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The Aggie Express

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May 2009

Top Students for the Class of 2009



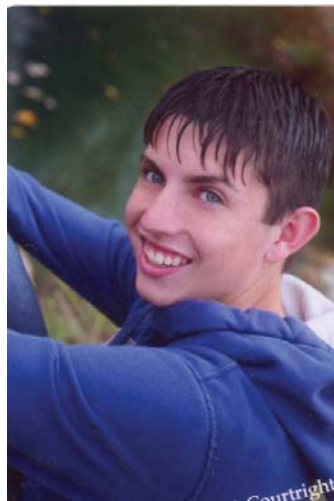
After the first semester, it was determined that Katie Gross will be our Valedictorian and Kevin Pohl will be our Salutatorian for the Beal City High School Class of 2009.

Katie Gross is the daughter of Phil and Julie Gross. She plans to attend Aquinas College in the fall to pursue a career in Architecture. Kevin Pohl is the son of Dennis and Anita Pohl. He plans to attend

the University of Michigan and major in Business Management.

The remaining students making up our "Top Ten" for the Class of 2009 are Nathan Steffke, Kevin Lucka, Alexandria Faber, Katie Straus, Kohl Bechtel, Jacob Malley, Tyler McDonald, and Alexander Barnes.

Congratulations to all of these outstanding students! They have worked very hard and are highly deserving of these honors.



Art Reach Festival of Banners

Banner designs created by Beal City junior high art students will be displayed on the streets of Mt Pleasant this summer as part of the Art Reach of Mid-Michigan Festival of Banners project. Art Reach invited area students to participate by creating designs showing summer activities they enjoy. Mrs Cleveland's 7th and 8th grade art students worked on several designs, then each student chose their best to submit to Art Reach. Twenty two of our students designs were selected to be made into banners.

Students have been working on painting the large vinyl banners in art class with materials provided by Art Reach. Look for our banners in the downtown area this summer. Mrs Cleveland and all the art students want to thank Art Reach and the project's sponsors for making this fun learning opportunity available for so many area schools.



LEAVE NO GIRL INSIDE!

Natural spaces stimulate girls' limitless imaginations, foster creativity, increase problem solving skills and bolster self-confidence. Research shows that nature experiences significantly reduce children's stress. Girl Scout camp is a safe place where girls can experience the great outdoors! Sign up today!

Visit <http://www.gshom.org/camp.html> to see our new CAMP Guide.

Dates to remember

- Early bird discounts end May 11th so be sure to register soon!
- Register online beginning March 30th

Spring Sing - Join the Fun!

The annual Mayes Elementary Spring Sing/ Senior Citizen Reception will take place on Thursday, May 28th, 2009. The Senior Citizen Reception will begin at 1:00 p.m. with the Spring Sing immediately following at 1:30 p.m. Both will take place in the elementary gym. Come out for an afternoon of fun and entertainment!

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 Session Driver's Training Scheduled

The summer Segment I Driver's Ed Classes will be held from June 8-12, June 15-19 and June 22-23 and will meet from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Parents must attend a 30 minute parent meeting on June 1 at 7:00 p.m. Applications for this class are due no later than June 1 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 will meet October 4, October 11 and October 18 from 4:00 – 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, and will meet from 6:00 – 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 Offices. Students must be 14 years and 8 months old 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 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 online. More information about this option will be discussed during the parent meeting. The fee is non-refundable after the student begins the program.

Foster Grandparent Banquet

On April 17 the five foster grandmothers that assist us with students at Mayes Elementary School attended a banquet held in their honor at the new Commission on Aging building in Mt. Pleasant. The banquet had a baseball theme, and they represented us well by dressing up in Aggie blue and white baseball t-shirts and hats. These five wonderful ladies are: Yvonne Osborn, Eileen Sharp, Linda Billings, Rose Jacobs and Margaret Fick. Thank you, ladies, for your wonderful presence in our building!



