



The Aggie Express

A publication of the Beal City Public Schools

www.bealcityschools.net

October, 2010

Beal City Bands – "... in harmony with the home and community ..."

Music is being made at all hours of the day it seems – and your student might be a part of it all! Next to join the fun: 6th Grade!

Mr. Blonairczyk's class, Ms. Schafer's class, and Ms. Wentworth's class were invited to the band room Monday, September 20 at 2:05 p.m. to start the journey into the world of performing music! If you missed the first day, do not panic! Get in touch with Mr. Lowe and have your student come during regularly-scheduled band times to find out how he or she can be a part of the musical excitement!

Marshall Music should have visited you in-home to determine what band instrument your student is interested in learning. If this has not happened, please let Mr. Lowe know as soon as possible at 644-3944 or via e-mail: jason@lowe-net.us.

Thank you to the Beal City Schools community! During our recent Bottle & Can Drive, our students collected 7,597 bottles and cans. That means an extra \$759.70 goes toward individualized instruction, student scholarships and clinicians during the 2010-11 school year. Thank you for your generosity! If we missed you and you would still like to contribute to the good things happening, please feel free to drop off your bottles and/or cans at the band room!

Cookie Dough Sales are coming! Look for your local band student starting on Monday, October 4 - Our Annual Cookie Dough Sale begins! If cookies aren't your thing, you can purchase a magazine subscription - or add to an existing subscription through our fundraiser. All proceeds go back to benefit students in the Beal City Bands - off-setting supply costs, individualized instruction and student scholarships. Thank you in advance for your support!

Hear our bands in concert for the first time in the 2010-11 school year!

Spook-tacular – Sunday, October 31 – 4PM in the Elementary Gymnatorium

Jason Lowe

Beal City Bands

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

October 4, Monday

PTO Meeting, 6:30 pm in Title Classroom

October 29, Friday

Elementary Halloween Parties

October 30, Saturday

PTO Family Walk-a-thon, 10:00 am – Noon at
High school track



Mrs. Jenny Davis

A big Beal City welcome to Mrs. Jenny Davis, our new first grade teacher. She has had several long-term substitute teaching positions in Mt. Pleasant and Shepherd Schools. Mrs. Davis spent the 2009-2010 school year as a third grade sub. She also subbed long-term in a 1st/2nd grade split classroom a couple of different times. As an At-Risk Paraprofessional, tutor, and summer school teacher, she remediated literacy skills of elementary students. Mrs. Davis graduated from CMU

with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and is currently working on her Master's degree in Education.

Prior to her teaching assignment at Beal City, Mrs. Davis was a stay-at-home Mom to her three children. Dustin will be a second grader this year at Mayes Elementary School. Isabelle and Landon are both preschool age. Mrs. Davis and her husband Mitch, an accountant at Dow Chemical, also have a family dog named Katie.

Mrs. Davis has many interests. Her favorite foods are pizza and spaghetti. She likes to kayak in her spare time. Skippy-Jon-Jones, Geronimo Stillton, and Magic School Bus are children's books she particularly enjoys. Purple and pink are her favorite colors.

The highlights of her year so far are the arrival of her first niece and accepting the teaching job at Beal.

Feature Staff Members

Mrs. Angie Henry

Beal City Schools is pleased to introduce Angie Henry as our new Art/Enrichment Teacher. Angie comes to us from Renaissance School where she has worked the last four years as an Art Teacher for grades K-8. Angie's husband, Brad, is a Phys Ed. Teacher and Assistant Principal at Morey Charter Schools and the head girls basketball coach at Mid Michigan Community College.

They have two pets: a cat named Luna and a dog named Rocky.

Angie attended Western Michigan University and Central Michigan University where she received a BA in Art Education with a minor in English. She is planning on getting her masters degree in Art.

Angie's favorite foods are tacos, pizza and macaroni and cheese. She likes any and all kinds of music and enjoys scrapbooking, painting and reading. Her favorite book is Twilight!

Angie and Brad enjoy camping and for their 5th wedding anniversary they camped for 10 days in Copper Harbor. Angie is looking forward to starting her new adventure at Beal City, meeting the students and their families, and becoming a part of the community.



Mrs Dawn Smith

Beal City Schools would like to introduce Dawn Smith as our new Food Service Worker. Dawn and her husband, Scott, are natives of Beal City and both graduated from Beal City Schools. Scott is a mechanic, and they have been married for 25 years. They have 5 children who have all graduated or will graduate from Beal City Schools. TJ is 25 years old and is in the process of getting her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. Stephanie is 21, lives in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and is working on her Bachelors Degree. Lilah, 19, is a sophomore at CMU, and Cicily and Olivia are both in school here at Beal City. Cicily is 16 years old and a Junior, and Olivia is 15 and a Sophomore. They have a dog named Hogan and two cats named Cleo and Deisel.



Dawn is a homemaker and a Freelance artist and has been a caregiver to those in need. She was also a sub in the kitchen last year and is looking forward to being here full time.

