



# The Aggie Express

A publication of the Beal City Public Schools

[www.bealcityschools.net](http://www.bealcityschools.net)

September, 2011

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Dear Students and Parents of Beal City Public Schools:

Welcome to Beal City Public Schools for the 2011-2012 school year. This year will be an outstanding opportunity for each of us to contribute toward elevating our school to one of the best in the state. Your commitment to this is critically important. A school's curriculum and programs can only be effective with the combined support and effort of the students, parents, staff and the community.

We are fortunate to have a beautiful facility that you must have respect for and take pride in. Our staff is caring, dedicated and experienced. You must provide the final and most important components (below) to ensure that teaching and learning does not stop here at Beal City Public Schools.

Students – as you begin each day, please do the following:

- Be FAIR, Use COMMON SENSE, good CITIZENSHIP to conduct yourselves as ladies and gentlemen at all times.
- Be CARING and set high expectations and standards for yourself. Be willing and ready to LEARN.
- Treat others, as you would like to be treated, with RESPECT.
- Be willing to accept RESPONSIBILITY for your actions & your education.
- Be HONEST and TRUSTWORTHY with yourself and others.

Parents – as your child begins each day, please do the following:

- Give them LOVE.
- Give them support and encouragement.
- Teach them about the above components.
- Teach them how to achieve the above components.
- Be there for them.

If you have any questions, comments, and/or concerns please feel free to contact me by phone at 989-644-3901 or by email at [wchilman@edzone.net](mailto:wchilman@edzone.net).

Good Luck and Have a Great Year!

With “Aggie” Pride,

William C. Chilman IV, Superintendent  
Beal City Public School, Go Aggies

**Beal City Schools would like to welcome five new staff members who will be joining us this year: Jason Wolf will be our Elementary Principal, Veena Cole is our new Kindergarten Teacher, Carrie Bass will be a para-pro, Donna Horsley will be our new Media Center Aide, and Melissa Hall will be working in the kitchen. We are excited to have these new staff people on board and are looking forward to a great school year.**

### **Teamwork in Settlement of Teachers' Contract**

The Beal City Public Schools Board of Education and the Beal City Education Association have settled a two year contract that will not expire until June 30, 2013. These were tough negotiations during some extremely tough economic times in our school, the state, and the nation. Cool heads, calm hearts and teamwork were the ingredients that helped settle the contract.

We know that the school calendar is important to students, parents, and community members, so with this settled contract we can provide you with this year's school calendar. Next year's calendar is available upon request.

### **Beal City Public Schools Calendar 2011-2012**

September 6	First Day of School with students -Full Day
November 4	End of 1st Marking Period A.M. Student Half Day; P.M. Teacher Work Day
November 10	No school for students – K-12 Parent Teacher Conferences 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Lunch 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.
November 15	No School - Deer Day
November 24 & 25	Thanksgiving Break
December 23- January 2	Winter Break
January 20	End of 1st Semester A.M. Student Half Day; P.M. Teacher Work Day
February 20	President's Day - No school
March 1	Evening K-12 Parent Teacher Conferences 5:00-8:00 P.M.
March 30	End of 3rd Marking Period A.M. Student Half Day; P.M. Teacher Work Day
April 2-6	Spring Break -Good Friday
May 28	No School - Memorial Day Observance
June 7	Last Day of School - End of 2nd Semester A.M. Student Half Day; P.M. Teacher Work Day

Dear Students and Parents:

The Beal City Board Of Education passed a policy that requires all students to complete a required number of hours of community service in order to receive their Diploma. All students graduating from Beal City High School will need to complete 40 hours of community service to graduate.

The Board has defined community service as “an act of assistance or benefit to another or others.” Service can be given to non-profit organizations, individuals, or groups in need of assistance. Students may begin their community service once they have completed 8th grade.

Service that does not qualify:

- Paid or stipend service
- Service done for academic credit
- Fundraising benefiting a school club
- Service benefiting a family member
- Involvement in athletics and extra-curricular activities

The community service form may be picked up in the H.S. office. The completed form must be submitted to the counselor by April 30th of their senior year. Parent and student signatures must be included to confirm accuracy of the community service activities.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (989) 644-3944.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Jackson  
Principal  
Beal City M.S. / H.S.