Beal City Students Inducted into the National Technical Honor Society at the MPATC

Three Beal City High School students were inducted into the 2008-2009 National Technical Honor Society at the Mt. Pleasant Area Technical Center in a ceremony on February 11, 2009. The ceremony took place after the Mt. Pleasant Area Technical Society's annual Open House. The National Technical Honor Society was established to celebrate career and technical education student achievement. Students were nominated by their instructors and had to meet the following criteria: a combined academic and technical GPA of 3.0 or higher, 10 or fewer absences, 4 accumulated career and technical education credits, ability to follow instructions, safety awareness, ability to work well with others, dependability, responsibility, honesty, good attitude and good leadership skills.

Our recipients for this year are: **Joe Finnerty**, **Chelsea Schafer**, and **Clay Vogel**. Congratulations to these worthy students!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

May 4	PTO meeting, 6:30 p.m. in Title classroom
May 4 – 8	Camp Hayo-Went-Ha Field Trip for 4th-6th graders
May 7	School Play 7:00 p.m. in the small gym
May 9	Prom at Centennial Hall 7:30-11:30
May 11-14	PTO Half Price Book Fair
May 14	Baccalaureate/Awards 7:00
May 15	Field Day for Mayes Elementary & St. Joe's students (12:00 noon-2:15 p.m.)
May 18	6:00 p.m. DSIT meeting and 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting
May 21	Graduation 8:00 big gym
May 25	Memorial Day – NO SCHOOL
May 28	Senior Citizens Reception and Spring Sing in small gym
May 28	Junior High Awards 2:00 big gym
May 29	High School Awards 2:00 big gym
June 4	Kindergarten Graduation - 12:45 p.m. in small gym
June 5	Last Day of School – half day for students, 11:40 a.m. dismissal, no lunch served

Rocket Football/ Cheerleading

For boys and girls ages 8 – 11 who are interested in playing football/cheerleading in the fall of 2009, there will be sign-ups on the following dates: Sunday May 17th from 5:30 – 6:30 and Wednesday May 20th from 6:00 – 7:30. These will be held in the cafeteria. A birth certificate is required and the boys need to be 8 years old by November 1, 2009 and not older than 11 by November 1, 2009. Any questions please contact Stephanie Matthews at 621-1021 or Rod Flaughter at 621-4352.



REPORT to PARENTS

Exposing Children to Career Choices

“What do you want to be when you grow up?” Upon hearing this question, chances are that your children have no firm ideas about what they want to be or do – but it’s never too early to help them explore all the options out there. Now, more than ever, children are seeing that there’s nothing that they can’t achieve.

Get them involved. From scouts to Boys and Girls Clubs, there are wonderful after-school organizations that help children learn and grow. Many bring in guest speakers to talk about their careers and take field trips to “work sites” ranging from fire stations to hospitals.

Read all about it. School and public libraries are stocked with books for children that introduce them to interesting careers. Check out titles like *When I Grow Up*, *See What You Can Be*, *Jobs people Do*, *Career Day*, and don’t forget Dr. Seuss’ inspiring *Oh the Places You’ll Go*. Online, visit www.khake.com/page64.html, which offers career exploration guides and resources for younger students.

Have the “tools” on hand. Children can’t know if they’re good at something unless they try it. By having a wide variety of supplies available, your children can explore different skills, while having fun in the process. Calculators, math puzzles and games, and building sets are appealing to those who might end up in math or engineering careers. Toy medical kits and a supply of Band-Aids are always a hit, and can light a fire in future health professionals’ lives. Art supplies, craft kits, and musical instruments may spur an interest in the arts. Check for low-cost used items at thrift stores or garage sales.

Help them start their own businesses. While the days of newspaper routes and lemonade stands are fading fast, there are many ways kids can try out the world of work. With your supervision, your children could launch a pet-sitting or leaf-raking business, sell lem-

onade crafts or baked goods, or earn cash working as “mother’s helpers.” Help them track how much they’re spending to advertise their services, show them how to set a financial goal, mark their progress toward it, and celebrate their successes.