Dawn enjoys drawing, painting, sewing and Genealogy. Her favorite books are the Abrams Daughters Series and any books about the old pioneers. Her favorite food is strawberries and her favorite sport is Volleyball: Go Lady Aggies! She also enjoys many genres of music. The music she cherishes the most is that of her late father Myron Esch. Other favorites are; Alison Kraus, Louis Armstrong, Aerosmith, Bob Seger and Enya. She loves to laugh and spend time with her family and friends, along with listening to music and singing, although she says, "I seldom get the lyrics right." Other interests include taking long walks in the woods as well as scrapbooking and reading.

Their family will be moving into Scott's childhood home in the spring, and the preparations for this move have consumed most of their time this year. Being hired to help in the kitchen at Beal City Schools is one of her highlights of the year. Dawn says that "Marci, Melinda, Brenda and Jodi are fun to work with and the staff and administration have been wonderful and have made her feel very welcome."

Dawn hopes to finish the work she has started on a couple of children's books she is writing and illustrating as well as having more time to paint and draw. She is also looking forward to spending more time with her husband, traveling, and having grandchildren in the future.

Ms. Katie Pickler

Mayes Elementary School is excited to have Ms. Katie Pickler as a member of our staff this year in our kindergarten classroom. She started the 2009-2010 school year off as a long term substitute teacher for Mrs. Leff-Ewing here in Beal City. She was then hired by Renaissance Public School Academy as a kindergarten paraprofessional and long term sub in both the Title 1 and kindergarten classrooms. Ms. Pickler was also the kindergarten summer school teacher at Renaissance. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Education at CMU with a major in language arts and a minor in math with a ZA Early Childhood endorsement. Plans for the future include finishing her Master's degree in Early Childhood Education at CMU.

Ms. Pickler has a wide variety of interests. Pizza is her favorite food, and she particularly enjoys basketball.



Outdoors she can be found water skiing, tubing, boating and camping. Quilting, scrapbooking, and working out are hobbies that Ms. Pickler also enjoys.

Ms. Pickler loves to travel. She studied abroad in Ireland and went back there on vacation following her graduation from CMU. During spring break, she took a road trip to the Florida Keys with her boyfriend, Jason Hull, an IT Technician. Ms. Pickler has also been on an Alaskan and Caribbean cruise.

The highlight of Ms. Pickler's year is being hired to teach in Beal City. She loves the atmosphere in Beal City and is very excited to start teaching kindergarten as part of the Beal City staff.



Mayes Elementary Students Contribute to the future Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum

There is a local effort to open a hands-on children's museum called the Mt Pleasant Discovery Museum (MPDM). Educators in 6 counties (Isabella, Gratiot, Montcalm, Mecosta, Clare, and Midland) were invited last spring to help the effort to raise money through their classrooms and submit stories about magnetism.

Last June, 18 Beal City Kindergartners from Mrs. Leff-Ewing's class were given the opportunity to take a field trip as a result of monies they raised. Mrs. Leff-Ewing's class raised \$600 -- they raised \$100 through a Friday popcorn sale, then that amount was matched by Mrs. Leff-Ewing and her husband, and then a local matching grant through the Morey Foundation turned that \$200 into \$600 (\$2/\$1 for schools and churches and \$1/\$1 for individuals, businesses, corporations, and foundations). Last year's fourth graders in Mr. Klapp's class submitted magnetism stories, and those stories were turned into a book on magnetism.

In celebration of 5 year olds making such a significant contribution, the Board of Directors for MPDM chose to invite the students on a day of adventure in an effort to put together a video about real people raising money to be shown throughout the 6 counties. Students/Chaperones visited the free temporary exhibit on magnetism at Rowe Hall off Bellows on CMU's campus at the Museum of Cultural and Natural History then went to "build a children's museum" out of cardboard boxes near Morey Courts - where the museum will likely be built - and then played on the indoor courts and celebrated local food at Green Tree Cooperative Grocery on the way home. Hartzler Transportation even donated a charter bus for us! It was a wonderful day, and the entire thing was donated by these local organizations.



The free temporary exhibit on magnetism is located on CMU's campus in Rowe Hall/Museum of Cultural and Natural History. It is open to the public through December 2010. Additional museum information is available at www.mpdiscoverymuseum.org.

**Visit the Beal City Web Page
at
www.bealcityschools.net**

CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS, BOX TOPS & SUNNY D

What do all three of these have in common? They are very easy, helpful ways to raise much needed funds for school. Please save your Campbell Soup labels and Box Tops for Education to help Mayes Elementary "buy" needed school items. You can send them to the elementary office. Information and a list of eligible products for either program can be found at www.labelsforeducation.com (click on "about the program") or www.boxtops4education.com (click on "all about box tops"). Information on raising funds through "Sunny D" will be sent home soon with our October newsletter. In short, the "Sunny D Book Spree" program will donate 20 books to every classroom that sends in 20 Sunny D UPC labels. Thanks to all who take the time to send in these labels to help our school!