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Dear 2011/2012 Vocational Education Students:

You have registered for a Vocational class from the Mt. Pleasant Area Technical Center for the 2011/2012 school year. Transportation from Beal City High School to the Tech Center in Mt. Pleasant and back to Beal City will be provided for you, each day. All vocational education students MUST use school provided transportation, unless PRIOR written verification or fax is APPROVED by the administration in advance for SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES (e.g. Dr. appt., Funeral, etc.). Permission slips will be available in the High School office for special circumstances, and will need to be AUTHORIZED before you provide your own transportation.

The students will be leaving Beal City at 12:00p.m. Students will be provided the opportunity to eat lunch at Beal City Schools before leaving for Mt. Pleasant. Please make sure you are on time for departure from both Beal City and Mt. Pleasant. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Have a wonderful experience at the MPATC.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Jackson  
H.S. Principal  
Beal City Public Schools  
(989) 644-3944

## Transportation Procedures

It is the policy of Beal City Public Schools not to allow students in kindergarten, first, second, and third grades to be dropped off at a bus stop unless there is a parent, older sibling or caregiver visible. This includes the student's home address, as well as, group stops such as the Weidman Bait Shop and the Jordan Trailer Park. Children under fourth grade must have a parent or an identified replacement (older sibling or caregiver) present when the student is dropped off. If there is not an acceptable person in view at the stop, the student will be returned to the school where they are to be picked up before 4:00 p.m. The student will be brought into the Superintendent's Office by the bus driver and will not be allowed to leave until the sign out sheet has been signed by the caregiver who is picking them up. Bus drivers will no longer be accommodating parents by meeting them along the route. The changes in this policy will be strictly enforced as we feel it is vital for the safety of our young children that we work with each family to ensure they are not left unattended.

1st offense – written warning

2nd offense – one week loss of transportation and mandatory meeting with the Transportation Director and Principal.

3rd offense – one month loss of transportation and mandatory meeting with the Transportation Director and Principal

4th offense – loss of transportation for the remainder of the year.

Extreme emergencies may be excused. Documentation may be required. Any change in destination after school must be written on a bus pass and given to the child's teacher and/or building principal. In case of any emergency, contact the appropriate office:

Mayes Elementary	644-2740
Beal City High School	644-3944
St Joseph the Worker	644-3970

The Aggie Archery Club & YSU are hosting an Archery Competition/Fundraiser for the Beal City Band Program. The Fundraiser will take place at the school's Cross Country Course with 30 – 3D targets. The fundraiser will be on September 17, 2011 with shoots at 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. There will be hot dogs and beverages between shoots. The cost is \$5.00 per person.

Please take notice that the handicapped parking spots have been moved for easier access to the ramp at the end of the sidewalk for wheelchair access to the school.

Act 399 PA Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act R325.10416 Beal City Schools. To all faculty, staff, students, and parents/legal guardians: Beal City Public Schools has a water sampling compliance available for review in the Administration Office. Please contact John Graham to review it.

## Notice of Nondiscrimination and Grievance Procedures

The Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, marital status, or handicap in the admission to, access to, participation in, benefits of, or employment in its programs or activities as provided by district policy and in compliance with federal and state law.

Further, it is the policy of this District to provide an equal opportunity for all students, regardless of race, color, creed, age, disability, religion, gender, ancestry, national origin, place of residence within the boundaries of the District, or social or economic background to learn enough through the curriculum offered in this district.

Any person who believes that s/he has been discriminated against or denied access to programs or services may file a complaint which shall be referred to as a grievance with the District's Civil Rights Compliance Officer, William C Chilman IV at 644-3901, or emailing him at [wchilman@edzone.net](mailto:wchilman@edzone.net).

## Communicable Disease and Pest Policy

In keeping with the Michigan School Head Lice Prevention and Control Policy, a section of the elementary student handbook regarding lice, states that we do not do pre-planned "all school" head lice checks. Any student with live lice may remain in school until the end of the school day. Children will be allowed to ride the school bus home. Immediate treatment at home is advised. The student will be re-admitted to school after treatment and examination. If, upon examination, school personnel find no live lice on the child, the child may re-enter school. Parents should remove nits daily and treat if live lice are observed. When a member of the school staff suspects a child is infested with head lice, there are specific procedures that will be followed. This policy has been approved by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) and the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). If you have any questions regarding this policy, please consult the student handbook or call the elementary office at 644-2740.

