

Edgewood Jr High School would like to introduce you to....

Barley Mae Straw



EJHS Therapy Dog in Training Pilot Program Information

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

I am excited to be introducing you to Barley, our very first therapy dog in training at Edgewood Jr. High School. Barley is a 10 month old F1b Bernedoodle who is currently 8lbs and nearly full grown!

- F1B Bernedoodles will have a higher success rate for non-shedding and are recommended for families with moderate to severe allergies.
- The F1B Bernedoodle is 75% Poodle which makes this generation very hypo-allergenic
- More information on Barley's specific breed can be found [here](#)

Purpose of therapy dogs in schools (Excerpt from West Bend Mallard Community Schools Handbook):

- Improve the culture and general mood of the school.
- Make a connection with at-risk students, and give them a reason to come to school.
- Improve literacy skills
- Support emotional regulation
- Assist students in improving social skills, communication skills, leadership skills, and more



Highlights

We respect all opinions about dogs and do not require anyone to have interactions with Barley

Barley is up to date on all shots and has a clean bill of health

Student Interest Form can be completed by students [HERE](#)

Parent & Guardian Permission slip can be found [HERE](#)



Follow Barley on Instagram
[Barley_Mae_The_Cuddly_Colt](#)



Barley has been training with Mrs. Straw since she was 8 weeks old! Mrs. Straw and Barley attend classes at Mad4MyDog: Positive Dog Solutions right here in Ellettsville and are being trained by Madalyn McKenney, BA, AC, CPDT-KSA, CCC-CI, SDC. You can review their website regarding service and therapy dogs [HERE](#)

Barley Has completed the following training courses:

- Puppy Preschool
- Basic Foundations
- Intermediate Foundations
- Advanced Therapy Prep
- She is currently working through the Connection, Cooperation & Control Course sequence.

How can my student visit with Barley?

Student who have parent/guardian permission are able to request counseling sessions that include Barley individually or in small group.

Students are able to interact with Barley during unstructured times such as arrival, regulation break, passing period, and dismissal

Mrs. Straw will host FLEX sessions and small groups for students to have opportunities to work with Barley in different ways and on various skills

Additionally, teachers are able to request for Barley to take part in their classrooms!

Examples of how this would look would be through: small group work, individual reading time, support during a test, to aid in a presentation or lesson, participate in classroom projects, support struggling student(s) and much much more!

A Message from Mrs. Straw, School Counselor, LMHC

Thank you for trusting Barley and me to provide our school community with an opportunity that has so many research and evidence based benefits.

While this is the beginning phase of a long process, my hope is that we will learn and grow together as a community. Reach out to me with questions, concerns, wonders, and ideas.

bnstraw@rbbschools.net

Please help me in thanking the following people for approving this idea and supporting us from the start

-Dr. Sanders jsanders@rbbschools.net

-Mrs. Anderson janderson@rbbschools.net

-Mr. Siegelin jsiegelin@rbbschools.net

-Mr. Rentschler krentschler@rbbschools.net

-Madalyn McKenney mad4mydog@gmail.com

& last but not least.... Mr. Straw & Family!