



The Aggie Express

A publication of the Beal City Public Schools

www.bealcityschools.net

June 2009

Kindergartners Found Drumming Out A Beat

Believe it or not, 5 year olds can practice their math and send answers to each other using drums. Mrs. Leff-Ewing, assisted by her husband, in fact did just that during a fun series of activities May 1st. Kindergartners learned how to use rhythms on drums to count beats, add a beat, and send a new count to other drumming groups.

Of course Mrs. Leff-Ewing's class also learned how to groove to the beat, as they used a combination of drums, shakers, and claves to create Pep Band type rhythms and drum "ditty cadences"... You know, like "we will rock you" and "get funky". The little ones even did this in two and three part ensembles.



The Kindergartners also enjoyed learning and trying out several different drums from various parts of the world, and combined percussion parts with Mr. Ewing's other musical instruments as fellow dancers danced to some folk and Native American songs. They also experienced a

one-man trash can band, which they were recently found imitating.

So, if you think kids beating on pots and pans is just a bunch of noise, maybe their practicing their math or de-stressing while they get into the groove. Drum on!

The Beal City Athletic Department would like to give a huge thank you to the many volunteers that helped out with our Spring Sports Season. We need countless volunteers especially for Track and Field and we truly appreciate all the time and effort you put into helping not only us but also the kids. We've received many compliments on how efficient the meets ran this year and it's all because of you. It takes the dedication and commitment of a lot of people to run a successful athletic program and without the Parents, Grandparents, Staff and Community Members it would not be possible. Again, we thank you and look forward to seeing you next year.

Going, Going, Gone - Preschooler donates her hair

Allison Wichert is 4 years old and attends the Preschool program at Mayes Elementary.



She had waist length blonde hair which took a lot of daily care which she was starting to not like. She was thinking of getting it cut when a friend suggested that she donate it to Locks of Love.

After further research she chose to donate

her hair

but to a Michigan based organization called "Wigs 4 Kids". On May 17, Allison went to visit her Aunt, who has a small hair salon in Winn, and was asked one more time if she was sure she wanted to cut off her long beautiful hair and she said "I do and I don't. I want to help sick kids but I might miss my hair." But she told her Aunt how long she wanted it cut and soon she had shorter hair. She looked in the mirror and had the biggest smile ever. She was very happy

and proud of her new look.

She had 12 inches cut off and now it will be sent to "Wigs 4 Kids" in Saint Claire Shores, MI. To donate hair it must be clean, dry, and put in a ponytail or braid then cut off. Minimum length needed to donate varies from each organization from 8 inches - 12 inches. Hair that has been colored or permed is not healthy enough to go through the process of becoming a wig.

According to one organization it takes about 10 ponytails to make 1 wig for a sick child. If you want to contribute to any of these organizations they all can use cash donations because many of them like Wigs 4 Kids try to get children their wigs at NO cost to the family.



**GREAT
JOB,
ALLISON!**



Hats off to Volunteers

As our school year comes to an end, we would like to extend a thank you to all of our families that have made our year a success. Whether you worked in classrooms, donated time for sporting events, cooked for fundraiser dinners, or monetarily supported our students, we appreciate it. Our kids would not be as successful without you!!!

Summer Session Driver's Training Scheduled

The summer Segment I Driver's Training classes will be held from June 8-12, June 15-19 and June 22-23. Classes will meet from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Parents must have attended a 30 minute parent meeting on June 1 at 7:00 p.m. Applications for this class were due no later than June 1. Students must be 14 years old and 8 months by the time the first class takes place. Students taking this class will be eligible for the Segment II class that will meet on Sundays for three weeks. Class will meet Oct 4, Oct 11 and Oct 18 from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

The fall classes will meet Sept 13-14, Sept 20-21, Sept 27-28, Oct 4-5, Oct 11-12, and Oct 18-19. Classes will meet from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Parents must attend a 30 minute parent meeting on September 8th at 7:00 p.m. Applications for this class are due no later than September 8th and can be picked up and returned to the High School or Superintendent's Office. Students taking this class will be eligible for the Segment II class that will meet on Sundays for three weeks. Class times will be announced during the parent meeting.

