



The Bobcat Flyer

September 2008



<http://www.bvsd.org/schools/Angevine>

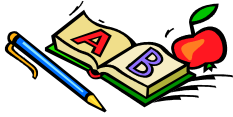
Angevine Middle School, BVSD, 1150 West S. Boulder Rd., Lafayette, CO. 80026

Main Office: 303 665-5540 Counseling: 303-447-5464 Attendance: 303-447-5458

Principal – Mike Medina (mike.medina@bvsd.org) Assistant Principal – Tobey Bassoff (tobey.bassoff@bvsd.org)

Assistant Principal – Suzanne Ovelman (suzanne.ovelman@bvsd.org)

Counselor – Jay Kenis (jay.kenis@bvsd.org), Counselor - Monica Dirmeikis - (monica.dirmeikis@bvsd.org)



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Angevine Community,

The start of the 2008 – 2009 school year has been exceptional! Angevine's new schedule has been very well received by our students and staff. Having the same schedule every day and the consistency it provides will enable us to better support students. The late start Wednesday schedule has been very smooth. Students start school on late start Wednesday at 9:45 am and they follow the abbreviated seven period schedule. Teachers are very committed to utilizing the time on Wednesday mornings to coordinate planning, instruction and assessments with other teachers in the same department. Please note late start Wednesday's occur only during weeks when we have five full days of school.

Please plan on attending Back to School Night on Tuesday, September 9th beginning at 5:45 pm. Every activity, club and program will have an informational table available at 5:45 pm to 6:25 pm. At 6:30 parents will follow their student's schedule and rotate through the seven period day. We have implemented many changes in the evening to provide more meaningful information throughout the evening. During this evening each teacher will provide a course syllabus, explain their grading policy and describe the nature of the class. A complete schedule has been sent home with the student, placed on the Angevine Web Site and placed on the parent list serve. Please participate in your student's education.

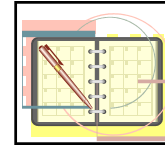
We have changed many aspects of how the school was structured to better support students and improve student academic achievement. These changes include:

- Changes in the mathematics program
- Changes in the language arts program
- Changes in science
- Changes in the physical education program
- Changes in technology or pre-engineering classes
- Changes in elective offerings
- Changes in master schedule
- Changes in the dual language program
- Implemented a new process to ensure student safety
- Imbedded time in schedule for teachers to improve instructional strategies

These are some of the many changes we have implemented. In addition we have hired 13 new teachers to Angevine. Most of these new teachers have a great deal of expertise and all are very talented teachers. These new members of our team will ensure an improvement in the quality of instruction at Angevine. Please attend Back to School Night and welcome them to the Lafayette Community.

The many visitors and new families at Angevine have frequently commented, how impressed they are "with the new feel and look" of our great school. I can't begin to express how satisfied we are with our new school. I'm not one to make guarantees. I will guarantee that our new approach will make drastic differences in student academic achievement. This is definitely a school which will rise to the occasion and be recognized as an exemplary middle school!

In partnership with Community,
Mike Medina



AMS CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

- Sept 9 - Back to School Night 5:45-8:00 pm
- 10 - Late Start Wednesday
8th gr. Boys Football vs Platt at AMS
- 11 - Latino Parents Leadership Meeting
5:30-7:30 pm (Library)
- 12 - Instrumental Music Rental Night 3:30-7:30 pm at Monarch K-8
- 16 - SIT Meeting 5:00-6:00 pm (Library)
PTA Meeting 6:00-7:00 pm (Library)
- 17 - 8th gr Boys Football vs Centennial at AMS
- 18 - Parent/Teacher conference by Invitation 4:15-7:45 pm
- 19 - **NO SCHOOL** - Professional Development Day
- 22 - Picture Retake Day
- 24 - Late Start Wednesday
Parent/Teacher Conference (A-L)
4:15-7:15 pm
OCTOBER COUNT BEGINS 9/24-10/30
- 25 - Parent/Teacher Conference (M-Z)
4:15-7:15 pm

OCTOBER

- 1 - **OFFICIAL COUNT DAY**
Late Start Wednesday

From The Attendance Office

Parents - Please call the attendance line (303-447-5458) if your child is going to be absent from school on any school day and for any reason!!

