
Fostering a Community of Active Learners in Minneapolis, MN



PARENT HANDBOOK

Welcome to the 2015-16 school year at Clara Barton Open School!

We are delighted to have you and your children as part of the Barton Community. Barton is a vital K-8 progressive education magnet school in the Minneapolis Public Schools, where learning is celebrated and community is cherished. For over 33 years, Barton Open has fostered an atmosphere of shared goals and mutual respect, in a venerable building that turns 100 years old this year.

At Barton Open, **the student is an active partner in learning**. Open Education is grounded in the belief that children are capable learners, and that the classroom and the school are microcosms of democracy in action. Teachers and students engage together in the authentic learning experiences of being readers, writers, artists, scientists, mathematicians, and thinkers exploring the world. As a progressive school, we're intentional about being student-centered and focused on the whole child.

This Parent Handbook, in its second year, was created by Barton parents and staff alike to welcome, inform, and engage you, whether you are new to our school or whether you've been part of the Barton community for years. This is going to be a tremendous year. We're glad you and your family are a part of it. Finally, please come in and talk with us about any questions, concerns or ideas you may have. We are partners in your child's education.

Sincerely,



Jonas Beugen
Principal



Holly Kleppe
Assistant Principal



Kristin Sonquist
Staff Co-Chair,
Leadership Council



Julia Paulsen Mullin
Parent Co-Chair,
Leadership Council

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I • Welcome to Barton

Barton Values

What makes Barton special? At the heart of Barton Open:

- We instill a love of lifelong learning through passionate engagement and meaningful experiences.
- We value each child for his or her perspective, and create a safe, caring and reflective environment that values each child.
- We offer an interdisciplinary curriculum and culturally responsive instruction. Using the Responsive Classroom model, we encourage choice, critical thinking, independence, arts expression, social skills and intellectual engagement.
- We develop an atmosphere of mutual respect and equity through our diverse learning community.
- We encourage creative, courageous and collaborative inquiry for all by developing learners who think independently and thrive in a global society.
- We involve children in decision-making and self-directed learning. Their voices are an essential part of the process.
- We educate for a democratic society by valuing personal voice through curriculum that strengthens community and a sense of citizenship.

I • Welcome to Barton

We Offer:

- A curriculum that combines strong academics and social development
- Multi-age classrooms and cross-age teaching
- Emphasis on multiple intelligences and multiple learning styles, with a whole-child approach
- Student/teacher/parent goal-setting conferences twice a year in K-6
- Portfolio sharing in grades K-6 twice a year; no letter grades in K-6
- A 7th and 8th grade Uppers Program that prepares Barton students for the transition to high school
- Uppers Exhibition Night twice a year for grades 7-8 (letter grades in 7-8)
- Morning meetings and other classroom strategies that create a positive classroom climate
- Extensive field trips, hands-on and outdoor learning experiences and an edible schoolyard garden
- Many opportunities for project-based and collaborative learning
- Student-centered leadership development opportunities
- Integration among arts, language, music, dance, social studies and sciences
- A diverse student and family community that reflects today's world
- An ELL (English Language Learner) program
- Active parent community and classroom involvement
- A climate of mutual respect among students, teachers, and administrators, including a tradition of adults and children addressing one another using first names
- A buddy system matching older and younger students for the year, with frequent opportunities to read to one another or sit together at all-school assemblies
- An emphasis on proactive problem solving

I • Welcome to Barton

Open Education Philosophy

Ask different Barton parents about the meaning of Open education, and you will likely get a different answer each time. To help us all better understand and articulate Open education, we suggest thinking of Open education as a **rebalancing of the ingredients of schooling** — the role of students, time, the classroom, materials, and learning experiences. Rather than thinking in terms of either/ors, think in terms of differences in degree.

For example, Open Education offers:

More small group and individual instructional support from teachers	Less lecturing and instruction aimed at the whole class
More hands-on, experiential and inductive learning	Less time spent sitting, listening, receiving, and absorbing information
More active learning, including the noise and movement of students doing, talking and working together on a task	Less value placed on silence in the classroom
More time devoted to reading whole, original books and nonfiction materials	Less time spent reading textbooks and instructional reading workbooks
More opportunities for deep study of fewer topics, allowing for more inquiry and internalization	Less widespread surface covering of material in every subject area
More emphasis on problem-solving, high order thinking, investigating, and learning key concepts and principles	Less classroom time devoted to fill-in-the-blank worksheets, workbooks, and paper and pencil “seat work”
More emphasis on student responsibility: goal setting, record keeping, monitoring, and evaluating	Less emphasis on individual competition and grades
More emphasis on cooperative, collaborative activity	Less emphasis on learning as a solo, individual process
More emphasis on evaluation methods that inform instructional decisions, provide a clear picture of student learning, and are based on looking at student work over time. Yearlong and longitudinal (K-8) portfolios are developed by each student to demonstrate learning.	Less emphasis on using and relying on standardized tests as meaningful data to inform instructional decisions

II • Building Community

“Barton Bugle”

The Bugle is our weekly online newsletter (www.barton.mpls.k12.mn.us/barton_news_2015-2016). You'll receive an email linking you to a weekly letter from Jonas, Leadership Council minutes (if there was a recent meeting), and the latest school news, which is listed on the Barton website. If you are not receiving the Bugle via email, please contact Brittany in the Main Office at 612/668-3597 to get signed up. You can also request a paper copy if email isn't an option. If you signed up and still aren't receiving it, check your spam folder, or contact the Main Office to resolve the issue. You don't want to miss all the info in it each week.

It's your main source of information for all things Barton. Read and refer to it often!

School Calendar

Your voice matters! Please join your fellow parents/guardians and Barton students at the following community events. These gatherings strengthen our Open program, highlighting the dynamic interplay of ideas that are at the core of Open — and well, are just plain fun. See the **Barton Dictionary** on page 14 for event descriptions. Specific dates and information about the various events will appear on the Barton website and in the Bugle as they approach:

August

- King of the Log (at the Renaissance Festival)
- Meet Your Teacher
- Party on the Playground
- Tears and Cheers

September

- Parent Information Night
- 1st Goal Setting Conferences (ongoing through fall)
- Somali Parent Dinner

October

- Barton Fund Campaign (through Dec)
- Kindergarten Family Dinner

November

- Wild Rumpus Book Fair

December

- Choir Concert

January

- 1st Portfolio Sharing (for K-6)
- 1st Uppers Exhibition Night
- 2nd Goal Setting Conferences

February

- African American Parent Involvement Day
- Family Skating Night at Roller Garden

March

- Community Education Play Performances
- FUNdraisers!
- Plant Sale Launch

April

- Student Author Night
- Used Book Fair

May

- 2nd Portfolio Sharing (for K-6)
- 2nd Uppers Exhibition/Portfolio Sharing
- Band Concert
- Bike to School Day
- Choir Concert
- Leadership Council Endorsements
- Plant Sale - Pick Up Days
- Shakespeare Play Performances
- Strings Concert
- Uppers Dance Performance
- Uppers Musical

June

- Lake Day
- 8th Grade Graduation Ceremony
- Teacher/Staff Appreciation Breakfast

III • Getting Involved

Barton Leadership Council

The Leadership Council, consisting of parent and staff representatives, fulfills the combined purposes of a (state-mandated) site council and a PTA (parent-teacher association).

The Council is responsible for promoting and building Open school values throughout our community, monitoring school improvement plans, guiding overall staffing and program decisions, planning and implementing fundraising activities, and encouraging broad participation from all members of the school community.

Please come to a Council meeting! They're open to all members of the Barton community.

Leadership Council meetings for 2015-16 will be held from 4:30-6:30 pm in the Media Center on the following dates: September 3, September 17, October 22, November 12, December 17, January 21, February 18, March 17, April 21 and May 19.

Council members also participate in a teacher/staff Leadership Retreat (usually held every other year) to articulate Barton's mission and vision, and/or to participate in professional development around teaching and learning issues.

We want the Council to reflect the diversity of our school community and to represent the different perspectives of families and students. A community-wide endorsement process takes place in May of each year to determine Council membership for the following school year.

Teachers/staff are on the Council, too. Teacher/staff representatives to the Leadership Council are selected from each team in the school – Primary (K-2), Older Primary (3-4), Middles (5-6), Uppers (7-8), Specialists, Support Staff and at-large. The Leadership Council is co-chaired each year by one parent and one or two teachers/staff. The Council co-chairs for the 2015-2016 school year are Julia Paulsen Mullin (parent) and Kristin Sonquist (1-2 teacher).

III • Getting Involved

Fundraising/Foundation

Barton's commitment to many enrichment programs would not be possible without YOUR generous donations and fundraising efforts. Barton parents participate at Barton in different ways, and fundraising is an important opportunity to get involved in our school. Programs like reading support, MIA (Minneapolis Institute of Arts) Art Adventure, band, strings, and overnight field trips, for example, are generally not funded by the Minneapolis Public Schools.

The Barton Foundation, a 501©(3) nonprofit corporation, is funded through three big fundraisers and various smaller ones. The Foundation manages the money, and the Leadership Council distributes it to support Barton in its mission. More information about the Barton Foundation can be found at www.bartonopen.org.