This year's fee is \$270.00 which covers both Segment I and Segment II and is due on or before the first day of class. There is now an option to pay this fee on-line. More information about this option will be discussed during the parent meeting. The fee is non-refundable after the student begins the program.

Thank you...

To: Parents, Students, and Staff of Beal City Schools

We would like to thank everyone for the kindness you have shown our family during Cole's sickness. He is home now and doing much better. He goes to therapy four times a week and is getting some of his strength back. We see improvements everyday, but it will take a lot of time for him to get back to his old self.

We thank you for your donations, letters, and cards. He really enjoyed the cards made by his classmates; his parents read all of them to him. The money you donated was very much appreciated; it just reminds us of what a great community we live in. Cole has been over to Beal several times now and saw some of his classmates. He misses them and is looking forward to playing football in the fall.

We would like to say "Thank You" to each and every one of you. Your thoughts, your kindness, and your prayers were very much needed and truly appreciated by all of us.

Sincerely,

Dan and Julie Miller and family

DISNEY & AD COUNCIL PROMOTES

"BRIGHT FUTURE" FOR KIDS

USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack announced the launch of a new healthy lifestyle campaign, in partnership with the Ad Council and Walt Disney Studios Home Entertainment, to promote good nutrition and physical activity for families and reduce the incidence of child obesity.

The "Bright Futures" campaign uses the beloved characters and music from Pinocchio to convey key nutrition messages to parents and children. Parents are encouraged to visit www.MyPyramid.gov and use the USDA's Food Pyramid to help their children make healthy choices. "Bright Futures" promotes the importance of balancing good nutrition and physical activity. It reinforces the idea that healthy lifestyle habits are fuel for a child's mind and body.

To view these materials, go to: <http://www.adcouncil.org/> and click on the Pinocchio image.

To read Secretary Vilsack's announcement, go to: <http://www.adcouncil.org/newsDetail.aspx?id=264>.

Summer Tutor Available

Tracy Natzel, a teacher for the past 10 years in the Beal City Preschool Program, will be available to provide tutoring this summer. She has B.S. degrees in Child Development and in Elementary Education with a ZA (Early Childhood) endorsement. Tracy also earned her Master's degree in Elementary Education.

Reasons why your child can benefit from tutoring:

- Keep academic skills sharp throughout the summer
- Extra help available in all elementary subject areas
- Private tutoring with a certified, experienced elementary teacher
- Lessons are tailored according to each student's specific needs

Information:

- 1 hour sessions for 10 weeks
- Tuesday & Thursday, June 16-August 21
- Morning & afternoon sessions available
- \$25 per session paid at the time of service
- Located at Ms. Natzel's home
- Contact her via email: tracynatzel@hotmail.com to reserve your session

Everyday Learning - *Any time is learning time when your youngster adds math to chores, practices reading in the car, or discovers science at the playground. Whether you're at home or out and about, you can turn daily activities into learning opportunities. Try these ideas for building your child's skills in reading writing, math, science and social studies.*

There are opportunities for learning around the house, while on the go, during outdoor play, and while playing games. Practice writing a chore schedule; play the alphabet game in the car, or look for signs with different letters of the alphabet and write them down; and a trip to the grocery store can improve math skills by guessing weights of fruits and vegetables and weighing them, and then estimating or calculating the prices of groceries. Outside at play your child can still be learning by recording a census of the number of girls, boys, mailboxes or flags he or she counts along a walk, or writing in the sand or with pebbles. During fun and games, ask your child to come up with an alternate ending to his or her favorite TV show, using what if questions and then act it out, or read the newspaper after dinner and circle parts of speech, i.e. verbs, nouns, prepositions.

Camp Hayo-Went-Ha

Fourth through sixth grade students arrived back at school from Camp Hayo-Went-Ha on May 8 very tired, but also full of fun stories about their adventures. At the Board Meeting on May 18 fourth grader Ashtyn Thompson and fifth grader Nash Reeves thanked the Board for supporting their trip to Camp and shared some of the following highlights from Mr. Klapp's fourth graders.



Mr. Klapp's fourth graders.

“Thanks for letting us go to Camp. The good thing is the food was real...I also faced my fear of heights. It was really fun.”