Talk about your job. Many parents have jobs that their kids can’t really comprehend. They might only know that you work in an office building or a store. If you can, participate in Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day (held every April) so they can see what a work environment is like. Talk to them about the education and training you needed to get your job.

Keep them balanced. It’s tempting for parents to see a talent in their child and focus just on that. But the most successful people in life have a wide variety of interests and abilities. Be proud and encouraging of your young artist’s work, for example, but make sure he or she also does well in math, science, reading and other areas. Enjoy your youngster’s computer wizardry, but make sure he or she also learns about art and music, books and science, and the fun and team-building of sports and activities.

Be realistic. Many children want to grow up to be professional athletes, rock stars, famous actors, or the president. While shooting for the stars is wonderful, and you should encourage all of their hard work to succeed, help them also realize that the competition for those superstar positions is fierce. Help them expand their dreams to include their ideal job as well as other related careers. If your child is aching to be a pro football player for example, make sure he or she also knows about careers in physical therapy, sports medicine, physical education teaching, coaching, sports law, and other jobs related to sports.

Schools of Choice

Next year we will be handling our out-of-district enrollment the same as last year. The Board of Education adopted the Schools of Choice 105 and 105C programs at the April board meeting.

The Schools of Choice 105C is for students who wish to attend Beal City Schools but live in a contiguous district outside of the Gratiot Isabella RESD. If you have never filled out a Schools of Choice 105C form, please contact Carrie Bleise in the administration office at (989) 644-3901. After you have turned in this form, and your child has been accepted for enrollment, you will not need to reapply every year. Once this form is on file with us, your child will be enrolled until graduation, unless he/she is expelled or chooses to attend a different school. If your child leaves Beal City Schools to attend another school, he/she would need to reapply if he/she chooses to return to Beal City.

The Schools of Choice 105C does not affect the families who live in school districts within our Gratiot Isabella RESD. Those families will need to fill out a Schools of Choice 105 form that can be obtained from Carrie in the administration office. This form must be signed by the home school superintendent and the superintendent of the school your child is wishing to attend. You will also need to make an appointment with the appropriate office to enroll your child at Beal. If you want enrollment notice prior to the start of school next fall you will need to turn the form into the superintendent's office by Friday, August 21, 2009. A second deadline has been established to help with late enrolling students. This deadline is September 4, 2009. Anyone wishing to enroll into Beal City Schools after September 4th will need to get a release form signed by your home school superintendent prior to enrollment at Beal City Schools.

Board Briefs

The following was approved at a regular board meeting on April 20, 2009:

- ✍ General Fund payments of \$273,640.41, Hot Lunch payments of \$14,232.24, Athletic Fund payments of \$5,262.66.
- ✍ The 2nd reading of the Neola Policy for coming out of class with the addition of requirements for Junior High Students advancing to High School Math.
- ✍ The probationary teacher recommendations as presented: Elementary: Jennifer Courtright – 2nd year, Scott Bloniarczyk – 3rd year. High School: Scott Leppert – 2nd year, Amanda Wilson – 2nd year, Kaleb House – 3rd year. There are no Tenure teaching recommendations at this time.
- ✍ The Support Staff/Administrative Wage Increase recommendations as presented.
- ✍ The 1st reading of the Secondary Student Handbook with the recommended changes as presented.
- ✍ The 1st reading of the Secretary Handbook as presented.
- ✍ The Schools of Choice 105 and 105C recommendations as presented.
- ✍ Accept Paula Dewrock's resignation as Fall Cheer Coach.
- ✍ The following coaching recommendations: Angela Murphy – Assistant Girls Varsity Track, and Stacy Parraghi – Assistant Boys Varsity Track
- ✍ The teacher layoff recommendation as presented.

PTO News

Our busy PTO is at it again! They have organized a half price Book Fair to be held May 11-14. The Book Fair will be set up in the lobby near the superintendent's office. This Book Fair is NOT a fundraiser and is provided as a service to students and staff. All books will be sold at half off the cover price. Everyone is welcome to shop for their summer reading material! We need volunteers to help with the Book Fair. If you are available please contact Tami Chilman at 878-1661 or Shana Puhlman at 621-0675.