Our three big fundraisers are:

- 1) **FALL • Barton Fund Campaign:** Donating to the Barton Fund Campaign is the most efficient way to help every student and teacher at Barton. It's fast and it makes a huge difference without creating additional time-intensive fundraisers. Donations are accepted throughout the year. Write a check or donate online at www.bartonopen.org/barton-fund#donate.
- 2) **WINTER • FUNdraisers:** These activities and outings are hosted by Barton parents to raise funds for our school. Get creative and host an event, or get out and meet other Barton parents and families, all while supporting Barton's mission. Visit www.bartonopen.org/fundraisers for more information.
- 3) **SPRING • Plant Sale:** For over 33 years, Barton students have sold plants each spring to raise money for our school. Invest in Barton's mission by buying plants and supporting your student in selling plants. Pick up days in May are a great way to donate a small amount of time, too, as the sale is completely volunteer dependent. And being at the sale is a way to connect with other Barton families and staff, which also helps strengthen our community. Visit www.bartonopen.org/plant-sale or www.BartonPlantSale.com for more information.

In addition to these three big fundraisers, there are a number of smaller fundraisers that are sponsored by classrooms or individuals in the community (www.bartonopen.org/other-fundraisers).

Here are a few:

- **King of the Log:** This Minnesota Renaissance Festival fundraiser runs from mid-August to the first weekend in October. Volunteer half the day and enjoy the Festival the other half. Check out www.kingofthelog.com.

- **Wild Rumpus Book Fair:** Last year, Barton received 20% of all sales to be used as store credit during this fall event. That meant a record-breaking \$2,374 to spend on new books for Barton! Many families know about Wild Rumpus, a wonderful children's bookstore in Linden Hills, but if you have never been there it's worth a family field trip. Teachers also post lists of books for families to buy and donate to classrooms during the sale (last year that was 315 books!), so it's a win-win.
- **Used Book Fair:** Held during the days leading up to Student Author Night, this book fair provides families an opportunity to bring in used books to share and to purchase used books at a very low price. Affordable books for all!
- We also participate in school fundraisers via Kowalski's receipts, Target, and classes collect Box Tops.

Your Child's Classroom

So many wonderful, creative endeavors happen in your child's classroom. Your child's teacher is the place to start for questions and concerns, and how to get involved in the classroom. Teachers handle parent involvement in a way that best suits their classrooms and their particular needs. This year volunteer Parent Representatives (Reps) will be helping coordinate parent volunteers in and out of the classroom.

Classroom Placement

Each spring, teachers and administration carefully and intentionally collaborate to make the placements for the following year's classes. It's Barton school practice that decisions about class assignments are made without input from parents regarding teacher preferences. The school's overarching commitment is to create classrooms that are well-balanced according to age, gender, race, ability level and student needs. Parents who would like a teacher change after one year are invited to share that information with the teacher or Jonas no later than May 1. Over the summer you'll receive your child's class assignment, including the name of your child's teacher.

Volunteering and School-Family Connections

Volunteering opportunities are numerous at Barton, and we encourage you to get involved. Look frequently in the Bugle for volunteer opportunities, too, as many program and event coordinators send out volunteer requests via the Bugle. Elizabeth Christensen, Barton parent, can introduce event coordinators to a Google doc system for finding and managing volunteers. Contact her at elizabethchristensen@msn.com.

III • Getting Involved

Here are some of the many events, programs and projects (and their coordinators) that make Barton a rich place to learn (in alphabetical order):

- **Art Adventures** (October-January)
Lara Roy, laramroy@gmail.com
- **“Barton Bugle”** (ongoing)
Brittany Alexander (content): brittany.alexander@mpls.k12.mn.us
Brenda Johnson (technology): brenda@johnsondesignandetc.com
Katy Marsnik (content): catherine.marsnik@mpls.k12.mn.us
- **Barton Fund Campaign** (October-December)
Leadership Council Fundraising Working Group: juliaemmett@usiwireless.com
- **Barton FUNdraisers** (December-February)
Elizabeth Christensen: elizabethchristensen@msn.com
Katie Scott: ktscott09@gmail.com
- **Barton Parent Handbook** (Fall)
Kristi Smith Knutson: smith_knutson@hotmail.com
- **Barton School Tours** (November-February)
Andrea Breen: andreabreen@visi.com
Jerri Clark-Wagner: jerriwagner@gmail.com
- **Barton Website** (ongoing)
Brenda Zehnder: brendakdz@gmail.com
- **Crossing Guard** (ongoing)
Sue Buettgen, science teacher: susan.buettgen@mpls.k12.mn.us
- **Eighth Grade Graduation** (June)
Ali Rubin, Uppers teacher: allison.rubin@mpls.k12.mn.us
- **Family Roller Skating Night** (February)
Jeni Heineman: jeni_heineman@yahoo.com
- **Kindergarten Family Dinner** (October)
Kelly Holdgrafer: solamentekelly@yahoo.com
- **Kindergarten Round Up** (May)
Carolyn Ramberg: csramberg@earthlink.net
- **Parent Buddies Program** (ongoing)
Sarah Cooper Evans: sarahcooperevans@yahoo.com
- **Parent Reps** (ongoing)
Mary Scavotto: maryscavotto@gmail.com

- **Party on the Playground** (August)
Kori Hennessey: korihennesy@gmail.com
- **Plant Sale** (March-May)
Heather Cholat, (pick-up days): htcholat@yahoo.com
Katherine Harter (same-day sales): hepkit@gmail.com
Brenda Johnson (marketing/communication/online pre-sales): brenda@johnsondesignandetc.com
Kris Mandler (paper form pre-sales): kmandler@comcast.net
Laura Morrill (plant orders): llmorrill@gmail.com
Catherine Myers (database/teacher support): catmyers@mac.com
Tony Siebenaler-Ransom (plant orders): asransome@me.com
- **Spirit Garden** (ongoing)
Sheila Eldred: seldred@gmail.com
Sarah Kuzel Leslie: skuzellleslie@gmail.com
Marnie Peichel: dmpeichel@peichel.com
- **Student Author Night** (April)
Danielle Sells: dsells@bitstream.net
- **Student Directory** (Fall)
Susan McKinnell: skmck@umn.edu
- **Teacher/Staff Appreciation Breakfast** (June)
Julie Madge: jbmadge@gmail.com
- **Tears and Cheers** (August)
Kori Hennessey: korihennesy@gmail.com
- **Used Book Fair** (April)
Sue Buettgen, Science Teacher: susan.buettgen@mpls.k12.mn.us
- **Wild Rumpus Book Fair** (November)
Amy Langanki: amy@langanki.com
Fiona Pradhan: fiona@grantpradhan.com
- **Yearbook** (ongoing)
Chuck Nelson, Uppers Social Studies Teacher: william.nelson@mpls.k12.mn.us
Laura Scher: laurakscher@gmail.com

IV • Getting Answers

Important Barton Resources and Phone Numbers

Wondering who to contact with your burning questions? Start here.

- **Activities in your child’s classroom, your child’s individual learning program, or a potential problem with a teacher?**
Start with the classroom teacher
- **Advanced Learner Education (Gifted & Talented)**
Lindsey West, 5-6 Teacher and TDALE Representative 612/668-3580
- **Attendance**
Jennie Smith, Health Assistant 612/668-3588
- **Buses (bus routes and/or pick-up stop issues)**
Brittany Alexander..... 612/668-3597
- **Buses (concerns)**
Holly Kleppe, Assistant Principal 612/668-3586
- Hanna Haileyesus, School Success Program Assistant..... 612/668-3580
- **Communication with Somali families**
Nasra Hassan, Educational Assistant..... 612/668-3580
- **Community Education**
Dawn Sjoquist, Coordinator 612/668-3585
- **ELL Program (English Language Learners / ELL teachers)**
Karen Karis 612/668-8878
- **Health, Medications, Vaccinations, and OTC Drug Usage**
Karen Ward, Licensed School Nurse or Jennie Smith, Health Assistant..... 612/668-3580
- **Minneapolis Kids**
Central Office 612/668-3890
- **Nutrition Services**
Patsy Solon, Food Services Coordinator 612/668-3584
- **Special Needs**
Start with the classroom teacher first, then Trish Clarke, Social Worker 612/668-3593
- **Uppers Program**
Ali Rubin Forester, Uppers Program Team Leader 612/668-3580
- **Other Concerns Large and Small**
Jonas Beugen, Principal 612/668-3587

V • Barton Dictionary

Here's a collection of all things Barton – written by parents, for parents.
Grab some tea and get comfy.

Academic Choice

A goal-centered lesson in which students are given a choice of how to learn and/or what to learn. A foundation of both Responsive Classroom and Open School.

Advanced Learners (Gifted & Talented)

Four years ago MPS reestablished their “gifted and talented” department as Talent Development and Advanced Learner Education, or TDALE. By state law, all MN second graders are assessed for advanced learner status; Barton can also offer the CoGat to kids in kindergarten and 1st grade. There is no pull-out program at Barton and that's no longer the accepted model at MPS. There is simply an “advanced learner” designation for 10-15% of our kids. This lets the teacher know that those kids either are advanced learners or have the potential to be. Those kids are clustered in classrooms so that teachers can plan some lessons that will keep them challenged, and do other work in mixed ability groups. Just like Barton has always done. Nothing prevents teachers from including ANY student in lessons targeted for advanced learners if they think it appropriate.