Thorn Lau

“I really learned a lot. I learned about insects. My favorite learning activity was survival because we got to build fires and shelter. On the boardwalk we learned about habitats... I hope you let us go again because we get educated in a fun way. We learn a lot.”

Sincerely, Kristen Hood

“I want to go again next year so I can have a great time and learn because I like to learn and have fun, too. I think camp made me more responsible (sic) for my stuff.”

Sincerely, Brenda Faber

“We learned a lot about our environment, recycling and keeping Earth in good shape...There (sic) FOOD IS GREAT!!!! You learn SO much. Best week of my life.”

Jacob Hohlbein

From

“We all hope we can go to camp next year. I had the best time of my life up there. All of the counselors are from all over the world...I feel comfortable going. I can trust everyone who is up at camp...” Sincerely, Kodie Keller

“Mrs. Fussman made it possible for us to go to camp...I liked the tower because I climbed like a monkey and I made it to the top. Thank you.” Easton Bardell

“I could thank you a million times for letting us go, but I am only going to thank you once because I don't want to write thank you a million times. I really enjoyed learning how to use a real compass...I went and had all that fun learning and having fun at the same time. I wish it was like that at school all day!

Sincerely, Ashtyn Thompson



Field Day Fun!

The weather cooperated nicely this year so that Mayes Elementary and St. Joseph the Worker students could enjoy Field Day together on May 15. For the first time, events for K-2 students were held at Mayes Elementary School while 3rd-6th graders participated at the K of C Park. The general consensus seems to be that splitting up the age groups was a good idea, and we anticipate doing the same thing next year. A BIG THANKS to the volunteers and school staff members for all their efforts in making this a fun day for all!



Study Island

STUDY ISLAND is an online testing and study site for students in grades 2 – 9. All students in these grades have been given a password to work on reading, math, language arts, science and social studies skills at home ANYTIME FOR FREE! This is an excellent way for students to keep their skills sharp over the summer. Students enjoy the game format which makes learning fun. Parents like the HELP link which explains the concepts being taught. Easy access to STUDY ISLAND can be found on our school website. If you have any further questions about STUDY ISLAND, contact Mayes Elementary School (644-2740) or Beal City Junior/Senior High School (644-3901).

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

A plaque honoring all the dedicated individuals who have retired from the Beal City School District has been placed on the south wall in the main lobby of the school. Check it out the next time you are at the school. We have a current list of six names of individuals we know retired from Beal City Schools but we are not able to locate information about the number of years they worked for the school. If you, or someone you know may have information about the following individuals, please contact Julie Freeze at (989) 644-3901.

Bob Blasen "Blossom"
Marietta Elliot
Agnes Schafer
Charlie Schafer
Queenie Steib

If you are aware of other individuals who retired from Beal City Schools we would welcome that information also.

Physical Thank-You

The Beal City Athletic Department would like to thank all the community members that volunteered their time in helping with our Sports Physicals Night. We've received a lot of positive feedback and hopefully can continue to provide this service to our athletes. If you see any of the following Doctors that generously volunteered their time, please thank them.

Dr. Faris Atchoo
Dr. Jeffrey Barnes
Dr. Brock Horsley
Dr. Donna Defilippo
Dr. Constanza Fox
Dr. Henry Szelag

Student Artists Paint the Walls

Advanced Art students have been working on several paintings around the high school area. Dylan Hohlbein has painted a Wall of Heroes, depicting logos from many recent plays and productions. Ms Gigowski provided the direction for this project.

Kevin Lucka and Tyler Watters have been working on painting a wall in the Athletic Directors office. Their work features a large Aggie horse and our school name. Zach Titmus and Chad Stevens have completed a painting in the outer Athletic Office area, near Kelley Schafer's desk, that includes symbols for many Beal City teams. Stop by and look at the work of these fine young artists.

Kaitlyn Fouty and Brandi Hines have collaborated on a large painting of an Aggie Horse surrounded by stars and the names of the various Aggie sports teams. When finished this 4' by 6' board will be displayed by the concession stand and ball fields.

Congratulations to our young artists who have created something for the whole community to enjoy.

