium are taking shape.

Aerial photos courtesy of
Thompson Turner
Contractors

THE FUND FOR RURAL EDUCATION CORPORATION AWARDS LAPTOPS

On April 11, at the Denmark-Olar High School annual awards day, ten excelling sophomores demonstrated that they are among the nation's best and brightest. As a reward for ranking in the top of their class, these sophomores each received a 15-inch Lenovo i5 laptop and computer mouse. The award winners were:

Zynea E. Williams
Ishaben S. Patel
Brevin S. Samuel
Justice S. Ivy
Nianne L. Rivers
Vernon L. Williams
Aaron Carter
Jamarius Smalls
Daveontae M. Walker
NaQuan A. Johnson

District Superintendent, Dr. Thelma Sojourner, joined high school principal, Dr. Deonia Simmons, in the presentations.

These annual sophomore laptop awards are made possible by the Fund for Rural Education, (the "Fund"), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation formed by Denmark-Olar graduates. This is the fifth year that the Fund has provided the awards. The Fund receives contributions from D-O alumni and friends from across the country to make the effort possible.

One regular donor to this initiative is Tony Fields, class of '82, a resident of Lebanon, Pennsylvania. Speaking of his decision to participate, Fields stated, "D-O was instrumental in my development. Today as a Desert Storm Veteran, and a former hospital security officer, I now pastor the St. John's United Church of Christ in Fredericksburg, Pennsylvania and will soon will add a second church, the Christ Church, United Church of Christ in Annville, Pennsylvania. It's 30- plus years later, and I'm still reaping benefits from the seeds that were invested in me there. The least I can do is invest in the lives of upcoming Vikings." Fields is the son of the late Joseph Fields Sr. and Mary Fields. As a student, he played Varsity football and was a school bus driver at a time when the school district used student drivers.

The President and CEO of the Fund for Rural Education is W. Burlette Carter. A 1978 D-O graduate, she is a Professor Emerita of Law at the George Washington University Law School in Washington, DC. Burlette is a graduate of Agnes Scott College and received her law degree from the Harvard Law School. She is the daughter of Bervay Lee Carter, who serves on the Denmark City Council, and the late W.D. Carter, who had his own painting business in the Denmark area for many years.

Ronald E. Graves (D-O, Class of '78), serves as the Fund's Vice President. A resident of Yorktown, Virginia, Ron is a pilot for United Airlines, certified on Boeing 757 and 767 jets. He flies out of New York. He is a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy and served 25 years active-duty in the United States Air Force. Ron is the son of Arlene Graves and the late Colonel Curtis Graves, both formerly of Denmark.

The Fund's Treasurer/Secretary is David N. Smith, of Richmond, Virginia, a member of the D-O class of 1973. A graduate of the University of South Carolina, David is the Director of Business Opportunity and Workforce Development at the Virginia Department of Transportation. He is also a former Director of the Business Opportunity and Workforce Center for the Virginia Department of Transportation and a former Deputy Secretary of Commerce for the State of Virginia. David is the son of Bishop Edward Smith (Presiding Bishop, Progressive Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc.) and the late First Lady Edna Smith, both formerly of Denmark.

All contributions to the Fund are fully tax deductible. Anyone interested in financially supporting this project or others, should contact Professor Carter at olardc@gmail.com or 301-585-5603.