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

ENCOURAGE, TEACH, SUPPORT-- Ways parents can encourage their children to do well in school

**SENSE OF BELONGING:** This is number one. Children need to feel they are a needed member of a group. Do things together as a family, and enroll the kids in after-school activities. Kids want to go to school, and see the value in school when they have a feeling of community, both at home and at school.

**KIDS NEED HEROES:** Children need one or two respectful, supportive people in their lives that they can look up to and admire and who influence their lives for the better. How about Mom and Dad?

**SENSE OF ACHIEVEMENT AND ACCOMPLISHMENT:** It's very important in the encouragement of children to recognize and appreciate the small steps children make daily, as well as the accomplishments the larger goals they've achieved.

**FUN AND EXCITEMENT:** Keep learning exciting. Send kids off to school in the mornings with a hug and kiss and a word of encouragement, instead of a negative, nagging, parental lecture on what they've done wrong. Enjoyment and fun in the learning process keeps kids coming back for more.

**CURIOSITY AND CREATIVITY:** Keep the wonders of childhood discovery, inquisitiveness and enthusiasm alive. Nourish and participate in the joy of learning that kids are born with.

**INSTILLING A SENSE OF ADVENTURE:** Adventure is what childhood is all about. Supporting children in healthy risk-taking and learning from their successes and failures keeps learning exciting and relevant for children.

**LEADERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITY:** The ability to make wise decisions in one's life and to accept the consequences are skills children need to learn. Teach kids how to make wise choices in life, so they're able to grow in their personal responsibility.

**CONFIDENCE TO TAKE ACTION:** Exuding self-confidence shows kids how to have confidence in themselves. Show that you have confidence in your child's ability to be successful. Self-confidence and self-respect go hand in hand with setting and achieving one's goals.

Believing and participating in our children and their success is something all parents can begin today and practice

### **Pesticide Application Notification**

Beal City Public Schools utilizes an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to control pests. IPM is a pest management system that utilizes all suitable techniques in a total pest management system with the intent of preventing pests from reaching unacceptable levels or to reduce an existing population to an acceptable level.

Beal City Public Schools is required by state regulation 637 to ask if parents would like to be notified of any pesticide application that might be needed in their child's school during this school year. Pest control inspections for Beal City Public Schools are planned on a monthly basis. An insecticide application is only used when a problem is found at the property that cannot be corrected by other means than using insecticide. The inspections at Beal City Schools are scheduled on the 1st day of the month.

In certain emergencies, pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but parents will be provided notice following any such application. Precautions will always be taken to insure the safety of the students.

Should you have any questions or concerns about pest management within your child's school, please contact John Graham @ 644-3901.

There will be a Spaghetti Dinner and Archery Competition on Saturday, September 10, 2011 to help raise money for Deputy Brent Woodward. Deputy Woodward is Beal City School's liaison officer and on July 23rd he fell out of a tree while prepping for the upcoming bow season. He fractured the C1 & C2 vertebrae in his neck and has to wear a halo for the next few months.

Family and friends are having a benefit for Deputy Woodward here at Beal City Schools to cover medical costs. The bow shoot will be at 10:00 a.m. on the Cross Country Course and the dinner will go from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the school's cafeteria. Both events cost \$5.00 per person. There will be a silent auction during dinner and a 2011 PSE Brute Bow is being raffled off for \$5.00/ticket or 5 for \$20.00.

## **Board Briefs**

The following was approved at a regular board meeting on August 15, 2011:

- General Fund payments of \$321,401.53, Hot Lunch payments of \$95.97, Capital Projects/General Fund payments of \$46,080.65 Athletic Fund payments of \$1,323.86.
- The resignation of Diane Saltarelli as Elementary Principal.
- The recommendation to have Carrie Bass as an elementary para-pro.
- The recommendation to have Donna Horsley as Media Center Aide.
- The following coaching recommendation through PCMI: Erika Schulte – 7th Grade Volleyball.
- The following coaching recommendations as presented: Ryan Fussman – Voluntary Assistant Football, Stephanie Locke – Voluntary Assistant Cross Country, and Scott Barnes – Voluntary Assistant Cross Country.