Le Tour de Mont Pleasant to visit Beal City

Le Tour de Mont Pleasant is a weekend long community event celebrating bicycling, healthy living, fitness and nutrition. The event will start at 6:00 PM on Friday June 12th with an opening reception for the entire community downtown. This will include the "Taste of Mt. Pleasant", and live entertainment. Saturday morning will start early with the Criterium race that will last all day. The Criterium is a timed lap race for the entire community for people of all ages with various skill levels. Professional cyclists will be included in this race along with a kids race, Family Fun Ride, citizen cyclists and men's and women's pro and amateur level races. Saturday night will continue with the "Taste of Mt. Pleasant" and live entertainment. Sunday is the One Day Pro Classic Road race with a 26 mile course and a longer 103 mile course throughout Isabella County including going through Beal City. Lynn Pohl and other community "road marshalls" will be assisting in the rolling traffic shutdown as the cyclists race through Beal in early afternoon. During Saturday and Sunday vendor tents with a healthy living theme will be open and festive events will be going on downtown.

Please visit the website at: <http://www.tourdemontpleasant.com/> for detailed information on the race, including routes. Or check out the Facebook site by searching Le Tour de Mont Pleasant Fan page!

High School Basketball

The high school basketball program for next year's 9th-12th grade girls is as follows:

Camp at the high school on June 9, 11, 12, 19, 22, 26, 29 from 6:30 to 8:00 in the evening and League play at Morey Courts on June 16, 18, 23, 25, 30, July 2 with evening times TBD.

Summer Basketball Camp Elementary & Jr. High

Summer basketball camp for girls and boys will be held June 22 to 26. Times are as follows:

Next year's 3rd and 4th grades from 8:00 to 9:30

Next year's 5th and 6th grades from 9:45 to 11:15

Next year's 7th and 8th grades from 11:30 to 1:00

Camp registration of \$40 is due by May 29. Each camper will receive a basketball and T-shirt. The summer camp will be conducted by the high school varsity coaches, Tom Lavoie and Kaleb House, along with their other coaches.

Board Briefs

The following was approved at a regular board meeting on May 18, 2009:

- ✍ General Fund payments of \$245,665.11, Hot Lunch payments of \$14,365.41, Athletic Fund payments of \$3,679.00, Debt Retirement 2002 payments of \$106,512.50, and Debt Retirement 2004 payments of \$353,481.25.
- ✍ The 2nd reading of the Secondary Student Handbook as presented
- ✍ The 2nd reading of the Secretary Handbook as presented.
- ✍ The Superintendent Evaluation and Contract as presented.
- ✍ Michael Kruske's coaching resignation as JV Volleyball Coach.
- ✍ The Ahera Resolution as presented.
- ✍ The GIRESD Biennial Election Resolution.
- ✍ The GIRESD Budget Resolution as presented.
- ✍ The MHSAA Membership Resolution for 2009/2010.
- ✍ To move the Annual Budget Hearing and regular board meeting date from June 22nd to June 29th. The budget hearing will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the regular meeting will start at 7:00 p.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

June 3	6th Grade Fun Day, 11:00 a.m.-end of day
June 4	Kindergarten Graduation, 12:45-2:00 pm-small gym
June 5	Last Day of School-half day for students, 11:40 am dismissal. NO LUNCH SERVED.
June 12	Report Cards mailed
June 29	DSIT Meeting-6:00 p.m. and Board Meeting-7:00 p.m.

H O N O R R O L L

4.0

07 HAYDEN E. HUBER
 07 SHELBY T. KLUMPP
 07 TY M. ROLLIN
 07 GARRETT J. SCHAFER
 07 ADDIE L. SCHUMACHER
 08 MONICA R. DAVID
 08 MITCHELL R. SCHUMACHER
 09 SAMANTHA A. FREEZE
 09 CHAZ A. HOOK
 09 CAL W. SALISBURY
 09 SHELBY J. SCHAFER
 10 ZACHARY T. BROWN
 10 TORI CARRICK
 10 KENDRA M. FLAUGHER
 10 SHAWN D. MOORE
 10 NICHOLAUS PASCH
 10 RACHEL L. POWELL
 10 ABIGAIL S. SCHAFER
 10 BRITTNEY A. WICHERT
 11 JORDAN J. RAU
 11 LOGAN A. STEFFKE
 11 TROY STRATTON
 12 NATHAN M. STEFFKE

