



Pierce School

Letter from the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I want to welcome both new and returning families to Pierce School. On behalf of the Pierce School staff, please know that you and your child(ren) are a valued part of the Pierce School community. We want to assure you that we are dedicated to providing the very best for each and every student. As the school's mission statement expresses, we are dedicated to:

- Providing a personalized education.
- Cultivating independent thinking.
- Promoting the building of character.
- Fostering the desire to learn.

I, as well as the rest of the Pierce School staff, look forward to partnering with you to make the 2015-2016 school year a great one! We hope that you share our excitement for the year ahead!

Sincerely,

Ann Allwarden

Building Principal



At our first whole school assembly, we reviewed our core values. *Be safe. Be kind. Do the right thing. Have courage.* We also unveiled Pierce School's new mascot. We are the Bennington Black Bears! Black bears are adaptable, intelligent, and curious. They are also playful. They like to swim and love to climb trees.



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Volume 3, Issue 1

August 31, 2015

Mark your calendars:

September 7

Labor Day

September 8-11

AIMSweb Assessments

September 10

PTO Mtg. @ 6:15 in Pierce School's library

September 11

School Assembly
(Presenters: Grades K, 2, & 4)

September 23

Picture Day; Open House
from 5:30-6:30

September 25

School Assembly
(Presenters: Grades 1 & 3)

Fall Assessments

During the week of September 8th, students in grades K-4 will be taking AIMSweb assessments. AIMSweb measures take only one to four minutes to complete. Later in the Fall during the weeks of October 19th and October 26th, students in grades 1-4 will also take the Measures of Academic Progress™ (MAP) assessment. Typically, students take an hour to complete the reading and another hour to complete math portions of this assessment. We administer the math and reading on different days. For first grade we usually break the testing into four 30 minute sessions spread across four days.

We give students the AIMSweb and MAP assessments to determine their instructional level for math and reading—and to measure academic growth throughout the school year, as well as from year to year. Furthermore, these assessments are used diagnostically by teachers to decide what skills and knowledge to prioritize when working with a student. Following the administration of AIMSweb and MAP, grade level teams meet to review the results from these assessments. During these meetings teachers analyze each child's performance in order to identify key areas of strength and need. Information gathered from this analysis directly informs the instruction that teachers offer your child. Our goal is to tailor the instruction provided to your child in such a way that it maximizes their levels of learning and achievement.

Lastly, following the administration of both assessments, AIMSweb and MAP, individual student reports will be printed out and sent home for parents to review.



September Specials

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
	Health	Health	Health	Health	Health	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Labor Day	PE	PE	PE	PE	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Music	Music	Music	Music	Music	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Art	Art	Art	Art	Art	
27	28	29	30	1	2	
	PE	PE	PE	PE	PE	