We always welcome new members to the PTO. Our next meeting is Monday, May 4 at 6:30 pm in the Title classroom. We hope to see you there!!

Field Day

The annual Field Day for Mayes Elementary and St. Joseph the Worker students will take place on Friday, May 15. There is no rain date. Students will eat a sack lunch, followed by snacks and a variety of games. The K - 2 students will be at the Mayes Elementary playground, and 3rd - 6th grade students will be at the KC Park. The Field Day takes place from 12:00 noon until 2:15 p.m. A flyer will be coming home with details and a request for volunteers. Your help would be greatly appreciated as it takes many hands to make this a fun event for the students. Please call the Mayes Elementary office at 644-2740 or St. Joseph the Worker office at 644-3970 if you have any questions.

Summer Basketball Camp

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.

Choices Count! Assembly

On March 23, a national Character Counts touring group called Primary Focus performed two musical assemblies for Mayes Elementary and Beal City Junior High School students. The assemblies and classroom workshops promoted the "Six Pillars of Character" through song and exceptional performances entitled, "Choices Count". The assemblies and workshops were made possible by funding from the Character Counts! Coalition branch of the Michigan State Extension Service and Mayes Elementary School. Our thanks to Vera Wiltsie and Arlene Cleveland, coalition members, for bringing this high-energy group of performers to our school!



CAMP HAYO-WENT-HA HERE WE COME!

Mayes Elementary 4th, 5th, and 6th graders will be leaving for Camp Hayo-Went-Ha on May 4 and returning on May 8. This outdoor educational experience has been a popular field trip for Mayes Elementary students for many years. Students are asked NOT to bring camp luggage on the school bus. All camp items should be dropped off at school by parents. There is no expense to the district for this endeavor. All money is secured through fundraising activities and/or parents paying for a portion of the trip. We would like to thank the PTO for their generous contribution of \$25 per student to help defray some of the expense involved with attending Camp. If you have any questions regarding Camp, please call the elementary office at 644-2740.

Strike Up The Band! Aggie Musicians Bring Home Accolades

The past two months have been extremely busy in the Beal City Band program! Our kids have been preparing in the classroom and at home and performing at various locales in the Mid-Michigan area. We cannot be more proud of our students in the many ways they have represented Beal City! Consider the following list of activities and performances our students have undertaken:

- Fri, Feb 13 CMU Jazz Weekend - Jazz Band
- Sat, Feb 21 MSBOA HS Solo & Ensemble Festival
Saxophone Quartet - Jackie Bliss, Zach Brown, Michael Murphy, Kalia Schafer - First Division
Clarinet Duet - Kalia Schafer, Clay Vogel - Second Division
Clarinet Trio - Eileen Cotter, Emily Smith, Clay Vogel - Third Division
Percussion Solo - Adam Schafer - Third Division
Percussion Ensemble - Brittany Bliss, Sean Massey, Adam Schafer, Andrew Schafer, Mirinda Sides, Emily Smith - First Division
- Sun, Feb 22 Festival Winds Concerts - 6th Grade Band - Clinician: Carl Gippert, St Clair Comm. Coll.
Jazz Band
Middle School Band
Concert Band
- Fri, Mar 20 MSBOA Concert Band Festival - Middle School Band - Second Division
Concert Band - Second Division
- Sat, Mar 28 MSBOA State HS Solo & Ensemble Festival
Saxophone Quartet - Jackie Bliss, Zach Brown, Jacob Christensen, Kalia Schafer - Second Division
Percussion Ensemble - Brittany Bliss, Nicole, Garrett, Sean Massey, Adam Schafer, Andrew Schafer, Emily Smith
Second Division
- Sat, Apr 18 MSBOA MS Solo & Ensemble Festival
Tenor Sax - Horn Duet - Aleah Bierschbach, Melanie Schafer - Second Division
Flute - Clarinet Duet - Larissa Schwerin, Hannah Neyer - Third Division
Flute - Alto Sax Duet - Alexis Thompson, Samantha Esch - Third Division
Brass Trio - Kaitlynn Frayre, Melanie Schafer, Patrick Schafer - Second Division