After-School Activities

There are many opportunities for your child to get involved in fun and meaningful activities after school. Community Education classes, choir, language classes, theater, and athletics are great ways to get involved. Our Debate program runs October-March for grades 6-8. Barton Middle School sports are now managed under Washburn High School's athletic department and include Girls Volleyball (fall, grades 7-8 grades), Co-ed Soccer (fall, grades 7-8), Girls and Boys Basketball, separate teams (winter, grades 6-8), and Girls Softball and Boys Baseball, also separate teams (spring, grades 6-8). Ultimate Frisbee is a growing co-ed program (grades 5-8) played in the spring.

After-School Language Classes

Languages classes are offered through Community Education for students in grades K-5. Scholarships are provided for families who qualify for free/reduced lunch. In the past, Spanish, French and Chinese have been offered.

All-School Morning Meetings

Every month or so the whole school gathers in the DeLapp Commons to sing and share special work. These start at 7:35 a.m., so it's extra important to be in school on time or a little early.

Art Adventures

Art Adventures is an engaging program sponsored by the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Barton parent volunteers attend a 2.5 hour training at the MIA in October, then visit grade 3-4 classrooms with posters of art relating to a common theme, such as animals, celebrations, or relationships. Volunteers often involve the students in a hands-on project about the artwork. It concludes with a visit to the museum.

Attendance

Don't forget to report your child's absence or illness. Call Jennie Smith at 612/668-3588 and be ready with the following information:

1. Child's name
2. Homeroom number or teacher's name
3. Reason for absence

If your child arrives late to school, she or he needs to sign-in at the Health Office upon arrival, as attendance information from the classroom is sent to the office early in the day.

Band and Strings Music Program

Barton offers an instrumental music program in strings and band for students in grades 4 and above. A limited number of students in grade 3 are also allowed to participate depending upon instrument availability and permission of the instructor. Instructors visit classrooms in the fall of each year and provide interested students with program information and sign-up forms. Instructors offer small group classes one day a week throughout the school year. Instrumental music students are expected to practice regularly. They perform in a spring music concert for families and friends. In the past, the band and strings program has been funded by donations to the Barton Foundation; this is a great example of your donations in action.

Barton 101 Sessions

Being a Magnet school means there is a lot to learn about Barton's goals and educational philosophy, and sometimes the best way to do that is in person. (Or through a Parent Handbook, but enough about that.) The Leadership Council hosts these informal sessions about Barton, Open Education and the Responsive Classroom curriculum. All parents/guardians/friends/family are encouraged to attend. Watch the Bugle or visit the school website for dates and times.

Barton Bugle

Yes, another chance for us to remind you to read the *Bugle*! The *Bugle* is Barton's weekly newsletter, distributed through an email linking you to content on the Barton website. Look for it in your inbox each week, and read it right away or you might forget. We're speaking from experience here, folks. (Or contact Brittany in the Main Office, 612/668-3597, if you need a paper copy instead of an email version.)

Barton Choir

In its third full year, the energetic Barton Choir has two sections, 5th and 6th grade Middles Choir, and the Uppers Choir. Students practice after school (5th and 6th graders) or during an in-school elective (Uppers). Performances are held several times a year in the Commons, and are so inspirational! Seriously, see for yourself. www.youtube.com/user/bartonopen Last year the Middles Choir performed at the Clouds Choir at Mall of America, and the Uppers Choir also performed last year at a Timberwolves game and at The Viva City Festival, a Minneapolis Public Schools arts celebration.

Barton Fund Campaign

The Barton Fund Campaign is The Barton Open School Foundation's fund drive which typically takes place in the Fall of the school year, though donations are gladly accepted year-round. It is the best way to donate money to Barton because 100% of donations go directly to the school. Visit www.bartonopen.org for more information.

Barton Learning Center

This is an after-school, on-site program on select days offering academic assistance to Barton students who need extra help. Students are invited to join the program based on teacher referral, and they focus on reading, writing, math and/or science as needed. Each day begins with a school-provided snack and exercise (playground!) breaks are included in the afternoon.

Bike to School Day

Held in the spring, this is a great chance to for kids and adults alike to bring out the bikes and welcome spring.

Birthdays

Students at Barton go to the Main office on the morning of their birthdays and get the well-loved bright red "happy birthday" ribbon. Please don't bring in edible birthday treats, in accordance with MPS policy and the wishes of many Barton families.

Break (Take a Break)

When a child is showing, in a small way, that he or she is losing self-control or focus, the teacher says, "Take a Break." The child moves to a chair in the classroom, sits, takes a few breaths and then goes right back to work. It's not a punishment. It's a way to keep little behaviors from escalating into big behaviors.

Big Buddies / Little Buddies

Students in the Middles and Uppers (Big Buddies) are paired with K-2 students (Little Buddies) for project work and a chance to build special relationships across the grades. Big Buddies experience the adoration of the Little Buddies while learning how to be good role models. Little Buddies love feeling important and valued by the older Barton kids. It's a great chance for learning good citizenship — another Barton example of how to mentor and be mentored.

Blacktop

That's what everyone calls the lower playground area, next to the Barton Spirit Garden.

Book Club for Parents and Staff

A super, new idea from our new principal! Join in the discussion! Many Barton staff members and parents are participating in an online discussion about the book *Lost at School* by Ross Greene this school year through the website [goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com). Here's how to join in: get a copy of the book, create an account and log in, search for *Lost at School*, select the book, select "currently reading," select the "Home" link near the top of the page, select the "discussions" link in the middle of the page, and select "view more discussions." *Lost at School* should be the top book with the topic "Getting Started – Checking In." Select this topic and provide a brief response to the prompt. Select "post" to share your comments. Check back periodically to add to the discussion, read the thoughts of others and post your own questions.

Buddy Room

Sometimes your child will need a time out away from the class and will be sent to a buddy room. The teacher will get your child shortly, and have a short conversation about the behavior in question.

Bulldog

Yep, our mascot is a lovable, energetic, brave and loyal bulldog. Go Barton Bulldogs!

Bus passes

You'll need one of these if your child is riding home with a pal on another bus, and you can now submit them online **BY 9:00AM**. Find the form at our school website: http://barton.mpls.k12.mn.us/bus_pass_form If online isn't an option, send a note to the Main office asking for a bus pass. You'll need to provide: your student's first AND last names, destination address (if going to a friend's house, the office needs the friend's first AND last names, no nicknames), destination phone number, and your child's homeroom.

Camping and Outdoor Education

Experiencing the great outdoors and connecting with the natural world is a cherished tradition at Barton. Camping trips are held in the spring (varies by grade) and they are a great chance for children to learn first-hand about the environment and build confidence if the whole camping scene seems like a mystery. It's all amazingly organized. Parent volunteers are always needed for camping trips. Ask your child's teacher.

Classroom Placement Procedures

Oh, the hand wringing! It's Barton school practice that decisions about classroom assignments are made without input from parents regarding teacher preferences. The teachers and administration carefully select classroom communities with each child in mind, while also taking age, gender, race, ability level and other needs into consideration as they create these learning communities. Classroom placement letters are sent to families over the summer.

CoGat

The assessment that indicates (along with MAP scores and parent/teacher observation) whether your child may be an advanced learner. All second graders are offered the CoGat screening in December. Students in K, 1, 3, 4, can take a longer version of the CoGat if parents and teachers agree that it would be a good idea.

CPS (Collaborative and Proactive Solutions)

Created by author and educator Dr. Ross W. Greene, CPS provides a compassionate understanding of kids' behavioral challenges and offers a non-adversarial, effective approach for reducing challenging behavior, improving communication, and repairing relationships. See www.livesinthebalance.org or www.lostatschool.org for more info on CPS.

Community Education

Community Education involves creative and fun after-school classes for students and evening classes for adults and families. Like what? Past classes have included yoga, soccer, drawing, babysitting, chess, ballet, singing, theater and hip-hop dancing, to name a few. Forms come home in your child's backpack for fall, winter and spring sessions. Release Day options are provided for families throughout the year as well.

Community Education Student Play

A full-length play, produced and directed by Barton parent Karen Bair and run through Community Education, is open to all Barton kids (grades 2-8) as an after-school program. Rehearsals begin in early winter, with a late winter performance.

Courageous Conversations

An adult protocol that informs our teachers' work with kids. As teachers work to ensure equitable educational opportunities for all kids, it's often important to speak clearly and openly about issues of race. *Courageous Conversations about Race* provides tools to do that. Free training is available for parents and teachers through WMEP in a course called *Beyond Diversity*.

Crossing Guard

Keeping our kids safe in the crosswalks during pick-up and drop-off times is a big job! Adult volunteers are always needed for crossing guard duty at the very busy corners of 43rd/Lyndale and 43rd/Bryant. Contact Sue Buettgen at Susan.Buettgen@mpls.k12.mn.us if you're interested in volunteering.

DeLapp Commons

The big, auditorium-like space in the center of our school used for special events and gatherings. It's named after our longtime former principal, Steve DeLapp. Good things happen here!

