

# The Barron Area School District

**Barron High School**  
Phone 715-537-5627  
FAX 715-637-1603

**Woodland Elementary**  
Phone 715-537-5621  
FAX 715-637-9353

**Almena Elementary**  
Phone 715-357-3263  
FAX 715-357-6513

**Administrative Office**  
**100 West River Avenue**  
**Barron, Wisconsin 54812**  
**Phone 715-537-5612**  
**FAX 715-637-5161**



**Riverview Middle School**  
Phone 715-537-5641  
FAX 715-637-5373

**Dallas Early Learning Center**  
Phone 715-837-1180  
FAX 715-837-1201

**Ridgeland-Dallas Elementary**  
Phone 715-949-1445  
FAX 715-949-1617

*The mission of the Barron Area School District is to ensure all students reach their dreams while making a positive impact on the world.*

December 10, 2012

Dear Parents,

Sometime in the next eight days and for the first time in over 10 years, freight trains will be running east and west through Barron, just north of U.S. Highway 8. These trains will be passing to and from Poskin, four times a day. They are very heavy and filled with FRAC sand. It takes almost a mile for this type of train to come to a complete stop. A train running into a car is the same ratio of weight (or mass) as a car running over a pop can. I hope we can all get in the habit of looking both ways and listening for warning bells or whistles before crossing the tracks.

I urge you to have discussions with your children about railroad crossings. There are seven safety recommendations attached from Canadian National Railroad Company. Each one is important. For walkers, there are two points that are very important. Only cross where there are train crossing signs and always listen and look both ways before crossing. Any other location of crossing the tracks is illegal and those that are found crossing or walking on the tracks could be fined. Secondly, in the very rare event that a train is stalled over a road/train crossing location, walkers should not attempt to pass through the train. It is also illegal and highly dangerous. The train could start without notice and it could be fatal or cause serious injuries. Walkers should be patient and call the school or home. If we are notified and most likely we will be, we will send a bus to pick up walkers that are stranded on one side of the tracks due to a stalled train.

Finally, all students either attending or catching a bus at Riverview Middle School need to be especially alert as there is much walking and driving traffic that must cross the tracks. There will be no flashing lights or crossing arms dropped and we must break 10 years of crossing tracks with no train traffic. We will need you to help us, the City, the County and Canadian National Railroad company to make sure your children practice safe habits, as well as us adults.

Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.

Sincerely,

Monti J. Hallberg  
District Administrator



## North America's Railroad

For months, crews have been working on the railroad tracks running east-west through Barron and Rusk Counties.

The work will be complete very soon and come mid-December, for the first time in nearly a decade, freight trains are ready to roll.

CN encourages residents across Barron and Rusk Counties to remember some important railroad safety rules:

- Be prepared to stop at crossings
- Look for the crossbuck sign, lights or gates at crossings
- Obey the signals
- Listen for warning bells and whistles
- Look both ways before crossing the tracks
- Walking, playing or running on or beside railroad tracks is dangerous and illegal
- If your vehicle stalls on the tracks, get out quickly and away from the vehicle and tracks

Remember, tracks and recreation do not mix. Railroad tracks are not a short cut, a snowmobile path or an ATV trail. No pedestrian, car, snowmobile or ATV is a match for a freight train.

Always obey railroad warning signs and devices. Use caution at all railroad crossings, and only cross tracks at designated areas.

Prevent a senseless and avoidable tragedy by steering clear of train tracks!

Learn more about CN's All Aboard for Safety program at [www.cn.ca/safety](http://www.cn.ca/safety) or visit Operation Lifesaver at [www.oli.org](http://www.oli.org)



***all aboard***  
**for safety**