

Berlin Central

School District

Berlin Middle-High School, P.O. Box 259, Berlin, NY 12022

Telephone: (518) 658-1500

Fax (518) 658-0483

Dr. Stephen Young
Superintendent

Dr. Catherine Allain
Middle High School Principal

December 9, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am writing to let you know that the District will be offering a Driver Education Program beginning February 6, 2019 through the first week in June. Mr. Bill Benkoski will be the instructor for this course. The cost of the program is \$385.00, which covers the cost of the materials used, the car, and insurance for the program. Payment plans are available for those students who are unable to pay the full amount in one payment. The driver education discount on most car insurance policies is 10-15 percent; the student would realize a savings that would make up the tuition costs within a year or two. This course will also enable the student to drive after 9:00 p.m. once the student turns 17 years of age. It also eliminates the need to take the five (5) hour pre-licensing course.

The class will meet on Wednesday's at the High School from 2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. Total commitment for the course will be 1 1/2 hours of class time and 1 1/2 hours of driving time per week. Saturday driving times are available for those students who are unable to drive during the week. Driving times will be arranged between the student and instructor. Students will learn to drive in Troy, Albany and on the various highways in the Capital District. In organizing this program, we have established the following guidelines:

1. The permission slip must be completed and returned to the **Counseling Office by January 18.**
2. A minimum of 25 students must enroll.
3. Students who are seniors will have top priority on a first come - first served basis.
4. Students who are juniors are second in priority and sophomores will be third in priority.
5. Your child must be at least 16 years of age by January 30, 2019.
6. The program will begin February 6, 2019.
7. No student will be awarded a certificate unless he/she has completed the course requirements for class and driving time as well as any homework assignments.
8. Students must complete the payment plan by the end of the course.

Please return the permission slip to the **Counseling Office by Friday, January 18, 2019.** Please **do not include payment** with the permission slip. In January, for all students who have enrolled, Mr. Benkoski will meet with students and/or parents after school to answer any questions they may have. The long-term benefit of driver education has significant value relative to driver safety and insurance reduction. We are pleased that we are able to provide this service in our school district.

Sincerely,

Dr. Catherine A. Allain

Dr. Catherine A. Allain
Principal

cc: Dr. Stephen Young, Superintendent

BERLIN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT-DRIVER ED CLASS PARENT PERMISSION FORM (return to Counseling Office)

My son/daughter, _____, has permission to participate in the 2018-2019 Driver Education Program provided by Mr. Bill Benkoski from February 6, 2019 until the first week of June at the Berlin High School. I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE GUIDELINES FOR MY SON/DAUGHTER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2018-2019 DRIVER EDUCATION PROGRAM.

STUDENT

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE