



BERLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Berlin Families,

Summer break is almost here and we look forward to more time to spend together, to explore outside, and to discover new books. I hope that all of our families will find the time to encourage reading. Whether reading silently, reading aloud, or reading together, all benefit student learning.

We often talk about avoiding the ‘summer slide,’ but the importance of reading extends beyond that. Reading every day is important for many reasons.

- We learn about others’ perspectives, others’ cultures, and various types of writing.
- We ‘lose ourselves’ in books of our choice as we discover new places to visit.
- We gain empathy for those in different situations.
- By reading thirty minutes a day during the summer, students will read at least 35,000 words. Vocabulary is key for success in life!

This summer we are again partnering with the Berlin-Peck Memorial Library to increase reading in Berlin. There are many exciting activities planned at the library. Share your experiences at the library and with books on Twitter with #BerlinReads.

At the elementary level, students will “Read and Bead.” When they go to the library, they will add beads to a necklace to track their reading. At the middle school level, students are expected to read at least two books and can get ‘scratch tickets’ from the library. At the high school level, they will read at least one book and will take part in a ‘learning experience.’ Details can be found on each school’s website. To keep everyone engaged in books, there will be a K - 8 Summer Book Fair hosted by Hubbard School at the end of July.

Peck Library is looking forward to hosting students of all ages this summer. Check the calendar, sign up for a ‘course’, and check out a new book. We look forward to sharing our experiences with learning when we get back to school in August.

“One benefit of summer was that each day we had more light to read by.”

Jeanette Walls, *The Glass Castle*

Sincerely,

Brian Benigni
Superintendent of Schools

Helen Malinka
Library Director, Berlin-Peck Memorial Library