



THE HENRY BARNARD SCHOOL at
RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE
PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

September 2006

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WELCOME BACK!!!!

It is great to have everyone back and begin another school year at the Henry Barnard School. All of the faculty and staff are anticipating a fantastic year.



CURRICULUM NIGHT

Each year in September the faculty offer a curriculum night for parents and guardians. Since students are aware of their classes, they (and younger siblings) do not attend Curriculum Night. Curriculum Night this year will be September 19, 2006.

In order to increase opportunities for parking, we will begin Curriculum Night at 6:30pm. Parents and guardians are encouraged to arrive a little early so that the program can begin promptly at 6:30. In addition to an early start, we will be slightly changing the format. We will begin in the cafeteria and introduce the HBS faculty and staff. Following the short meeting parents and guardians will be invited to visit their child's classroom.

Following the first session there will be a short recess, followed by a second session for parents with children in more than one grade.



NOTE: ALL FUTURE NEWSLETTERS WILL BE VIA EMAIL.

Curriculum Night continued

Since we expect a much smaller attendance at the second session, this session may take less time than the first session. Parents and guardians are invited to visit Spanish, art, music, physical education, technology education, library, guidance, nurse, and interventionists during one of the two sessions.

During Curriculum Night the Parents' Association Executive Board will have displays and information about the Association. They invite all parents to visit with them before the 6:30 presentations, between sessions, and after the sessions.



FAMILY HANDBOOK

Family Handbooks were distributed within the first few days of school. If you have not received your copy, please inform a teacher (after checking your child's knapsack!) or download a copy from the HBS website: www.ric.edu/hbs. If you have not yet had the chance, please review the Handbook with your child. The Handbook contains important information about school policies, practices, and procedures.

STUDENT ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

Students are to arrive at school between 8:00 AM and 8:15 AM. This allows for classrooms to be settled before the students go to a specialist. Our specialists (art, music, physical education, technology education, and Spanish) begin at 8:30.

When parents bring their children to school the students should be driven to the carport. Upon arrival, children may exit their car and enter the building. Parents should not park around the circle and enter the school with their children. Cars parked around the circle are subject to parking tickets that may be as expensive as seventy dollars (\$70.00). If children are accompanied into the school by an adult, parking lot E may be used for short periods of time.

Arrival Procedures continued

Since preschool children are too young to enter and leave school by themselves, it is expected that they will be accompanied by an adult. Parking for short periods of time for parents of preschool children is permitted behind the school.

Parking at any time of the day along the east side of the school is not permitted. Cars parked in this area are subject to ticketing.



STUDENT DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

While parking at the school can at times be challenging for parents, those who double park in parking lot E, or leave a car unattended around the circle, or park on the east side of the school are subject to parking tickets that may be as expensive as seventy dollars (\$70.00). Leaving your car unattended in the circle also slows the dismissal process and causes barriers for other parents.

Students who use the Providence School Department buses for transportation must have a bus pass issued by Providence. Since the bus passes are valid for only one bus, students are not allowed to ride other buses. Students may not take guests home with them on the bus.

Students who want to change their method of going home on any afternoon **must** have a note from their parent. The note should include the child's name, the name of the classroom teacher, the way the child usually goes home, and the way the child will be leaving on that afternoon.

If a parent/guardian comes to the school to pick-up their child prior to the regular dismissal time, that parent must report to the office. The office will then request that the child be dismissed to the office so that they may leave with their parent/guardian. Parents and guardians are not to go directly to the child's classroom to pick-up students.

In order to ensure student safety, students are dismissed in the following manner:

1. Explorations students are dismissed
2. Bus students are dismissed

3. Carport students are dismissed Remain with your car and allow the children to come to you.
4. Parents and guardians who "pick-up" children at carport are to form a **single line** of traffic on the right side of the road by the Art Center. At times, this line may stretch back to Roberts Hall.
5. When directed by campus security, an assistant teacher, or a faculty member, cars may proceed to the carport in front of the school.
6. When all cars have stopped, Henry Barnard School personnel will signal students to proceed to cars that are around the circle. Do not signal for your child to run to the car (this becomes a safety problem). Remain with your car and allow the children to come to you.
7. When all the cars around the circle are ready, they will be directed to leave. Please remain in line, do not pass other cars, and do not leave before all the cars are ready.
8. In the event your passenger is not ready when you are parked in the circle, notify one of the Henry Barnard School personnel on duty.
9. Please share these procedures with anyone you designate to pick-up your children at carport.
10. Children are expected to leave the building between 2:15 and 2:35, unless they are part of Explorations. An assistant teacher monitors students who have missed their ride home until 2:55. After 2:55 pm, students will go to Explorations (there is an Explorations **fee**) until their parents arrive. Henry Barnard School staff will contact the child's parents and notify them that their child is at Explorations.

Acting in accordance with the arrival and dismissal procedures makes the process safer for the children, smoother, and quicker. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Please share the dismissal procedures with anyone authorized to pick-up your child or anyone who may bring your child to school.



CARPOOL

In conjunction with the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority, the school will be offering a means for parents to explore the option of carpooling students to and from school. Information about the program, and sign-up procedures, are on the school webpage at: www.ric.edu/hbs.



EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS

If school must be canceled because of inclement weather, it will be announced on the radio (WPRO, for example) and on television (Channel 10, for example). Most local radio and TV stations are now sharing this information for their morning announcements. During inclement weather the Henry Barnard School will automatically:

- 1) close if Rhode Island College is closed,
- 2) delay if Rhode Island College delays,
- 3) close if the Providence Public Schools close, and
- 4) delay if the Providence Public Schools delay.

In these instances, the Henry Barnard School may not be announced separately. Canceled school days will be made up at a later date.

For families with internet access, there are two **additional methods** to learn about school delays and closings, both are available at www.turnto10.com. By logging on and then clicking on "Announcements: Closings and Delays", this non-HBS site will let you check school closings and delays. If you check the list of schools for our status, don't forget to check the status of the Providence Public Schools. The same site also offers a free email service. This service will send you an automatic email for delays and closings within minutes of the decision. If you opt for the email notification, it is recommended that the Providence Public Schools be used as your "school or institution". It is possible to sign on a second time and use Henry Barnard School as your school.

If we must close school during the day (after school has started), this will be announced on the radio and television. When possible, an effort will be made to contact parents. The closing of Henry Barnard School during the school day will be announced separately from other schools (except Rhode Island College), and is not dependent upon Providence Public Schools.



HEALTHY CHILDREN

One of the educational issues receiving national attention is the health and physical fitness of school aged children. Estimates of overweight children range from 15% to 20%, with another 15% of children considered to be at risk. Overweight children tend to become overweight adults and both are associated with medical concerns.

The Health and Wellness Guidelines in the Family Handbook present an overview of the combined efforts of faculty and parents to have our students continue a healthy lifestyle.

One way to promote health in children is by providing appropriate food and exercise. All of us have heard about the benefits of providing healthy lunches and snacks for children instead of a diet of sweets and soda. We are requesting that parents provide healthy food for their children and have other options besides sweets to celebrate events at the school.

HENRY BARNARD SCHOOL CALENDAR Dates for September and October 2006

September	2006	
06	Labor Day	No School
12	HBSPA Meeting	8:30 am
19	Curriculum Night	6:30 pm

October	2006	
09	Columbus Day	No School
20	School Pictures	

NOTE: THE SCHOOL WILL BE IN SESSION ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2006.