## **7 RULES FOR PARENTS**

Drawing on the latest scientific studies of adolescents, Laurence Steinberg, a professor of psychology at Temple University, offers this advice for the parents of teens:

### **1. WHAT YOU DO MATTERS**

Many parents mistakenly believe that by the time children have become teenagers, there's nothing more a parent can do. Wrong. Studies clearly show that good parenting continues to help teenagers develop in healthy ways, stay out of trouble and do well in school.

### **2. YOU CAN'T BE TOO LOVING**

Don't hold back when it comes to pouring on the praise and showing physical affection. There is no evidence that adolescents are harmed by having parents who are unabashedly loving – as long as you don't embarrass them in front of their friends.

### **3. STAY INVOLVED**

Many parents who were actively involved in their child's life during the early years withdraw when their child becomes a teenager. This is a mistake. It's just as important for you to be involved now – maybe even more so. Participate in school programs. Get to know your child's friends. Spend time together.

### **4. ADAPT YOUR PARENTING**

Many parenting strategies that work at one age stop working at the next stage of development. As children get older, for example, their ability to reason improves dramatically, and they will challenge you if what you are asking doesn't make sense.

### **5. SET LIMITS**

The most important thing children need from their parents is love, but a close second is structure. Even teenagers need rules and limits. Be firm but fair. Relax your rules bit by bit as your child demonstrates more maturity. If he or she can't handle the freedom, tighten the reins and try again in a few months.

### **6. FOSTER INDEPENDENCE**

Many parents erroneously equate their teenager's drive for independence with rebelliousness, disobedience or disrespect. It's healthy for adolescents to push for autonomy. Give your children the psychological space they need to learn to be self-reliant, and resist the temptation to micromanage.

### **7. EXPLAIN YOUR DECISIONS**

Good parents have expectations, but in order for your teenager to live up to them, your rules and decisions have to be clear and appropriate. As your child becomes more adept at reasoning, it's no longer good enough to say "Because I said so."

# REPORT to PARENTS

RP 34:12

## The Power of Family Dinners

**Y**ou can help your children avoid substance abuse simply by having dinner with them on a regular basis. By routinely sharing a meal with your children you are creating a time and place where you can show your interest in—and they can open up about—what’s happening in their lives. And that’s the start of something good.



The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University has conducted more than a decade of research on the positive influence of families having regular dinners together. The findings are consistent: The more often you have dinner with your kids, the less likely they are to smoke, drink, or use drugs. Not only that, but kids who have regular family dinners are also more likely to get better grades, have better relationships with their parents, and avoid friends who smoke, drink, or use drugs.

The research has shown that teens who have fewer than three family dinners a week are more than twice as likely to say they expect to experiment with drugs compared with teens who have dinner with their families from five to seven times a week.

### **Time to Eat, Time to Talk**

Modern life is busy with parents and children going off in a dozen different directions. Family dinner can be the time and place where our lives intersect and when everyone can take a break from all the activity and interact. CASA and its Family Day project offer some guidelines on making family dinners successful.

### **Start early and encourage participation.**

Establish a regular pattern of family dinners when your children are young and encourage your children to participate in family meals by having them help create the menus and take part in preparing the meals.

### **Shut out distractions and talk.**

At the start of the meal, shut off distractions, including television and phones. Then during the meal, talk about such topics as what happened in each person’s day,

what’s going on in school, the day’s events at work, and current events from the news. Keep the conversations positive and supportive and make sure everyone gets a chance to talk.

**Establish routines.** To ensure meals together are a continuing part of family life, establish routines. Lighting candles might be a good way to signal the start of the meal, and telling a story can come at the end of a meal. After dinner, find ways to keep the conversation going by lingering over dessert or playing a board game together.

### **Family Day**

CASA’s Family Day—A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children™ is a national movement to inform parents “that the engagement fostered during frequent family dinners is an effective tool to help keep America’s kids substance free.” Family Day is celebrated on the fourth Monday in September. To learn more about CASA and Family Day, including tools and resources, visit [www.CASAFamilyDay.org](http://www.CASAFamilyDay.org).