Directory

The Directory is our white pages of students and staff. Distributed to all Barton households in late fall of each year, it contains staff listings with email and phone contact information, and student listings with contact information grouped by families. It's produced each year by parent volunteers and paid for by the Leadership Council. While the Directory is an opt-in choice for Barton families, we generally have over 90% participation. You'll want to have your family listed to facilitate arranging those play dates!

Early

You already knew that, because you think about it every day. Yep, school hours are: 7:30 AM – 2:00 PM.

English Language Learner Program (ELL)

An English Language Learner program is available for students of all grade levels whose second language is English and who need additional support learning to speak English.

Engagement

The "Holy Grail" of teaching and learning! It is that moment when kids are "into" their learning, eager to keep going, and excited for new challenges. Teachers use every tool and strategy they can to help your children engage with their learning. When they do, success follows.

Facebook

All parents in the Barton community are welcome to read and contribute, if inclined, to a Facebook group called “Barton Open School Parent Group.” While not officially a school-sponsored group, this parent-initiated Facebook page is for celebrating, announcing upcoming events, and for fruitful, positive, respectful discussion about Barton and progressive education topics. For **all official school-related information**, please go to the official Barton website! www.barton.mpls.k12.mn.us

Family Skating Night at Roller Garden

Light up the fancy globe lights! This school-wide, Barton-only skating night at Roller Garden in St. Louis Park is another cherished, annual tradition. Held in the heart of winter, it's a great chance to warm up with a few laps around the rink with your kids. (Or without your kids, if they're older and too cool for you. Ahem.)

Field Trips

Field trips are an important part of life as a Barton student. Students must have a signed permission slip or note from a parent/guardian giving permission to go on a trip. Some field trips involve fees, but students won't be denied the opportunity to participate if they can't afford the fee. Talk with your teacher if you have concerns about field trip fees. If you are able, please contribute financially to the school's Scholarship Fund to assist other families so that all children can participate. In addition, the Leadership Council allocates money to the Scholarship Fund on an annual basis, if needed.

Food

Per MPS policy, classrooms are not permitted to serve food as incentives or for personal celebrations (birthdays). Teachers may serve food as part of the curriculum, though. Let your child's teacher know about **allergies or other food-related** issues so we can keep all kids safe.

Fountas and Pinnell

Two major reading gurus who devised a system of finding students' reading levels and books to match. This assessment tool is widely used at Barton and in the District. If kids read books that are at the right level, “hard enough but not too hard,” they can progress quickly from non-reader to fluent reader. CAUTION! Moving up in levels is just part of the work of becoming a good reader. Reading levels are a tool, not a goal.

FFVP

This stands for Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, a MPS snack program designed to introduce students to healthy, fresh snacks. Kids get a chance to try new foods, which come to the schools every day from the nutrition center, all prepared for the kids to eat. The cost is about \$8.00 a month per child, covered by parent donations. At Barton, several 1-2 classrooms do the FFVP with great success, and there is the potential to take it school-wide. Ask your teacher!

Fundraising

Really important! All money raised through our various fundraisers goes directly to the Barton Foundation, which in the past has funded teaching staff positions (strings and band), arts-in-residences and in-school artistic performances, field trips, camping trips, and the Taxi Fund, to name a few. Read more and donate at www.bartonopen.org/barton-fund.

Foundation

The Barton School Foundation is a 501©(3) nonprofit corporation which provides financial support for the mission of Barton Open School. Money raised for the foundation is used for programs that enhance the education experience at Barton that are not funded by district or state money. The Barton Leadership Council elects the board of the Foundation and sets priorities for distribution of funds. Read more at www.bartonopen.org.

FUNdraisers!

Barton parents host various activities and gatherings to raise funds to support our school. Tickets are sold in advance and all proceeds go to the Barton Foundation. A fun way to meet people and support the school!

Goal Setting Conference

The process of goal setting, and monitoring those goals, is an important part of the Open school program at Barton, focusing on non-competitive, student-centered evaluation. Students, parents and teachers participate together in Goal Setting Conferences at least two times (fall and winter) during the school year for students in grades K-6. Students in the Uppers Program have a Goal Setting Conference with their homeroom teachers in the fall and then additional conferences as needed during the year with other teachers. Students are asked to take an active part in identifying learning goals that are important to them academically and personally. Parent engagement is critical in the conference.

Graduation Ceremony

How do you capture all those precious years of growth in one ceremony? Enter 8th Grade Graduation. Held in the afternoon on one of the last days of school, it's a chance for families, teachers, staff and the graduates to marvel and celebrate their years of achievement and change.

Health and Meds

Any medication administered by school personnel requires a medication consent form signed by you and your child's physician and must be in a prescription bottle. The consent forms are available in the Health Office. Over the counter medications (like Tylenol or cough medicine) must be supplied from home and also require a signed medication consent form from a doctor.

HWT

Stands for Handwriting Without Tears, Barton's handwriting curriculum (K-4).

Interdisciplinary Curriculum

Lessons and activities in the classroom are sometimes organized around a central, universal theme. Teachers connect reading, math, science, social studies to that theme. Students learn the basics and how to apply them at the same time.

Investigations

The name of the math series we use at Barton, along with other great resources.

Kindergarten Family Dinner

This annual and cherished fall tradition links Barton kids big and small. Building community, welcoming new families, eating pizza, and watching our kindergarten students shine. Ahhh, the best. Pay it forward and volunteer at this heart-warming event when your child is no longer in kindergarten.

Kindergarten Round-up

In the spring, future Barton kindergarten kids and their families are invited to school to meet their fellow students and visit a classroom, while the parents meet in the DeLapp Commons to learn more about their new school home.

King of the Log

A Barton fundraiser held each year during the Minnesota Renaissance Festival.

Kings and Queens Day

While the 1st-8th graders travel to the Bandshell for the annual end-of-school celebration--Lake Day--the kindergarten students have a party of their own back at school. As Kings and Queens of the building, they get special sneak peaks of the older kids' classrooms and hallways. And it feels pretty special.

Lake Day

A day-long celebration of the school year, it's a huge hit with kids grades 1-8. (Kindergarten students get their own special day. See Kings and Queens Day.) Classes walk from Barton to the Lake Harriet Bandshell and park for a program, a picnic, and lots of fun activities for the kids. Parent volunteers are always needed to make this day a success.

Leadership Council

The Leadership Council is a parent/teacher/staff organization that supports our school. The Council discusses issues pertinent to Barton, and works to make sure that Council decisions match our Open school values and traditions. All are welcome to attend. Every spring there is an endorsement process for becoming a Council member for the following school year.

LEGO® Robotics Team

A new fall program to Barton's Community Education programming, the LEGO Robotics Team teaches children real-world engineering challenges, basic programming skills and team-building.

Lifelong Learning

Barton strives to engage kids to love learning and become citizens and leaders who spend their lives seeking information, engaging and learning about the world.

Lucy Calkins Writing Curriculum

Minneapolis students in grades K-5 learn the art of writing through Lucy Calkins units of study. Expect to see your child's work during portfolio sharing, during author's teas, or other sharing opportunities.

Lunch

Because Barton has a small kitchen and no cafeteria, K-6 students eat both breakfast and lunch in their homerooms under the supervision of their classroom teachers. In other words, teachers hang with the kids during lunch. Dare we say it's calmer than a loud and packed cafeteria? It's one more opportunity to build relationships and connect with students. The Uppers students eat at cafeteria tables in the Commons. See also Nutrition Services.

Magnet Schools

Schools that are part of the Minneapolis Public School system, but have a special emphasis (like Barton's "Open" emphasis) and generally have a wider attendance area than a community school.

MAP Tests

MAP stands for Measure of Academic Progress. This is a standardized assessment of reading and math. Scheduling and grades involved TBD.

Math Masters

This is a program for 5th and 6th graders who want to compete in the district Math Masters competition. Parent volunteers help make this happen. Ask your child's teacher.

MCAs

MCAs stands for Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments. They're designed to measure Minnesota students' achievement with regard to the Minnesota Academic Standard. For more information, ask Jonas or Holly.

Meet Your Teacher

This event is the chance for your child (and you) to go into your child's classroom before the school year begins. Meet the teacher, drop off school supplies, and meet classmates new and old. And right after Meet Your Teacher, head outside to the Party on the Playground.

Midwest Food Connection

If your child comes home talking about eating raw beets with Uli, you know the Midwest Food Connection paid a classroom visit. Barton partners with this local organization committed to educating children about natural foods, local sustainable farming, and the cultural origins of our food. www.midwestfoodconnection.org

Minneapolis Kids

Minneapolis Kids after-school care program has a Barton site for a limited number of children. Many Barton students also ride the bus to Minneapolis Kids sites at other Minneapolis Public Schools. Contact the MPS Minneapolis Kids office for more information.

Minnesota Math Corps

Barton has one full-time MMC tutor who works in pairs for twenty minutes a day with 4th-6th graders. The tutor has a Barton Internal Coach and a MMC External Coach.

Minnesota Reading Corps

Barton has three MRC reading tutors who work with students to help them become confident, fluent readers. The Kindergarten has a full-time tutor who works one-on-one with students and in small groups. Kids in 1st-3rd grades have two part-time tutors who work with students twenty minutes a day. Tutors keep track of progress and meet with both a Barton Internal Coach and a MRC External Coach on an on-going basis.