This season marked a couple of firsts for the Beal City Bands as well –

1. The first students to participate and medal in Middle School Solo & Ensemble Festival
2. The first students to be eligible and medal for State High School Solo & Ensemble Festival

Whether our students were in Owosso, Mt. Pleasant, Perry, Okemos, Alma or our own gym for concerts and athletic contests, great performances with outstanding effort were given by each of our students. Be certain to congratulate any and all of our Beal City Band members for representing our school with superior musicianship and outstanding character!

Mark Sunday, May 17 – 4PM on your calendar to hear all these outstanding musicians at the Spring Awards Concert!

It is a great day to be an Aggie musician!



Class Builds Tables

The Beal City Shop Class made tables for the new building at the Township Park. The materials were provided by the Township.

MENU

May 25 - 29, 2009

May 11 - 15, 2009

Monday – Breakfast – cinnamon glazed french toast, cheese stick, granola bar, donut, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – Pizza King/ham pizza, cheese-filled breadstick, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Tuesday – Breakfast – egg/cheese omelet, hash brown, muffin, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – grilled hot dogs, french fries, dessert, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Wednesday – Breakfast – pretzel/cheese, muffin, yogurt, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – goulash or chicken patty/bun, garlic bread, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Thursday – Breakfast – breakfast pizza, cheese stick, granola bar, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – chicken nuggets or hamburger/bun, hot vegetable, dinner roll, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Friday – Breakfast – egg and sausage on a biscuit, muffin, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – nachos/meat and cheese or totally tacos, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, salad bar, fruit and milk.

May 18 - 22, 2009

Monday – Breakfast – waffle sticks, muffin, yogurt, donut, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – pizza, cheese-filled breadstick, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Tuesday – Breakfast – scrambled eggs/ham, hash brown, muffin, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – popcorn chicken or baked potato, hot vegetable, dinner roll, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Wednesday – Breakfast – pretzel/cheese, muffin, yogurt, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – sausage gravy/biscuit or egg cheese omelet, hash brown, bagels, fruit bar and milk.

Thursday – Breakfast – bagel sausage pizza, cheese stick, granola bar, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – cooks choice, dessert, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Friday – Breakfast – hot pocket, yogurt, muffin, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – grilled cheese sandwich or fish/bun, tomato soup, salad bar, fruit and milk.



Monday – NO SCHOOL – MEMORIAL DAY
Tuesday – Breakfast – egg/cheese omelet, hash brown, muffin, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – beef stew/biscuit or corn dog nuggets, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Wednesday – Breakfast – pretzel/cheese, muffin, yogurt, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – chicken strips or chili, cornmeal muffins, hot vegetable, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Thursday – Breakfast – breakfast pizza, cheese stick, granola bar, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – cooks choice, dessert, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Friday – Breakfast – sausage gravy/biscuit, cheese stick muffin, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – port patty/bun or chicken parmesan, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, salad bar, fruit and milk.

June 1 - 5, 2009

Monday – Breakfast – oatmeal, cheese stick, granola bar, donut, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – Pizza King/ham pizza, cheese filled breadstick, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Tuesday – Breakfast – scrambled eggs/ham, hash brown, muffin, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – chicken nuggets or burrito, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Wednesday – Breakfast – pretzel/cheese, granola bar, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – brunch, hash brown, bagels, muffin, fruit bar and milk.

Thursday – Breakfast – bagel sausage pizza, cheese stick, granola bar, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – cooks choice, dessert, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Friday – Breakfast – egg and sausage on a bagel, muffin, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. Lunch – HALF DAY – LAST DAY – NO LUNCH – ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!!!

Menus are subject to change, and no child shall be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap.

Have a Great
Summer Break