MEAP Testing

It's that time of year again! MEAP (Michigan Education Assessment Program) testing for students in grades 3 – 9 will begin on Tuesday, October 12 and end on Friday, October 29. It is very important for your child to be in attendance during the entire school year, but especially during MEAP testing dates. Certain subject tests are given ONLY on certain days. We also need to have all tests completed and shipped off on time or face late fees. Please observe the following suggestions to help insure your child's success:

- Put them to bed – sleepy children have a tough time succeeding academically. For most school children, 10 hours of sleep every night is best.
- Serve "Brain Food" – a healthy breakfast helps to fuel the brain. Food high in fat or sugar does NOT provide the nutrients children need to do their best.
- Encourage, don't pressure – too much pressure can cause test anxiety.
- Aim HIGH – encourage children to do their best and help them believe that they will do well.

REPORT CARD MAILINGS CHANGE

In an attempt to save on mailing costs, Mayes Elementary School will NOT be mailing all report cards home this year. Report cards for fourth through sixth grade students will still be mailed home to ensure that they arrive in a timely fashion. Kindergarten through third grade report cards will be mailed home ONLY after the LAST marking period. After the first, second, and third marking periods the K-3 report cards will be given to parents during Parent-Teacher Conferences or sent home in the child's Friday Folder. If you have any questions regarding elementary report cards, please call the office at 644-2740.

PTO

The next meeting of the PTO will take place Monday, October 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the Title classroom at Mayes Elementary. ALL parents are invited to join this dynamic and very active group.

New A/B Honor Roll

Continuing our emphasis on excellence in education, Mayes Elementary staff decided to implement an A/B Honor Roll to recognize the outstanding academic efforts of our fifth and sixth graders this year. Starting with the first marking period, any fifth or sixth grader receiving all As, all Bs, or a combination of As and Bs on their report card will be recognized in the Aggie Express. These students will also receive a letter from the principal's office noting this excellent achievement as well. The A/B Honor Roll will continue to be published at the end of each marking period.

National School Lunch

It's National School Lunch week October 11-15! Come and join the café staff for lunch to try our special choices for the week! Monday: Champion chicken-and-orange-rice, Tuesday: Say "Cheese" cheesy steak sandwich, Wednesday: Step-it-up with spaghetti and meat sauce, Thursday: Action-packed chicken fajita, Friday: Reach-your-peak whole-grain pepperoni pizza. Come in and check out our wonderful school Lunch!!

MENU

Oct. 4 - 8, 2010

Monday: Breakfast – french toast sticks, cheese stick, granola bar, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – Big Daddy’s cheese pizza, breadstick, salad bar, fruit, juice or milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast – egg and sausage on a bagel, muffin, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – macaroni & cheese or bbq beef/bun, hot vegetable, dinner roll, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast – egg/cheese omelet, hash brown, muffin, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – breakfast pizza 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**: nachos/meat and cheese or totally tacos, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Friday: Breakfast – pretzel/cheese, muffin, yogurt, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch**: scalloped potatoes/ham or chicken patty/bun, dessert, dinner roll, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Oct. 11 - 15, 2010

National School Lunch Week...Reach your peak with school lunch!!

Monday: Breakfast – cinnamon roll, yogurt, muffin, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – Champion Chicken-And-Orange Rice or baked potato, egg roll, hot vegetable, fortune cookie, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast – sausage gravy/biscuit, cheese stick, muffin, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – Say “Cheese” Cheesy Steak Sandwich or corn dog nuggets, sweet potato fries, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast – mini pancakes, yogurt, cinnamon roll, granola bar, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – Step-It-Up spaghetti with meat sauce or chicken Caesar salad, wheat roll, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast – breakfast pizza, cheese stick, granola bar, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – Action-Packed Chicken Fajita or taco, California vegetable blend, wheat roll, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Friday: Breakfast – oatmeal, sausage links, cinnamon roll, granola bar, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – Reach-Your-Peak Whole-Grain Pepperoni Pizza, broccoli, dessert, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Oct. 18 - 22, 2010

Monday: Breakfast – french toast sticks, cheese stick, granola bar, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – stuffed crust pepperoni 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** – chicken strips or chili, cornmeal muffins, hot vegetable, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast - egg and sausage on a bagel, muffin, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – french toast sticks or sausage gravy/biscuit, hash brown, bagels, fruit bar and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast – bagel sausage pizza, cheese stick, granola bar, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – hot turkey sandwich with mashed potatoes and gravy or meat sub, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Friday: Breakfast – pretzel/cheese, muffin, yogurt, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – hot dog/bun or sloppy jo/bun, dessert, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Oct. 25 - 29, 2010

Monday: Breakfast – cinnamon roll, yogurt, muffin, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – chicken nuggets or peanut butter & jelly sandwich, dinner roll, french fries, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast – sausage gravy/biscuit, cheese stick, muffin, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – Turkey BLT wrap or ham sandwich, bowl of soup, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast – mini pancakes, yogurt, cinnamon roll, granola bar, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – salisbury steak/mashed potatoes/gravy or pork patty/bun, dinner roll, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast – breakfast pizza, cheese stick, granola bar, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – grilled cheese sandwich or fish/bun, tomato soup, salad bar, fruit and milk.

Friday: Breakfast – oatmeal, sausage links, granola bar, cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – beef stew/biscuit or chicken parmesan, peanut butter & jelly sandwich, cinnamon tasties, salad bar, fruit and milk.

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