Please send a note with your child when he/she has to leave school during the day for an appointment or any other reason. Tell your child to deliver the note to the attendance desk in the morning. She/he will receive a pass to leave the classroom at the necessary time and they will meet you in the main office. This procedure will ensure less interruptions during class time.

Please come into the office to sign your student in or out of school.

Health Room News

Students please remember to turn in your updated immunization records to the health room. All 6th and 7th grade students are required to have 1 Tdap vaccine in addition to past requirements. No medications are allowed at school without a medication form on file in the health room. All medications except for inhalers and epi-pens must be kept in the health room.

Parents please remind your child to eat breakfast and lunch. Many students visit the health room because they are hungry and therefore do not feel well. Also many 6th period teachers allow their students to bring a quick/ healthy snack to their class. Please have your student check with their teacher regarding their snack policy. The health room does accept and appreciate all donations of healthy snacks.

Angevine Middle School Registrar Office

Please contact the Registrar's office to submit address and/or phone number changes, student withdraw or for information on BVSD Angevine Parent Portal or the Angevine Parent Listserve.

Parents may contact the Registrar's office between the hours of 7:30 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday. Our direct number is 303-447-5464 or you may access us by e-mail at micele.peel@bvsd.org, susan.montoya@bvsd.org or diana.yaner@bvsd.org.

Parent Portal on Infinite Campus

View your students grade's from home! Angevine Middle School has implemented the parent portal, a feature on the Infinite Campus student information data base. The Parent Portal allows parents to access their student's information from any computer. Student data includes:

- Grades
- Assignments
- Attendance
- Schedule
- Teacher contact information
- Fees

Research indicates increased parent involvement in schools leads to better attendance and grades. Letters to parents with their personal access codes and directions for use are available in the counseling office. Please contact Michele Peel or Susan Montoya at 303-447-5464 or you may e-mail them at michele.peel@bvsd.org or susan.montoya@bvsd.org.

Yearbook Staff Meetings

The AMS Yearbook Staff is starting to assemble. All grade levels are welcome and encouraged to attend the Tuesday morning meetings. They are in the art room from 8:00-8:30. Staff members help design the yearbook and take photos throughout the school. It's a great activity to be involved with.

Safety First!

Dear Parents/Guardians,
Keeping our students safe is our top priority. The parking lots become quite congested during pick up and drop off times. Please drive slowly and watch for students. All parents should use the east lot, in front of the building, to drop off or pick up students. **The north lot is for bus drop off/pickup and staff parking only.** Please do not use the north lot to drop off or pick up students. If your child walks to school, please remind him/her to stay on the sidewalks and never dart between buses or parked cars. Thank you for supporting the safety of our school community.

The Angevine Team

Join the AMS Parent List Serve and Stay Informed!

A listserve is a useful tool for keeping up to date with school events and news. Mr. Medina, our principal, periodically sends out news and information about activities and events at Angevine. You can expect reminders of Parent/Teacher conferences, information on student activities, SIT and PTA meetings, bookfairs and other important Angevine news. This one-way Listserve sends information directly to your e-mail – no one else will know your e-mail address or be able to contact you. Two options are available:

The first option, "Angevine M.S. Parents", is the list serve that receives daily announcements, district newsletters and occasionally more detailed bulletins from the principal.

If that is too much for you, the second option is called "Angevine M.S. Friends." You will not receive daily announcements and is intended for the many people who support Angevine but do not need as detailed information.

To subscribe to this service:

Go to the web address:

<http://content.bvsd.org/list/listSubscribe.asp>

Type in your e-mail address and your name

Click on the box marked "Angevine MS Parents"

Click on subscribe

Or simply go the AMS website and click on Angevine e-mail (located in the lefthand column) for a direct link.

You will receive an e-mail confirmation – **which you must respond to-** to complete the process. That is all there is to it! We hope that all parents with e-mail access sign on to the Angevine Listserve and stay informed. That is all there is to it!

OFFICIAL OCTOBER COUNT DAY

IS

October 1, 2008

Please make sure your student is in school on this day. Angevine receives its funding for the year based on the number of students in school on Oct. 1st.