2019 SPRING STATE TESTING SCHEDULE

Week of May 13, 2019

Grade 3 SC READY (5/13-15/2019)
Grade 8 SC READY and SC PASS (5/13-17/2019)
EOCEP/English II - Writing (5/16/2019)
EOCEP/English II - Reading (5/17/2019)

Week of May 20, 2019

Grade 4 SC READY and SC PASS (5/20-24/2019)
Grade 6 SC READY and SC PASS (5/20-24/2019)
EOCEP/English I - Writing (5/20/2019)
EOCEP/English I - Reading (5/21/2019)
EOCEP/English I - Algebra I (5/22/2019)
EOCEP/English I - Biology I (5/23/2019)
EOCEP/English I - US History/Constitution (5/24/2019)

Week of May 27, 2019

Grade 5 SC READY and SC PASS (5/28-31/2019)
Grade 7 SC READY and SC PASS (5/28-31/2019)

2018-2019 AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

Thursday, May 23, 2019 - Last Day for After School Program

HOLIDAY

Monday, May 27, 2019 - Memorial Day

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/ 2019 SUMMER INSTITUTE

Wednesday, June 5, 2019 - Professional Development
Thursday, June 6, 2019 - Professional Development

LAST SCHOOL DAY FOR STUDENTS & HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Friday, June 7, 2019

2019 SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Monday, June 10, 2019 - Wednesday July 3, 2019 (Monday-Thursday)
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Daily Instructional Schedule for Students
8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Daily Work Schedule for Staff

TEACHER OF THE MONTH
Congratulations!

MR. WALTER BAKER
 Denmark-Olar Middle School



Mr. Baker was recognized at the April 1 Board of Trustees meeting and received a certificate and \$25 check.

The Board of Trustees will resume its regular meeting schedule on May 13, 2019.
 The media will be notified of any additional changes, postponements or cancellations.



The District's Third-Annual Science Fair was held on Friday, March 8, 2019 in the gymnasium at Denmark-Olar Elementary School.

A total of thirty-seven science exhibits, representing students in Pre-K through high school, were entered in the event. Students competed in one of the five following judging categories: Behavioral Science, Biology, Chemistry, Medicine and Health, and Physics. For each of the five categories, there was an overall winner, a

first-place winner, and a second-place winner. A medallion, along with a picture of the student, was given to each science fair participant. In addition, winners in each of the five categories received a trophy. Winners by categories and grade levels are as follows:

Category: Behavioral Science

Position/Place

Overall Winner
 1st Place Winner
 2nd Place Winner

Total # Participants: 6

Participant

Mariam Lapierre
 Coran Ellis
 Kenia Wallace

Grade

8
 5
 7

Project Name

What is My Dog's Favorite Color
 The Unpoppable Balloon
 Boys vs Girls

Category: Biology

Position/Place

Overall Winner
 1st Place Winner
 2nd Place Winner

Total # Participants: 8

Participant

McKenzie Sanders
 Makhia Jones
 Kierra Glover

Grade

5
 2
 7

Project Name

Inflating a Balloon with Baking Soda and Vinegar
 What Kind of Juice Cleans Pennies Best
 Chewing Gum Effect on the Human Body

Category: Chemistry

Position/Place

Overall Winners
 1st Place Winner
 2nd Place Winner

Total # Participants: 9

Participant

Makiya Green
 Carlos Johnson
 Kiayzia Rivers
 SeQuavin Pough

Grade

4
 6
 3
 6

Project Name

Lemon Power
 How to Turn Milk into Plastic
 What Makes Crystal the Best: Borax, Sugar or Epson Salt
 Fizz Inflator: See What Happens

Category: Health & Medicine

Position/Place

Overall Winners
 1st Place Winners
 2nd Place Winner

Total # Participants: 5

Participant

Laila Donaldson
 Serenity Williams
 First Grade Class
 Donesa Galloway
 Linda Odom

Grade

9
 1
 6
 4

Project Name

H₂O and Blood Pressure
 Homemade Toothpaste
 Do Certain Drinks Stain Teeth
 How Mold Grows on Different Food

Category: Physics

Position/Place

Overall Winner
 1st Place Winner
 2nd Place Winner

Total # Participants: 9

Participant

Faith Jerido
 Special Education Class
 Charles Sanford

Grade

4
 -
 3

Project Name

How Different Liquids Impact a Magnet
 Dye Loves: Hot or Cold?
 How to Build a Tin Can Robot