

BARKLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL...A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

At Barkley Elementary School, we pride ourselves in having a highly dedicated and passionate staff, supportive parents, and amazing children. We continually strive to meet the educational needs of all students. Our mission is to provide an exemplary education in a nurturing environment wherein each student is valued, supported, and encouraged to achieve a high level of academic, social, and personal success.

Our school goals are:

- To improve the academic achievement of each student;
- To develop a "community of learners" wherein each student is valued, supported and encouraged to become the best person and student he/she can be;
- To encourage each student to make our school and world a better place

Barkley Elementary provides many unique and enriching opportunities for our students. In fifth grade, all students have an opportunity to participate in an overnight outdoor education adventure. During this exciting experience, students are able to enhance their problem solving, critical thinking, discovery, and team building skills. It is truly an opportunity of a lifetime! Students in Grades 4 and 5 are able to audition for our annual school play. We believe that every child possesses individual gifts and talents. In order to encourage and promote their skills and creativity, we provide an array of opportunities such as the Chess Club, K-Kids, Ski Club, and Earth Club.

School-Wide Positive Behavior Support is our framework for teaching, modeling, and reinforcing important social and behavioral norms and values. Many children receive daily positive recognition for being a model for others and exceeding school-wide expectations. Our students are encouraged to reach for the STARS by demonstrating Safety, Teamwork, Academic achievement, Respect, and Self-control. This year, Barkley Elementary School received recognition at the state-level for our School-Wide Positive Behavior Support framework.

SCHOOL PROFILE

Barkley Elementary is located right in the heart of the Borough of Phoenixville. The majority of our students live in the Borough, and many walk to school. Barkley Elementary has 460 students enrolled in first through fifth grades, with 22 homerooms and an average class size of 21 students. All of the elementary schools in Phoenixville Area School District are proud to have earned the Keystone Achievement Award for continued excellence in education.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

The Phoenixville YMCA offers a child care program at Barkley Elementary both before and after school. In addition, students may be transported by bus to any of the child care programs located within the Barkley School boundaries.

CURRICULUM

A comprehensive elementary school curriculum includes the core subjects of language arts, mathematics, science and social studies along with physical education, library, music, art, and world language. Each curricular area is based on the Pennsylvania Academic Standards, and is evaluated and revised as needed. All of our elementary schools make wide use of technology to increase student learning, including interactive Promethean Boards in every classroom.

Collins Writing is implemented K-12, and provides consistency across the curriculum. Flexible grouping in Reading allows students to receive targeted instruction to meet their individual needs. A hands-on Science program stimulates student interest and involvement.

An instrumental music program is available to students in Grades 4 and 5, while the choral program begins in Grade 3. The exceptional music programs are on display in the concerts and dramatic productions at each building. This year, PASD began a String program that was offered to 3rd grade students.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

We believe the responsibility for a child's education must be a collaborative enterprise among home, school, and the community. Toward that end, we provide an abundance of positive ways for our parents to be involved. We have many parents who volunteer in our library or who may chaperone a class trip. Parents help to organize parties and special events. With the financial support of our Home and School Association, we have been able to provide students with two educational and motivational assemblies each year. Our Home and School Association has also allowed us to support families within our community who are in need. We are fortunate to have supportive and dedicated parents. Through community partnerships with the YMCA and Activate Phoenixville, we have been able to provide fitness opportunities such as Girls of the Run and Phantom Phitness.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

A wide variety of activities are available for students after the school day ends. In addition to band and chorus, we have a Chess Club, Earth Club, Ski Club, Fit Club, Reading Olympics, K-Kids, ESL Homework Club, Lego Club, and Odyssey of the Mind. 4th and 5th grade students are able to participate in our annual musical.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Multiple layers of support exist for all students. All of the elementary schools have initiated a School Wide Positive Behavior Support Program which recognizes and rewards appropriate student behavior. Barkley Elementary School has a Student Support Specialist who provides student assistance in navigating academic and social situations and additional support to teachers in classroom management.

Response to Instruction & Intervention (RTII) uses student data to ensure all students are receiving the support they need to achieve maximum reading success. The Instructional Support Process (IST) helps to identify students who are struggling and puts Action Plans in place to help students achieve success in the regular education classroom. Students who qualify for specially designed instruction, are provided an Individual Education Plan (IEP), and receive additional services matched to their individual needs. After school and summer programs for both Reading and Math are in place for students who require additional support.

An enrichment program is in place for gifted learners, with services provided within Barkley Elementary.

STUDENT ASSESSMENTS

Students in third, fourth, and fifth grades take the PSSA state assessment tests in reading and math. The percentages of students who scored proficient or above in 2012/13 are listed below.

<u>Grade</u>	Math	Reading
3^{rd}	81%	80%
4 th	82%	75%
5^{th}	81%	71%