3.5 - 3.99

07 CHASE A. BROWN
 07 JORDAN A. CARSON
 07 MIKAELA D. COTTER
 07 SAMANTHA J. ESCH
 07 ANDREA J. FOUTY
 07 KAITLYNN M. FRAYRE
 07 JUSTIN P. GARRETT
 07 NICHOLAS J. HOOGERHYDE
 07 ELIJAH MARRISON
 07 HANNAH C. NEYER
 07 SARA J. PHILLIPS
 07 ANNA M. REIHL
 07 MELANIE R. SCHAFER
 07 ELIZABETH A. SCOTT
 07 CHLOE B. STEFFKE
 07 ALEXUS P. THOMPSON
 07 NICHOLAS A. WARD
 07 SOPHIA E. WATTERS
 08 BO CARRICK
 08 ANDREW M. CLARE
 08 CHARLES P. CLARK
 08 ELTON W. CLARK
 08 MANISHA R. COLE
 08 CHANCE L. CRAVEN
 08 JULIANN M. HANDZIAK
 08 MICHAELA J. HOLLAND
 08 MIKAYLA B. JONES
 08 MEGAN K. LEY
 08 CORY J. MEAD
 08 JONATHAN D. RAU
 08 JOSEPH J. RAU
 08 OLIVIA J. RAU
 08 EMILY M. RECKER
 08 KIMBERLY ROWE
 08 MARGINI L. SCHAFER
 08 NATHANIEL J. SCHAFER
 08 SAMUEL P. SCHAFER
 08 SOPHIA L. SCHUMACHER
 08 LARISSA E. SCHWERIN
 08 JOSHUA P. SHARRAR
 08 ASHLEY M. STEFFKE
 08 MIRANDA C. STEFFKE
 08 COREY J. YUNCKER
 08 ADAM F. ZEIEN
 09 AMBER M. ARNDT
 09 ANDREW D. BECHTEL
 09 EILEEN M. COTTER
 09 RACHEL L. FOWLER
 09 HEATHER J. GRIFFIS
 09 LAUREN N. GUTHRIE
 09 ALEXANDRA R. HALL
 09 MIRANDA L. HAUCK
 09 TRACEY POHL
 09 ADAM J. SCHAFER
 09 LOGAN SCHAFER
 09 TRAVIS A. SCHAFER
 09 EMILY C. SMITH
 09 KAREN N. SMITH
 09 KERSTEN L. SMITH
 09 CONNER J. STEFFKE
 09 KYLEE M. THEISEN
 09 TREVOR J. TILMANN
 09 NICHOLAS C. WATTERS
 10 ALYSSA C. BELLINGER
 10 JACQUELINE M. BLISS