Morning Meeting

A daily ritual where students greet one another, share about their lives, enjoy fun activities and read a morning message together. Morning meeting meets students' needs for significance, belonging and fun, and provides practice time for social skills that lead to academic growth. It's a key part of the Responsive Classroom approach.

MoSAiC

This new student exhibition series features the cross-curriculum work our children have done in their music, art, media, gym and science rotations this year. MoSAiC events are family-friendly, and also involve a beautiful potluck featuring food from the many cultures in our school community. MoSAiC events are held on separate evenings throughout the year for grades K-2, 3-4, and 5-6. It's also a great chance to celebrate and honor our talented specialists!

Multi-age Classrooms

After kindergarten, we have two grades per class at Barton, and there are lots of advantages to this model. Each child's needs are met individually, older students show leadership and younger ones have role models. Teachers get to know their students quickly and keep them for two years. Multi-age classrooms are part of the Open School philosophy.

Native Garden

The thoughtful, peaceful garden of native plants and grasses located on the lower level of the playground, near the Barton Spirit Garden. The garden was designed and created by students, parents and the Barton community to honor beloved 3rd-4th grade teacher Felicity Miel Crosby, and her love of teaching, nature, books and children. Take a moment to admire the heartfelt mosaic, designed by Barton kids, and check out the creative Little Free Library.

Nutrition Services

School breakfast is *free* for all students. K-6 students eat both breakfast and lunch in their homerooms under the supervision of their classroom teacher. Free and reduced-priced lunch is available for qualified families. Qualification is confidential so kids receiving free or reduced-priced lunch won't be identified in any way. Applications for free or reduced-priced lunch are available in the school office. You can pay for school meals online via the Parent Account Management System (PAMS) at www.payPAMS.com. MPS has made considerable improvements to their menus and offerings in recent years, with a focus on whole, fresh and locally-sourced foods.

Open School

A school characterized by an emphasis on learning how to learn, interest-based teaching, interdisciplinary learning, project-based learning, a high level of teacher and student engagement in curriculum decision-making, authentic and meaningful parent/teacher/student partnerships, and an emphasis on social-emotional learning. Teachers go by their first names, and we have multi-age classrooms. Competition, grades and traditional testing are de-emphasized. Cooperation, mindfulness, connection, community and equity are emphasized. Also known as Progressive Education.

Opting-Out

Standardized tests are given to our students to help parents gauge their child's learning and to provide information to the teachers and MPS. If you have concerns about standardized testing delivered at school, please see Jonas to discuss your options.

Parent Buddies Program

Inspired by the successful Big Buddies/Little Buddies student program, this 2015-2016 pilot program connects new-to-Barton parents with veteran Barton parents in an effort to help families get to know the Barton community and culture. We hope it can help new families feel more connected and "take away the mystery."

Parent Information Night

In early September, parents are invited to attend an evening event with an informational talk from our principal. We then go to our child's classroom and learn more about the teacher and the year's curriculum. This is a parents-only event, but Barton can accommodate limited childcare for those needing it. Look in the Bugle each fall for more information.

Parent Reps

New this year, Parent Reps are volunteer parents who help coordinate volunteer roles in the classroom (where a teacher is interested), hopefully making new and vibrant connections with parents and helping teachers with their important work.

Party on the Playground

Held directly following Meet Your Teacher, this new event is a great way to connect, or reconnect, with classmates and friends. Snow cones featuring flavors inspired by the Barton Spirit Garden (and summer!), local musicians, lots of smiles and a great way to welcome in the new school year.

Plan B

This is when teachers/staff have a problem-solving conversation with a student to encourage empathy and identify concerns in order to find solution/s for all involved. See CPS/Collaborative and Proactive Solutions.

Plant Sale

This is Barton's biggest fundraiser! It provides a large portion of the Barton Foundation's operating budget. Students are encouraged to sell high-quality plants (perennials, annuals, vegetables, etc.) from mid-March through mid-April, with ordered plants picked up at Barton on Mother's Day weekend. There are also cash-and-carry plants to purchase during that time (the hanging baskets and beautiful succulents always go fast). This is a great way to meet other Barton families and get involved. We need a whole lot of volunteers to make it a success.

Popcorn Fridays

A delicious project run by Room 216 (Rebecca's 3-4 class). One Friday a month, children throughout the school can buy 25 cent bags of fresh-popped popcorn. The school smells great, and the kids happily crunch away.

Portfolio

A collection of significant student work that shows progress over time, the portfolio is an important assessment tool used in place of grades for K-6. Students in grades 7-8 also keep portfolios and share them during Uppers Exhibition Night. You will see your child's work at the end of each theme, and take much of the portfolio home at the end of the year. A Longitudinal Portfolio with highlights from each year is kept for each student and returned upon graduation from 8th grade, to highlight the progress made along the entire path at Barton.

Portfolio Sharing

An event held at school in which children and parents take a systematic look through the portfolio so far. Usually happens prior to a goal setting conference and at the end of the year. Also see Uppers Exhibition Night.

Recess

Barton students (K-6) get 30 minutes of recess daily, all outdoors, unless it's terribly rainy, snowy or bitterly cold. Uppers students get a combined lunch/recess of 30 minutes. Even on some pretty cold days, kids get out and play in the winter, so make sure your student is dressed warmly in the winter months. The recess supervisors, Rose, Nasra, Cindy and others, help kids problem-solve and redirect if needed, and they also lead games and activities using the Active Recess approach.

Red, black and white

Our school colors! Every few years, the school offers Barton sweatshirts and t-shirts for sale. The clothing samples are displayed in the main hallway and ordering forms are sent home with your child.

Responsive Classroom

Our approach to behavior management, academic choice and attending to our school community is based on Responsive Classroom. Learn more at www.responsiveclassroom.org.

R.O.T.

Reduce Our Trash -- our organics recycling program! It's where kids sort their trash into red, green and blue bins. Ask your child or refer to the posted directions in the main hallway. Barton kids have saved TONS of trash through this program.

School Tours

School tours are offered November - February to prospective and interested parents. Please contact the Main Office for a tour schedule if you are interested.

Screenings

Hearing, vision, scoliosis and growth screenings are done for students periodically at different ages. Parents are informed if there are any problems and are given a referral to a physician. You can always ask the Health Office for screening at any time if you feel there may be a problem.

Security

To enter the building during the school day, enter at door # 4 (by the playground on Colfax) and check in at the Main office. All visitors must sign in at the office upon arrival and wear a visitor name tag.

Shakespeare Play

Each spring, Uppers teacher Flory Sommers casts and directs a Shakespearean play, performed by 6th-8th graders. (Recent plays include Macbeth, A Midsummer Night's Dream, and Taming of the Shrew.) The play is performed at the Scottish Rite Temple in Uptown, on a stage in front of elaborate, hand-painted backdrops. The evening performances are open to the public. Students in 3rd-8th grades also get to attend a performance during the school day. Oh, and did we say that it's a-ma-zing to see kids tackle this work?

Sharing

Part of Morning Meeting. Students verbally share thoughts, experiences and ideas. It's not the same as show and tell, and objects from home are usually not part of sharing. The goal of sharing is to practice important social rituals and get to know one another on a deeper level. It also gives students regular chances to listen, ask questions, show respect and interest, and speak in front of their peers.

Signal for quiet

Speaker raises a hand and waits for quiet. A chime may be used as an auditory addition to the signal.

Somali Parent Night

A chance for Barton Somali parents to gather together and learn about the Barton school community in the Somali language. It's typically held directly before Parent Information Night in the fall.

Specialists

Students meet daily for approximately two-week rotations in Art (K-8), Music (K-6), Dance (7-8), Physical Education (K-8), Media and Information Technology (K-8), Science (K-6), and Health (7-8). While it's more common for schools to offer all of their specialist classes once per week, Barton uses this model based on the concept that being able to spend an extended amount of less interrupted time on a topic allows for deeper study.

Special Needs

If your student has learning difficulties, disabilities, behavioral challenges, or has speech articulation and language challenges, assessment and services are available. Contact Trish Clarke, Social Worker, 668-3593.

Spirit Garden

This lovely outdoor education garden along the south side of the building was created several years ago by committed parents, named by students, and further enhanced in the 2014-15 school year with beautiful mosaics created by kids and adults in the Barton community. Its overall goal is to enhance the well-being, health and educational experience of students, families and the community at large. It's a wonderful place for hands-on learning, student curiosity and exploration. Students spend time planting, tasting, playing in and caring for the garden.

Spirit Week

During Spirit Week students can participate in special dress-up and theme-specific days as a way of building school spirit. This changed last year from an occasional, monthly event to a week of special days. Sports day, get-up-and-dance day, rainbow day, crazy hair day, to name a few. Just make sure you have that spray glitter on hand.

Student Author Night

You may be familiar with Goodnight Moon, In the Night Kitchen, or A Midsummer Night's Dream, but if you have not heard about Barton's Student Author Night, you're missing out on another classic! Held in the spring Student Author Night offers students of all ages an opportunity to read from their own writing (academic, creative, accompanied by drawings, etc.) in a uniquely supportive and collaborative environment consisting of peers and parents in a small group setting. Look for information in the Bugle in the spring.