Student Council News

All students are invited to join Angevine student council. We meet every Friday morning at 7:30 a.m. in the library. Student council is a great way for your student to get involved at school. We give input/feedback to administration regarding school policies, run the school store, sponsor and host school dances, participate in community service projects, help PTA, and purchase Bobcat pride prizes as well as many other activities. We are currently holding elections for our Officers. If you have any questions regarding student council please contact Scott Slaby scott.slaby@bvsvd.org or Susan Montoya susan.montoya@bvsvd.org.

Box tops

The box for these is located by the front office. Every Box Top gives \$.10 to student council

You can find Box Tops on Hamburger Helper boxes, Breakfast bars, Cereal boxes, Kleenex boxes, Betty Crocker products and many more items.

Orchestra/ Mariachi Sept. 2008

We are off to a great start once again with the AMS Orchestra program. This year we are exploring new frontiers in the Music Department. Angevine is the first middle school in the district to offer No4 Mariachi Ensemble. This class was approved last year by the BVSD School Board for district wide implementation as a middle level offering. The effort to create the class was headed by Mr. Jewell, our AMS Orchestra director. There are two sections of Mariachi Ensemble currently at AMS. There is a beginning 6th grade group along with a second year 7th grade group. Both groups will have the traditional Mariachi instrumentation of trumpet, violin, guitars and guitarron. The addition of the Mariachi at AMS will create a fourth performing group to take their place next to the Bands, the Orchestras and the Choirs. Students enrolled in the class will learn of the history and culture behind the Mariachi as well as learn to play and perform traditional Mariachi instruments and songs from this great tradition. The Mariachi Ensemble will add and expand our unique cultural identity and diversity here at AMS.

For both the Mariachi Ensembles and the AMS Orchestras, several concerts are planned throughout the school year. Keep watching for those concert performances in the AMS newsletter and on the website.

Media Center News

If you want to volunteer as a parent to help in the Media Center, please contact Ken Smith at kenneth.smith@bvsvd.org or call 303-665-5540 ext 247. We ask for at least a 2 hour commitment each week. You will be involved in material processing, display construction and general maintenance of the Media Center's collection of books, DVDs and tapes.

The Media Center, along with the PTA, is sponsoring a Book Fair for the week of September 8. We will need parent volunteers for all three days of the fair which begins at 8:00 AM in the morning and ends at 4:30 PM after school. We also need volunteers for the evening of September 9 to work with the Book Fair during Back to School Night from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM. You can call Molly Waterman at 303-249-0250 or Ken Smith at 303-665-5540 ext. 247 for more details.

AVID News

What: GARAGE SALE!!!!

When: Saturday, September 27th from 8:00am-12:00pm

Where: Angevine parking lot – (weather permitting)

Alternate location – the school atrium

Why: To fundraise for our 8th grade AVID trip this spring

We are really excited to be holding this event to help raise money for our students! If you have any items that you would like to donate to our sale, we will be collecting them on September 5th from 8:00am – 8:30am in Mrs. Leonard's room (808) and on September 19th from 8:00am – 12:00pm in the school atrium.

Also, if you have some time during the hours of 1:00pm – 3:00pm on the 19th, we will be looking for some volunteers to help us organize and price all of our sale items. If you can help, please e-mail your availability for that afternoon to Linda Arroyo-Holmstrom at linda.arroyo-holmstr@bvsvd.org.

Boulder County Prevention and Intervention Program Letter to Parents for Inclusion in School- Based Parent Newsletters Each School Year

Dear Parent,

This letter is designed to acquaint you with the services of the Boulder County Prevention and Intervention Program. The (BCPIP) was founded in 1987 to provide effective school-based prevention and intervention services focused on strengthening students' skills and abilities to deal with problems, issues and temptations, as well as to make decisions in a healthy/productive way. The partnering agencies in this program include Boulder County Public Health, the St. Vrain and Boulder Valley School Districts, the cities of Boulder and Longmont, the town of Lyons, and the Mental Health Center Serving Boulder and Broomfield Counties, Inc.

