



THE BARONS BUZZ

A DISTRICT COMMUNICATION

JANUARY 27, 2023

DISTRICT RENEWS EMPHASIS ON PHONICS AND PHONEMIC AWARENESS

This month, Buckeye Valley launched two new programs, Phonemic Awareness and Phonics, emphasizing foundational skills to develop confident and capable readers.

Phonemic Awareness:

Phonemic awareness is the ability to identify and manipulate individual sounds (phonemes) in spoken words. Students in PreK-Grade 1 will be developing phonological awareness using a program called Heggerty. Heggerty focuses on the following skills:

- Rhyming
- Onset Fluency
- Blending
- Isolating final and medial phonemes (sounds)
- Segmenting
- Adding Phonemes
- Deleting Phonemes
- Substituting Phonemes

To learn more about Heggerty use this link: [Heggerty](#)

Phonics:

Phonics involves matching the sounds of spoken English with individual letters or groups of letters. For example, the /k/ sound can be spelled as c, k, ck or ch. Teaching children to blend the sounds of letters together helps them decode unfamiliar or unknown words by sounding them out. Students in Kindergarten-Grade 5 will use a program titled 95% Phonics Core Program to learn and practice these skills. You can learn more about the lesson structures by grade level by using this link: [95% Core Phonics](#).

LINKS TO BUILDING SPECIFIC WEEKLY COMMUNICATIONS

[BUCKEYE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL](#)

[BUCKEYE VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL](#)

[EAST ELEMENTARY](#)

[WEST ELEMENTARY](#)

LINKS TO PARENT RESOURCES

[LUNCH MENUS](#)

[BARONS ATHLETICS](#)

[DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[POWERSCHOOL PARENT PORTAL](#)

Brian Orrenmaa, Buckeye Valley Local School District Director of Academic Achievement, said this is the first phase in aligning the district with the Science of Reading.

Over the next 6 months, the district will also provide Dyslexia training for all K-5 teachers and Intervention Specialists in 4-12. Additionally, the district will be adopting a new K-8 reading program. A team of teachers and administrators is analyzing research-based, high-quality rated curricula and is expected to make a recommendation to the board of education in the next couple of months.



2023-24 Early Entrance Info

If you have a child that you would like to enroll in Kindergarten or First Grade next year but they will not meet the age requirements, please review the information for Early Entrance [HERE](#).

Early Entrance Applications are due **February 10, 2023** for the 2023-2024 academic year.