This *Report to Parents* was developed by the National Association of Elementary School Principals in collaboration with the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University.



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# MENU

September 6 - 9, 2011

**Monday: No School – Labor Day**

**Tuesday: Breakfast** – french toast sticks or cereal, syrup, cheese stick, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – Big Daddy’s cheese pizza, breadstick, salad bar w/carrots, fruit, juice or milk.

**Wednesday: Breakfast** – granola bar or cereal, yogurt, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – breakfast pizza or scrambled eggs/ham, hash brown, bagels, fruit bar and milk.

**Thursday: Breakfast** – bagel sausage pizza or cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch** – nachos/meat and cheese or totally tacos, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, salad bar, fruit and milk.

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

September 12 - 16, 2011

**Monday: Breakfast** – cinnamon bun sticks with icing or cereal, syrup, cheese stick, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – chicken strips or beef/cheddar sub, hot vegetable, muffin, salad bar, fruit and milk.

**Tuesday: Breakfast** – sausage gravy/biscuit or cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch** - corn dog nuggets or hamburger/bun, confetti fries, salad bar, fruit and milk.

**Wednesday: Breakfast** – scrambled eggs/ham or cereal, hash brown, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – chicken quesadilla or chili cheese wrap, Mexican rice with black beans, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, salad bar, fruit and milk.

**Thursday: Breakfast** – breakfast pizza, or cereal, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – hot turkey sandwich with mashed potatoes and gravy or meat sub, salad bar, fruit and milk.

**Friday: Breakfast** – oatmeal or cereal, sausage links, juice and milk. **Lunch** – grilled cheese sandwich or fish/bun, tomato soup, salad bar, fruit and milk.

September 19 - 23, 2011

**Monday: Breakfast** –french toast sticks or cereal, syrup, cheese stick, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – stuffed crust pepperoni pizza, cheese-filled breadstick, salad bar w/carrots, fruit and milk.

**Tuesday: Breakfast** – egg and sausage on a bagel or cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch** – spaghetti or chicken Caesar salad, garlic bread, salad bar, fruit and milk.

**Wednesday: Breakfast** – granola bar or cereal, yogurt, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – french toast sticks or sausage gravy/ biscuit, hash brown, bagels, fruit bar and milk.

**Thursday: Breakfast** – bagel sausage pizza or cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch** – taco or chicken fajita, refried beans, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, salad bar, fruit and milk.

**Friday: Breakfast** – pretzel/cheese or cereal, juice and milk. **Lunch** – chili or baked potato, cornmeal muffins, hot vegetable, salad bar, fruit and milk.

September 26 - 30, 2011

**Monday: Breakfast** – cinnamon bun sticks w/icing or cereal, yogurt, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – tangerine chicken, rice, hot vegetable, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, fortune cookie, salad bar, fruit and milk.

**Tuesday: Breakfast** – sausage gravy/biscuit or cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch** – sloppy jo/bun or pork patty/bun, bowl of soup, pasta salad, salad bar, fruit and milk.

**Wednesday: Breakfast** – scrambled eggs/ham or cereal, hash brown, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – chicken nuggets/mashed potatoes/ gravy or ham/cheese sub, dinner roll, salad bar, fruit and milk.

**Thursday: Breakfast** – breakfast pizza or cereal, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – hot dog/bun or cheeseburger/bun, chips dessert, salad bar, fruit and milk.

**Friday: Breakfast** – oatmeal or cereal, sausage links, juice and milk. **Lunch** – beef stew/biscuit or popcorn chicken, muffin, salad bar, fruit and milk.

New healthy changes to our menu: All bread, pizza, tortilla shells and chicken breading are whole grain! Salad bar includes more fresh fruit, romaine lettuce with spinach and fresh vegetables! Confetti fries both sweet potato/regular, along with beans and different hot vegetables weekly! Menus are subject to change without notice.

## Breakfast is served:

The Beal City Public Schools offers a daily nutritious breakfast, following the guidelines of the USDA School Breakfast Program. Breakfast is served starting at 7:35 a.m.; the costs are \$1.20/full pay, \$0.30/reduced and \$1.75/adults. In the event of a delay, breakfast WILL NOT be served. Breakfast includes four items from different food groups; students may take all four but must take three to receive a full breakfast.