



Barkalow Middle School
Freehold Township School District

Thomas Smith
Interim Principal

...empowering students with skills and attitudes needed to succeed in a culturally diverse and changing world.

May 21, 2019

Dear Eighth Grade Parents/Guardians:

As we are heading into the end of the fourth marking period of your child's 8th grade year, we would like to take this opportunity to inform you of some important information regarding 8th grade end-of-year activities.

8th GRADE TRIP – The 8th grade trip is scheduled for Tuesday, May 28th. Our students will enjoy the day at Frogbridge Day Camp in Millstone, NJ.

8th GRADE DANCE – The graduation dance will be held here at the Barkalow School on Friday, June 7th from 6:30 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. This dance is not a prom and dates are not required nor encouraged. Only eighth grade Barkalow students are invited to attend. It is suggested, but not required, boys wear a jacket or vest. They are encouraged to wear dress slacks, collared shirt, tie and shoes. Girls are encouraged to wear appropriate attire and footwear. Girls' dresses should not have any **cut-outs** or **mid-drift showing** and should be fingertip in length. PTO will be providing socks for girls that may require them if they remove their shoes during the evening as a shoe check will be also be provided. Formal attire is not advocated. Parents are to provide transportation home promptly at 9:00 P.M., from the Barkalow School. Please, no limousines to or from the dance. If you are picking up your child early, please do so **prior to 8:30 p.m.** After 8:30 p.m., all students will continue to be supervised and will only be dismissed at 9:00 p.m. as a group. If any student wishes to leave the dance before 8:30 p.m., they may call their parent to pick them up. If they are part of a group that is carpooling, they will not be permitted to leave until the dance is over. When picking up your child, please park in the parking lot remaining with your vehicle. The children will come out to you. There will be no curbside parking, as this could cause a dangerous situation with students leaving the building.

Students are required to be in school for no less than four hours as per State law. Therefore, in order to be eligible to attend the dance your child must remain in school until **11:40 p.m.** To avoid too much interference during class time for early dismissal of students, if you plan to pick-up your son/daughter early from school that day:

- A note is required by **Wednesday, June 5th**. The note should include the time of pick-up along with information as to who will be picking up the student. This will enable us to put a list together for teachers to inform them who will be leaving and the times of their dismissal.
- Parents are to report to the main entrance where there will be tables staffed by personnel for parent sign-out. Please keep in mind that there will possibly be a wait due to the number of students that are leaving early.

8th GRADE GRADUATION – Our Barkalow graduation ceremony is always a dignified event and a true representation of our students' hard work and culmination of their middle school years. Graduation will be held on Tuesday, June 18th at 6:00 p.m. at the West Freehold School gym. Graduates should arrive at 5:15 p.m. We will be providing a total of three (3) tickets to the ceremony. Due to the seating capacity and fire code restrictions of the gym, each student can only be provided three tickets for general admission seating. Seating will be in bleachers and chairs on the floor of the gym.

Tickets will be distributed by June 18th and will be handed directly to the students. ***ALL BOOKS, EQUIPMENT, GYM LOCKS, AND FINES (INCLUDING MEALTIME) MUST BE PAID BEFORE THE STUDENT RECEIVES GRADUATION TICKETS.** We will be holding graduation practice on the last several days of school.

We are looking forward to sharing this exciting event with you and your child. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in making these events joyous and memorable for the graduates of the class of 2019.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Smith
Interim Principal