Student Leadership Opportunities

Developing student leadership is a hallmark of progressive education. The staff is currently reviewing and retooling Barton's student leadership development opportunities so that our school can be thoughtful, intentional, and include as many students as possible in many varied aspects of leadership. Past student leadership opportunities have included Student Council, Student Ambassadors, Backpack Tutors, Clean and Green Team, Dare 2 Be Real, and the Tech Squad.

Student Teachers

Barton's "co-teachers" who are in their final phase of a teacher education program, often at Augsburg or the U of M. They work under teacher supervision, eventually co-teaching the class. They are not only an extra pair of hands; they help teachers improve their work by giving them a connection to current best practices.

Swimming

Barton students (3rd-6th grades) go swimming multiple times each school year at the Blaisdell YMCA. Students take the bus as a class, learn how to be responsible for their own swimming things and get great exercise in the process. Some proudly pass the deep-end test, while other tentative swimmers are encouraged by teachers and fellow students alike to literally jump in (safely and at their own level) and try something new.

Taxi Cab Transportation Fund

Parent and family member attendance at school events is a high priority for us at Barton. The Leadership Council allocates funds each year to support a Barton School transportation account with the Minneapolis Yellow Cab Company. It's meant to help any Barton parent/family member attend school events and conferences.

If you need assistance getting to school (for example, to attend a conference or a classroom performance), please call Yellow cab at 612/824-4444 and provide the Barton account number #4129. The Yellow cab drivers will bring you to school and then fill out a voucher in the school office. You may also request that the office make taxi arrangements for you.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Breakfast

On the first Monday of summer, after classes are out for the summer, parent volunteers put on a big breakfast spread in the Commons for teachers and staff as they wrap up for the year. There is often some form of entertainment that involves parents singing, acting and dancing, and generally making fools of themselves. All to entertain and honor our beloved teachers and staff.

Tears and Cheers

This new Barton event is held the first day of kindergarten, right after drop-off. It's a chance for parents to gather together for coffee after their children become official students, because this day definitely calls for some cheers. And there might be a few misty eyes, too.

Telephone Use

For emergencies only, but if you need to contact a teacher or child, call the office and leave a message for them to call you.

Twitter

Follow Jonas on Twitter! @bartonprincipal

Uppers

Our 7th and 8th grade program, still strongly grounded in Responsive Classroom techniques and Open school values. Uppers students change classrooms for each subject, choose electives, receive letter grades in their classes each semester, keep their belongings in a locker, and manage their schedules and homework in preparation for high school.

Uppers Exhibition Night

Celebration and entertainment, such as from Allison's Dance students or Flory's Spanish students, kick off the evening. Then Uppers students pair off with their families to share their portfolios.

Uppers Musical

In the past, the Uppers have performed a musical in the spring, involving interested students in after-school rehearsals and several shows, including in-school performances for Barton students. Look for more information in the Bugle in the coming months.

Used Book Fair

Families clean out their shelves and donate books by the bags and boxes. The main hallway is lined with tables covered in books for all reading levels. Kids shop with their classes and go home with affordable, fun and new-to-them books. Parents can stop by and shop, too. Money raised goes to a special cause selected by the students involved. Everyone's happy!

Visiting Classrooms

Parents and families are welcome to visit classrooms at any time, but please check-in through the main office first. You'll be asked to sign-in and you'll get a visitor button to wear during your visit.

Washing Hands

Winter means piling up snow in mounds and forts, bundling up in layers upon layers, and fighting off the endless flow of germs coming home from school. Gross, we agree. Seems obvious, but have those kiddos wash hands the second they go to afterschool care, when they come home, and encourage them to wash frequently during the day. And did we mean just in winter? Heck, no. Start now. Viruses and bacteria don't care what season it is. Let's keep our kids healthy!

Weather

School will be open every school day unless there are severe weather conditions. If the school does close, announcements will be made before 7:00 AM on local radio and TV stations, and on the MPS website. Check the radio, TV or MPS website, and if there is no announcement, school is open. If weather is severe but not impassable, use your own judgment about sending your child to school.

Websites

We have two websites, one through Minneapolis Public Schools that is devoted to all things school-related, and another that is run by The Barton Foundation and is devoted to fundraising. Thanks to our webmasters for all their work!

- **Barton Open's website:** www.barton.mpls.k12.mn.us. The place to look for pictures of school events, newsletters, homework, and forms and documents that have come home but you might have lost.
- **The Barton Foundation's website:** www.bartonopen.org. The place to learn about fundraising activities, how donated dollars are spent, and how to get involved with fundraising.

Wild Rumpus Book Fair

Barton receives 20% percentage of all sales in store credit during this fall event (last year that meant a record-breaking \$2,374!) plus it's a fun day to connect with Barton families at a local favorite kid haunt. The Uppers Choir sings, there are treats and snacks, and don't forget all the nutty critters at the store. (We're talking about Sumo Mouse/Tilly/Pip/Mr. Skeeter, not the kids. But the argument could be made.) Teachers also post lists of books for families to buy and donate to classrooms during the sale.

Yearbook

Wonderful photos of a whole bunch of really super kids and the adults who help them learn and grow. Help recall all the great memories of being part of the Barton community. Order your yearbook early and save a little cash. The yearbook is coordinated by parent Laura Scher and volunteers are needed to help produce this awesome piece of Barton history.

Youth Incorporated Reading Tutor Program

This non-profit organization serves reading students throughout Minneapolis, including Barton. Every year, twenty Barton students work with highly trained tutors two or three times a week for thirty minutes sessions. The Barton tutors use Orton-Gillingham methods and work with students in grades 1-6.

Youtube Channel

Barton life captured on video. All-school Morning Meetings, Choir performances, 8th grade graduation, video shorts from classroom projects. Spend some time here and you'll leave inspired. A thousand times better than the very best cat video, although we love those, too. www.youtube.com/user/bartonopen

Zoom

We had to have a Z. The years go by so quickly. Before you know it, high school is on the horizon. Get involved, meet and engage with this incredible group of teachers, staff, parents and students. We're glad you are here!

If you have suggestions for future Barton Dictionary entries, please contact Kristi Smith Knutson at smith_knutson@hotmail.com.

VI • Required Notifications

MPS Schools are required to provide all parents with the following forms, simply for your reference. We're also providing you with the MSP Calendar. Contact Jonas at jonas.beugen@mpls.k12.mn.us or Holly at holly.kleppe@mpls.k12.mn.us with questions/concerns regarding these forms.

MPS Attendance Rules and Procedures, Expectations and Interventions

Attendance Taking and Equivalency

Responsibility – Principals are responsible for making certain attendance decisions. They may delegate these decisions to an assistant principal or school social worker. Principals or their designees may excuse absences that for confidential reasons may not have one of the excusable reasons recorded when necessary to protect the privacy of the student or the student's family. Teachers are responsible for taking attendance.

Elementary Students – Attendance is taken daily. Partial day absences are generally recorded as half days. Tardiness is based on the school start time.

Secondary Students – Attendance is taken hourly. Tardiness is based on class times. Absence in one or more classes during the day is equivalent to a full day's absence for the limited purpose of determining eligibility for co-curricular or extra-curricular activities.

Excused Absences – Types and Procedures

Students age eighteen and over (≥ 18) may provide their own written excuses for excusable absences. Parents may excuse a student from school either by sending a signed note with the student, calling the school attendance office, or supplying other required documentation.

Excusable absences (no prior notice required):

- **Illness** – If a student has three (3) or more days in a row due to illness, either a health professional note, or a conference with the school nurse is required for excuse. If a student has eight (8) or more absences accumulated during a school year due to illness, the same documentation is required to excuse the absences.
- **Funeral Attendance** – up to four days, but you may request a longer period from the principal if needed for travel or cultural observances.
- **Family Emergency** – up to three days accumulative in a school year. If the emergency is due to relocation or moving, it should be limited to one day.
- **Transportation problems** – when a scheduled bus stop was not made, or was made late, or the bus experienced mechanical failure.
- **Transportation interruption** – when the student's relocation requires a new bus stop where none exists, and the parent is unable to transport the student to school, and the student lives within the

attendance area for the school; or when the student is relocated and qualifies as homeless or highly mobile and a new stop is not immediately available.

- Extreme weather conditions – the parent may determine if the weather is too extreme for the student to attend school.
- Student appointments with health care providers or other professionals when the appointment cannot be made outside of school hours – the appointment must be verified in writing by the professional.

Excuseable absences (prior notice required):

- Religious observance.
- Family activity – up to five (5) days in one school year. Notice must be ten (10) school days in advance of the first absence, missed schoolwork must be made up, the student must have shown adequate progress and attendance prior to the request; **no family activity absences will be approved during state-wide testing days.**
- Appearances in a court, or quasi-judicial meeting ordered by a court, when the meeting cannot be scheduled outside of school hours
- College visits – up to two days per school year
- Non-District competitions or events – documentation from the sponsor must accompany the request; missed school work must be made up by the student.

Special School District No. 1, Minneapolis Public Schools Notification of Rights: Procedures on the Disclosure of Student Information and Records

The Minnesota Government Data Practices Act and the federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) give parents or guardians and students who are 18 years of age or older certain rights with respect to students' education records. This notice summarizes important information regarding these rights.