The primary focus of the BCPIP is to provide counseling, and prevention services in close collaboration with school staff. These services include: mental health and substance abuse assessment; brief solution-focused counseling; team mobilization to provide support after a school/community trauma; referral of students/families to community agencies and follow-up to the referral; coordination of community services offered on-site at schools; consultation with school staff for prevention and intervention planning; training students to work with and help other students; group counseling to help students deal with problems/issues in small groups; youth leadership; presentations for parents; classroom presentations; and training for faculty and staff.

The program staff consists of masters or doctorate level prepared counselors, psychologists, and social workers, referred to as Interventionists. Interventionists work for The Mental Health Center Serving Boulder and Broomfield Counties, Boulder County Public Health, or the City of Boulder, and are not school district employees. The BCPIP program philosophy is to involve parents whenever possible. You should also know that as mental health professionals, Interventionists follow Federal Law which outlines confidentiality guidelines. Anyone over the age of 15 is protected by this regulation and may seek services on their own. Anyone under 15 must first obtain parental consent to seek services. The guidelines specify that any information received by an Interventionist is confidential unless the student (aged 15 or older) or a parent or guardian gives specific permission to disclose the information. Therefore, school personnel, including the principal, will not have information regarding your child's work with the Interventionist unless specific permission is given. Excluded from this protection is information that discloses the intent to harm oneself or others, an incident of child abuse/neglect, or sexual assault.

Intervention staff are placed at most secondary schools in the St. Vrain and Boulder Valley schools. The Interventionist in your school is Michael Altman 303-665-5540. For questions about the program call Jen Brown, Program Manager at 303.678.6135 (SVVSD, and BVSD outside city of Boulder schools), or Kathryn Coleman, School-Based Services Manager at 303.441.3344 (City of Boulder schools only).

BVSD's Lifelong Learning Program offers "Tech Savvy Parenting" class

Internet safety is a huge topic among educators, parents, kids, teens and organizations such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), and for good reason. According to a recent NCMEC study and pcmag.com, "By age seven, 60 percent of kids have been online; a number that jumps to 90 percent by age 9. Most tweens—kids between the ages of 8 and 12—stay on the internet for at least two hours a day."

NCMEC and Cox Communications hosted an internet safety summit in July and found that approximately "28 percent of tweens reported having been contacted by a stranger while online. About 18 percent did not tell anyone about being contacted, while 11 percent responded to a stranger." Not only do kids and teens need to be aware of internet predators, but internet bullying is on the rise. NCMEC reports 22 percent of kids have friends who have been bullied online.

TECH SAVVY PARENTING

Dates: Monday, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.; three sessions starting October 13 and ending October 27. Cost \$89, Materials Fee \$10

Location: New Vista High School in Boulder

Get details and register at www.bvsvd.org/lll

Parent Engagement Network presents:

Thriving During the Teenage Years, Growing As Parents

By Dr. Jan Hittelman

For parents of middle and high school students, efforts to help their children achieve in school can often seem like a recipe for disaster. Due to adolescent development, all the ingredients are in place: impulsivity, questioning authority, desire for independence, and raging hormones + school!

The most difficult challenge for parents is often making the shift from control to advice. When our children are young we are able to exert a significant amount of control over their behavior. As they move through adolescence, those techniques are less and less effective. This is because the task of adolescence is to individuate, to become an independent adult. This necessitates separating from parental control in order to develop self-control, to learn by experimenting and making mistakes, to develop an internal set of values, morals, and identity. In order to be more effective with your adolescent, consider the following suggestions:

Show Respect: Be a Good Listener: Use Empowerment: Connect Privileges with Effort: Don't Sweat the Small Stuff:

Dr. Jan Hittelman is a licensed psychologist and Director of Boulder Psychological Services, LLC. What's your opinion? Questions or comments for this monthly column can be sent to: 1527 Pine Street, Suite B, Boulder, CO 80302, via email to: jan.hittelman@gmail.com, or by phone: 720-217-3270.

The **Latino Parent Leadership Program (LPLP)** mission is to increase Latino parent involvement within the schools by promoting and strengthening Latino parent leadership skills, their understanding of the US education system, and their rights and responsibilities as parents.

Perla Delgado, Community Action Programs
303-441-3956, pdelgado@bouldercounty.org

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