10 BREANNA C. BLOCK
 10 JACOB A. CHRISTENSEN
 10 RYAN R. FABER
 10 ALEX M. FUNNELL
 10 MORGAN L. GALINSKI
 10 JESSICA MARCHIANDO
 10 NICHOLE MILLER
 10 EMILY J. PHILLIPS
 10 ANDREW SCHAFER
 10 KALIA M. SCHAFER
 10 KARLY SCHAFER
 10 SARAH A. SCHAFER
 10 KRISTIN M. STEFFKE
 10 HALEY N. WARD
 10 JAY WARNER
 11 KELSEY N. ANTCLIFF
 11 CHADWICK S. ARNDT
 11 CAITLYN S. BELLINGER
 11 NATHANIEL J. BELLINGER
 11 BRITTANY P. BLISS
 11 KELLY M. DAVID
 11 NICOLE M. GARRETT
 11 NICHELLE M. HOLLAND
 11 BROOKE E. HUBER
 11 SEAN D. MASSEY
 11 KEGAN S. ROJAS
 11 DANI N. SANDERS
 11 SADIE SCHAFER
 11 NICOLE L. SMITH
 11 TRENT M. SMITH
 11 JARED F. THEISEN
 11 MORGAN YUNCKER
 11 MONICA J. ATKIN
 12 ALEXANDER J. BARNES
 12 KOHL T. BECHTEL
 12 NATALIE BLOCK
 12 BRITNI L. BUESKING
 12 ALEXANDRIA R. FABER
 12 KAITLYN E. FOUTY
 12 KATIE GROSS
 12 KEVIN LUCKA
 12 JACOB B. MALLEY
 12 MEGAN R. MCBRIDE
 12 KEVIN T. POHL
 12 ASHLEY A. ROBINSON
 12 CHELSEA M. SCHAFER
 12 KATHERINE M. STRAUS
 12 ZACHARY TITMUS
 12 KRISTIN WILSON
 12 ZUO MIAO YE
 07 TRENTEEN ARMSTRONG
 07 DANIEL BALL
 07 KENIESHA K. BELLMER
 07 ALEAH M. BIERSCHBACH
 07 KEVIN J. BLEISE
 07 WHITNEY J. CARSON
 07 TAYLOR J. CIOCHETTO
 07 DUSTIN DUNN
 07 ASHLEY A. FINNERTY
 07 KELSEY A. FLAUGHER
 07 KURT P. GROSS
 07 MORGAN L. HAUPT
 07 CODY T. MOGG
 07 CODY M. MOTTIN
 07 CARSON L. SALISBURY

07 ANGEL N. SIAN
 07 JENA K. SCHAFER
 07 LUCAS W. SCHAFER
 07 PATRICK N. SCHAFER
 07 KEVIN M. STRAUS
 07 RYAN M. TILMANN
 07 ROGER J. WARD
 08 JADE E. KENNEDY
 08 MARGARET G. KOLB
 08 RACHAEL M. LORENZ
 08 REBECCA A. MASTER
 08 BRANDI MATHIS
 08 MARCY M. MILLER
 08 JUSTIN M. PUHLMAN
 08 NICHOLAS R. REEVES
 08 OLIVIA C. SMITH
 09 STONE D. BECKWITH
 09 JACOB A. BURMAN
 09 BRITTANY M. EARL
 09 JANEL E. EGBERT
 09 ALLYSON M. ESCH
 09 BENJAMIN M. FOX
 09 TEAIRA M. MCBRIDE
 09 TIMOTHY ROWE
 09 JACOB M. STRENG
 09 JAY T. TRAINOR
 09 C O U R T N E Y E .
 WINEGARDNER
 09 LINDSEY C. WITT
 10 AMANDA N. BANING
 10 MARIA R. DAVID
 10 JOSHUA D. EISENBACH
 10 AMY E. FINNERTY
 10 ADAM P. FOX
 10 RACHEL FOX
 10 JACOB HAHN
 10 COURTNEY KARCHER
 10 JONATHON W. OVAITT
 10 CODY J. SCHUTT
 10 MINA J. TILMANN
 10 JARED W. VANAVERY
 11 DUSTIN A. BANING
 11 BRIAN BLEISE
 11 MEGAN CRANDALL
 11 PAUL M. GROSS
 11 DYLAN R. HOHLBEIN
 11 DANIELLE A. MEAD
 11 LESLIE A. MEAD
 11 ALEXANDRIA ROUSE
 11 COURTNEY M. SCHAFER
 11 ALISSA A. STEELE
 11 LYNDSAY TITMUS
 11 AMBER B. ZEIEN
 11 TIANDRA M. ZEIEN
 12 CASSANDRA K. BAILEY
 12 PATRICK G. COOK
 12 MICHAEL D. ESCH
 12 JOSEPH A. FINNERTY
 12 C O U R T N E Y A
 HOLSWORTH
 12 TYLER J. MCDONALD
 12 JUSTIN D. SHARRAR
 12 EDDIE J. SMITH
 12 LILAH I. SMITH
 12 CHAD D. STEVENS
 12 CLAY A. VOGEL

Honoring Retirees

We are in the process of putting together a plaque to honor all of the dedicated individuals who have retired from the Beal City School District. If you, or a family member, retired from Beal City Schools please contact Julie Freeze at (989) 644-3901 with the number of years worked for the school.