Minneapolis Schools, with certain exceptions (see following) must obtain your written consent prior to disclosure if personally identifiable information regarding your student or you is requested by someone other than the parent or guardian or the adult student.

1. Student records can be released without your consent to District officials with legitimate educational interests. Legitimate educational interest means that the official needs to review the record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. District officials include, for example, District employees such as teachers, aides, office staff, and medical staff and may also include a volunteer or contractor outside of the school who performs a function for which District would otherwise use its own employees and who are under the control of the District with respect to student records.

2. Certain information is classified as Directory information. Directory information can be released without your consent. You do have the right to notify the school principal in writing that you do not want the information defined below to be released. In MPS, directory information and who can access it are defined as follows.

- a. The following information can be released to any member of the public.
 - i. Name, height and weight of individual members of athletic teams; Example: this information could be included in a program, sports activity sheet, report or published article.
 - ii. Name of recipient and name of award or scholarship received; Example: this information could be included in the honor roll, or a list of scholarship or academic prize-winners.
 - iii. Names of participants in officially recognized school activities; Example: this information could be included in the schools' yearbook activity section, the playbill from a play or a music program, graduation or completion ceremony programs.
- b. In addition to the information available to the general public, the following information can be released to any properly identified member of a governmental agency.

- i. Name
- ii. Date of Birth
- iii. Photograph, audio or video image
- iv. Home Address(es)
- v. Grade Level
- vi. School of Enrollment
- vii. Dates of enrollment in MPS Schools
- viii. Telephone Number(s)
- ix. Serial number of student's Metropolitan Council Go-To Student Pass

Notify the school principal if you do not want the District to release this information as described.

- 3. In the event a student transfers or applies to another school, including any school that the student might attend after high school, the District will transfer student records to that school if requested. The District will transfer all records including any formal suspension, expulsion, and exclusion disciplinary action.
- 4. The District will release the names, addresses, and home telephone numbers of high school students to military recruiting officers unless you notify the school principal that he or she should not release that information.
- 5. The District will release the names, addresses, and home telephone numbers of high school students to colleges unless your parents notify the school principal that he or she should not release that information.
- 6. The District will bill your health care provider for health care services required in an IEP (Individual Education Program). Students' special education records will be destroyed when the student turns 25 years of age.

You may inspect or review school records within 10 school days after your principal receives the written request. If you believe that a school record is not accurate or complete, you may notify your principal in writing about what you believe is inaccurate or incomplete and what you would like done to correct the information. If your principal decides not to change the record, the principal will notify you about additional steps you can take.

You may authorize school officials to release your private education records by signing a written authorization specifying the information you'd like released and the person you would like to receive the information.

You may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202-5920

Harassment and Violence Prohibition Policy

Everyone in the Minneapolis Public School District has a right to feel respected and safe. This is a summary of MPS Policy 4002 against harassment and violence. A complete policy may be found at http://policy.mpls.k12.mn.us/4000_Personnel.html, Policy 4002, in the Principal's office at your school or from the Office of Equity and Diversity at school district headquarters.

1. Discrimination, harassment and violence are against the law and will not be tolerated in the Minneapolis Public Schools.
2. A harasser may be a student or an adult.
3. Behavior constitutes harassment when any of the following is based on religion, race, color, national origin, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, affectional preference, disability or age:
 - a. name calling or passing or creating rumors;
 - b. unwelcome touching of a person or their clothing;
 - c. jokes;
 - d. offensive or graphic posters, book covers, or
 - e. pulling on clothing;
 - f. graffiti;
 - g. notes or cartoons;
 - h. any words or actions that make you feel uncomfortable, embarrass you, hurt your feelings or make you feel bad.

4. Report incidents of harassment.
 - a. You may tell a teacher, counselor, school social worker, assistant principal, principal or the District's Equal Opportunity Officer (see below).
 - b. You may make a written report of harassment. Give the report to a teacher, counselor, school social worker, principal, assistant principal of the District's Equal Opportunity Officer.
5. Investigation of reports.
 - a. Your school and District take very seriously all reports of harassment or violence and will take appropriate actions based on your report.
 - b. All school staff will notify the principal of any report received whether verbal or written, unless the report concerns the principal, in which case they will notify the District's Equal Opportunity Officer directly.
 - c. Principals will notify the District's Equal Opportunity Officer of any report received by them.
 - d. The privacy of the person reporting will be respected as much as is possible.
6. Discipline
 - a. Based on the report and the results of the investigation, the district will take appropriate disciplinary action based on the behavior standards policy and district policies.
 - b. The District will all take disciplinary action against any person who tries to intimidate you or take action to harm you because you have reported, or have indicated that you will report harassing behavior.
7. Contacts
 - a. Students and staff may contact their principal with any reports of harassment or reprisal, or
 - b. Students and staff may contact Francisco González, Director of Compliance
MPS Davis Center, 1250 W. Broadway Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55411. 612.668.0023
 - c. Students with disabilities may also contact Jennifer Crouch, 504 Coordinator,
MPS Davis Center, 1250 W. Broadway Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55411. 612.668.0792
 - d. Employees with disabilities may contact Francisco González, Director of Compliance,
MPS Davis Center, 1250 W. Broadway Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55411. 612.668-0023

Parent Notice regarding Student Computer and Internet Access, Cyber-bullying Prevention and Awareness, Appropriate Behavior on Social Media sites and District E-mail Accounts

Access to the school district computer system and to the Internet enables students to explore thousands of libraries, databases and other resources while exchanging ideas with people around the world. Electronic information research skills are now fundamental to preparation of students to be citizens and future workers. It is an important part of a student's education to learn skills needed to be responsible users of Internet and internet tools including social media locations. The District will partner with parents to teach their students safe

guidelines for Internet use, social media sites and awareness and prevention of cyber-bullying. As part of that partnership, Minneapolis Public Schools wants parents to know:

- Students will be given access to District Computers appropriate to their age and preparation for computer use.
- Students will be given access through an individual account. There is no expectation that this account is a private one. The District continues to have ownership of all files created on its system.
- Students will be given an e-mail address to be used for school purposes. There is no expectation that this account is a private one. The District continues to have ownership of all messages created on its system, which it may view at any time.
- Access to the District Computer system is for educational purposes, such as participating in distance learning activities, doing research, asking questions of experts, communicating with other students and their teachers regarding school work, accessing information and resources for their career development needs.
- Parents should know that while the District limits access to sites considered not appropriate for school use the school environment is not the only access to electronic information available to students. Off-site access to the Internet and social media sites that negatively affects the school's academic environment may result in discipline for the student. Protections that put in place on District Internet access do not travel with devices, so portable electronic devices used off district internet access are not protected from inappropriate sites. Parents and the school both need to be aware of student uses of these sites. The school will not condone the use of inappropriate materials and will not allow their use in the school environment. Students who use those materials are subject to discipline.
- The District provides its computer system on an "as is, as available" basis and does not guarantee the availability of electronic information or files created on the system at any particular time.
- Parents may request to review their student's electronic files or e-mail files. Access to these files will be provided as soon as is practicable.
- Parents may request to have their student's Internet access account, or e-mail account terminated.

Our school is allowed to create additional rules for computer and e-mail access. Any additional school rules are attached to this general notice.

Background Check Notice to Parents

The safety of all children enrolled in this District or participating in extracurricular activities sponsored by this District is of highest importance. Because of this, and following Minnesota Law, all persons hired by the District, and any person who provides services as an athletic coach, academic coach, or through other co-curricular or extracurricular activities, whether paid or not, must submit to a criminal history background check.

Our Community Partners – organizations that provide services to students – are required to submit criminal background checks for their employees or volunteers who work with our students.

Individual volunteers may also be required to submit to a criminal background check. If the volunteer services to be given include unsupervised time with students, a check will be required.

Criminal background checks are done at the individual's expense.

If a criminal background check is returned with a finding that the individual has a criminal history, the application of the individual to be an employee, a coach, or a provider of services to students, whether paid or not, may be denied. Individual volunteers whose background checks are returned with a finding that the individual has a criminal history may be denied the opportunity to volunteer, or may be required to volunteer only with the supervision of a district employee. The District will inform the individual that the decision to deny employment or access to schools and students as a volunteer was as a result of the criminal history background check.

Legal Reference:

Minn. Stat. §123B.03 (Background Check)

Minneapolis Public Schools Policy 5680: Search of Students/Lockers/ Desks, Motor Vehicles

School officials may search students for items that may be harmful to themselves or to others and to detect items that are prohibited from being on school grounds or other places under supervision of school personnel, i.e. busses, field trip locations. Consent of the student is not required prior to the search. Except for lockers and desks, all searches will be based upon reasonable suspicion.

Student lockers are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers. Periodic general inspections of

lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

School desks are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school. Periodic general inspections of desks may be conducted by school authorities for any reason, at any time without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

Cell Phones, Tablets, MP3 Players...and other Personal Electronic Devices: Use and Possession

Parent Responsibilities

- Elementary school children (grades K-5) are not allowed to possess or use a personal electronic device (phone, tablet, mp3 player, etc.) at school, on the school bus, or on field trips **UNLESS** the parent and school have agreed to a plan for student possession and use.
- If you believe there is a reason that your child should have a cell phone or other personal electronic device at school, you will need to apply to the Principal for permission.
- If your child is permitted to possess or use a personal electronic device at school, you must agree with a plan developed by you and the principal about appropriate use for your child including, but not limited to:
 - Where the device will be kept during the school day
 - Under what circumstances the child may use the device.
 - The term or length of the agreement.
 - Consequences if the agreement is not followed.
- Teach your student prudent use and possession of the device.
- Support your school staff if your student's device is confiscated for failure to follow the agreed upon plan.
- Review appropriate use of the device with your student according to your agreed upon plan,
- and the following student responsibilities. Lost or stolen devices will not be replaced.

Student Responsibilities

- Leave your cell phone or music player at home unless your parent has a plan with the principal.
- Don't let other students use your cell phone or music player
- Keep your cell phone put away when you are not allowed to use it according to your plan.
- Only use your cell phone or music player when your parent or principal says it is okay and only for the reasons that they say is okay.
- Don't take pictures or movies with your cell phone.
- Ask for help from a teacher, principal or other adult if you have problems.

Principal Responsibilities

- Inform Students, Staff, and Parents of Use and Possession rules on an annual basis.
- Inform staff of agreements entered into allowing possession or use.
- Take appropriate disciplinary measures for students who fail to use devices according to the agreed plan.
- Work with Parents to establish specific plans for use upon parent request when family circumstances require special accommodations.
- Be consistent in enforcing district policies.
- Take appropriate disciplinary measures for staff who intentionally or through gross negligence harm student personal devices.

Teacher Responsibilities

- Follow the terms of individual student and family plans regarding possession and use of personal electronic devices.
- If student behavior or improper possession necessitates the confiscation of a device, use ordinary and prudent care of the device in your possession and turn it in to the school office as soon as is practicable.
- Refer requests from parents regarding cell phone possession and use to your school principal.

Chemical Health, Use and Abuse Information for Barton Open School: Annual Notice to Parents

Barton Open School, as part of the Minneapolis Public Schools is a Drug Free School. This notice to parents is given to provide you with information about our

- 1) Prevention activities and learning about making good choices surrounding chemicals
- 2) The Minneapolis Public Schools policy about chemical use and abuse
- 3) Chemical Health services at our school
- 4) Support services available to students who are returning to school after a suspension for chemical related behaviors, or after returning to school from participation in a treatment program for chemical use or abuse.

Area	Our program	Contacts for parents
Prevention activities and learning	<p>Minneapolis has health teaching standards at every grade level that promote health life choices including appropriate use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.</p> <p>We use age appropriate curriculum to teach our students. We may have special guests come to help learn about consequences of use and abuse of chemicals.</p>	<p>Principal Classroom Teacher Health Specialist/ Teacher School Nurse</p>
Minneapolis Public Schools Policy on Drug Free Schools	<p>Our policies 5631, (which relates to alcohol and other drugs) and 5220 (which relates to tobacco) and their regulations can be found on the district website at http://policy.mpls.k12.mn.us/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally: Students may not have in their possession, use or be under the influence of alcohol, tobacco or other chemicals not prescribed by their health care provider while at school or at school functions, regardless of location. • Students who are breaking the law will be referred to the police liaison officer assigned to our school. • Provisions are made for an exception for Native American students for tobacco possession for religious/cultural purposes (see the policy for requirements). • The Behavior Standards Policy identifies use or possession of alcohol, tobacco or drugs as reasons for suspensions (see Policy 5200) 	<p>Principal School Nurse Associate Superintendent Director of Policy Development</p>

Area	Our program	Contacts for parents
Chemical Health Services Available at our School	<p>Our school has a pre-assessment team that identifies students who have chemical-health use or abuse related issues. This includes students who are affected by the chemical use and abuse of others. This team may provide the student and/or the student's parents/ guardians with information about school or community services available to help with chemical health issues.</p> <p>All reports of suspected, inappropriate chemical use or abuse are given to this team, who assist the principal in determining the correct course of action.</p>	Principal School Nurse School Social Worker
Support Services available to students returning from suspension for chemical related issues	<p>All students who are suspended for alcohol or drug related reasons and their parent/guardian will participate in a re-entry conference with the principal or another administrator at the school.</p> <p>In addition, parents and students may be invited to a team conference with the school pre-assessment team to learn about community resources for the family to use in response to the issue.</p>	Principal School Social Worker School Nurse
Support Services available to students returning from participation in a treatment program.	<p>Parents/guardians or students who wish may request a meeting of the school's pre-assessment team for support for a student returning to school after participation in a treatment program.</p> <p>Students, parents and guardians are not required to disclose participation in such a program, but those who choose to may find the support services available at school help the success of the participation in the treatment program.</p>	Principal School Social Worker School Nurse

Barton Open School is committed to a drug free school, support for all students in their education and helping families reinforce health life choices.

Behavior at School

Our school has rules everyone is expected to follow. When we all follow the rules, everyone can feel safe and respected and we can all learn. Here are some of the behaviors that will help you be successful at school:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Come to school every day, on time, ready to learn• Dress for learning• Take responsibility for your own behavior• Work to achieve at your highest level• Talk to your family about what is happening in school | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Help others understand your culture and learn about the culture of others• Follow directions• Do assigned homework• Follow school and classroom rules• Treat yourself and others with respect |
|--|---|

Follow all school rules at school, on the bus and on field trips.

There are some things you cannot do at school. If you do these things you will be suspended.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weapons – You may not bring any weapon to school or on the bus, even if it is a toy. <i>Note:</i> if you find a weapon – report it to a staff person or other adult as soon as possible. Telling the adult shows that you are being responsible and you are helping to keep everyone safe. You will not get in trouble for telling about a weapon you found. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attacking or assaulting another person;• Having alcohol or other drugs;• Making a threat to bring a bomb or other terroristic threats |
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You may be suspended or get another consequence if you do any of these behaviors:

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- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make threats• Being physically aggressive• Fight with another student• Harass other people• Have tobacco in your possession | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use school property without permission• Do vandalism• Trespass• Bully another person or do hazing• Go out of the bus Emergency door without permission | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Steal or have stolen property in your possession• Pull a false fire alarm• Open locked doors for other people to come in• Have medicine in your possession |
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Personal electronic devices (cell phones, pagers, iPads, iPods, MP3 players) are only allowed at school if your parent has an agreement with the principal of your school. If you have questions, please talk to your teacher.

Minneapolis Public Schools Calendar 2015-16

June 2015							January 2016						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6						1	2
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
28	29	30					24	25	26	27	28	29	30
							31						
July 2015							February 2016						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		28	29					
August 2015							March 2016						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
						1			1	2	3	4	5
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31		
30	31												
September 2015							April 2016						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30				24	25	26	27	28	29	30
October 2015							May 2016						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31				
November 2015							June 2016						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
29	30						26	27	28	29	30		
December 2015							July 2016						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
							31						

June 2015:
4: Graduation**
5: Last Day for Pre-K-11
8: Record Keeping Day
8: Possible Snow Day
9: Possible Snow Day
10: Summer School Prof. Dev.
11: Summer School Prof. Dev.
15: Summer School Begins Pre-K-12

July 2015:
4: Independence Day
9: Summer School Ends 9-12
23: Summer School Ends Pre-K-8

August 2015:
5: Clerical Staff Returns
10-11: New Tchr Orientation
17: 1st Day All Tchrs/PD*/Prep.
17-20: Prof. Dev./Prep.
24: School Begins Grades 1-12
26: School Begins K and Pre-K

September 2015:
7: Labor Day
21-25: Talk to Your Teacher Week

October 2015:
13: Latino Heritage Day
14: Parent-Teacher Conf. Day
15: State Fall Conference Day
16: Conference Conversion Day
28: First Quarter Ends
29: Professional Development
30: Record Keeping Day

November 2015:
1: Daylight Savings-Back 1 Hr.
2: Second Quarter Begins
11: Veterans Day
19: Native American Family Involvement Day
25: Non-Duty Day
26-27: Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2015:
21-Jan 1: Winter Recess

January 2016:
1: Winter Recess
4: Back to School
14: First Semester Ends
15: Record Keeping Day
18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
19: Professional Development
20: Second Semester Begins

February 2016:
8: National African American Parent Involvement Day
12: Parent-Teacher Conf. Day
15: Presidents Day

March 2016:
13: Daylight Savings-Fwd. 1 Hr.
24: Third Quarter Ends
25: Record Keeping Day
28-Apr 1: Spring Recess

April 2016:
1: Spring Recess
4: Fourth Quarter Begins
29: Kinder. Registration Begins

May 2016:
30: Memorial Day

June 2016:
6: Graduation**
7: Last Day for Pre-K-11
8: Record Keeping Day
8: Possible Snow Day
9: Possible Snow Day
 (Summer school dates will be on the 2016-17 calendar)

July 2016:
4: Independence Day

Student Instructional Days = 176 days (By Semester: 1st = 85 days, 2nd = 91 days) (By Quarter: 1st = 44 days; 2nd = 41 days; 3rd = 45 days; 4th = 46 days)

= Students not in school
 = Important date



* Teacher attendance at district professional development (PD) will vary based on content, grade level and school.
 ** Official graduation date (ceremony dates vary with each high school)



www.BartonOpen.org
www.barton.mpls.k12.mn.us

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