



The Aggie Express

A publication of the Beal City Public Schools

www.bealcityschools.net

January, 2012

School Board Leaders Honored in January

As citizen leaders, individual school board members face complex and demanding challenges. They are alternately described as having the most important volunteer jobs in the country and facing the toughest challenge in elected American government. Yet school board members are just ordinary citizens with extraordinary dedication to our nation's public schools. All Michigan citizens should recognize the vital contributions of these men and women and the crucial role they play in the education of our children.

Public education is the backbone of American society, and local school boards are deeply rooted in U.S. tradition. It's the foundation on which our democracy was built. Today local school boards continue to do the most important work of their communities-that of educating our youth.

Their job is to establish a vision for the education program, design a structure to achieve that vision, ensure schools are accountable to the community and strongly advocate for continuous improvement in student learning. The job of a school board member is tough, the hours long, and the thanks few and far between. Too often we're quick to criticize school board members without really understanding the complex nature of their decisions. Now's the time to thank them for their untiring efforts.

School board members come from a variety of backgrounds, yet they share a common goal – helping students achieve in school and life. As a state, Michigan has faced many challenges, but the key to a brighter future is a strong public education system.

The month of January marks the annual observance of School Board Recognition Month. This is a time to show our appreciation and begin to better understand how local trustees work together to prepare today's students to be tomorrow's leaders. In January, join with others from throughout our district and state to salute the men and women who provide grassroots governance of public schools.

Rod Cole, Jane Finnerty and Kari Rojas were re-elected during November's election. Ron Neyer was newly elected and will start his first term this month. We would like to thank Frank Fox for his years of service and his dedication to Beal City Public Schools.

The men and women serving Beal City Public Schools and their years of service are:

Terry Hutchinson	11 years
Robert Pasch	9 years
Kari Rojas	6 years
Rod Cole	6 years
Denise McBride	4 years
Jane Finnerty	2 years
Ron Neyer	Newly Elected



Poster Contest Winners

Congratulations to Angel Sian, a junior at Beal City High School, for placing 3rd in the Talent Show Poster Contest sponsored by the Morey Foundation. Mount Pleasant, Sacred Heart, Shepherd and Beal City were allowed to submit three posters that would be a billboard for the 8th annual Isabella County Talent Show that is happening in February. The art reach board, community and Morey Foundation all voted and judged the posters on various objectives. In winning 3rd place Angel received a check for \$50.00. Sara Schafer and Anna Reihl also entered the contest and because of their hard work the Beal City's Art Department won 2nd overall, receiving a check to be used for art supplies in the amount to \$2500.00. The posters will be on display at the 8th Annual Talent Contest, which will be held on February 24th at Sacred Heart Academy. Way to go girls!!

Christmas Outreach Thank You!

A big THANK YOU to Mayes Elementary families, community and staff members for donating items for Christmas Outreach stockings! The toys, clothing and personal items were very much needed and added holiday cheer to many homes that otherwise would not have much to celebrate, especially in this time of need.

Emergency Information

Please notify the school offices immediately if your address, phone number(s) or emergency contacts have changed since the beginning of the school year. It is especially distressing for a sick or injured child to wait in the office for prolonged periods of time due to disconnected phones or contact people that have moved. Likewise, it puts the school in a precarious position when a person not listed on the form attempts to pick your child up from school only to be told they cannot do so. Call the elementary office at 644-2740 or the Jr./Sr. High Office at 644-3944 to update your child's emergency information form. Your child and the school greatly appreciate your assistance with this request.

Santa's Shop

There were lots of Santa's elves scurrying across the gym stage making last minute purchases on December 14th. Students were clutching many lists and checking them twice with the help of our terrific PTA. We appreciate the PTA providing the gift items and volunteers to assist students with making these very special purchases.



Elementary GOLD Medalists of the Month

FRONT ROW (L-R) Kayden Cotter (2nd) son of Amber and Chad Cotter, Braden Chippewa (Kdg.) son of Erin and Ryan Chippewa, and Madison Calkins (1st) daughter of Lori and Raymond Calkins. BACK ROW (L-R) Jose Hernandez (4th) son of Cozann and Rafael Hernandez, Matt Oswald (3rd) son of Jenny and Justin Oswald, and Jourdyn Armstrong (5th) daughter of Andrea and Brad Armstrong. Not in picture, Emma Licina (6th) daughter of Cari and Dzevad Licina. These seven students were chosen by their grade level teachers as the November Gold Medalists of the Month. They not only showed great effort and enthusiasm in the classroom, but they also demonstrated positive character traits and were model students. For being selected for this award, each student received a certificate, a pencil, and a gold medal. Congratulations to our Outstanding Students!!

A Very Merry Christmas THANK YOU!

The 2nd graders of Mrs. Smith's class would like to send out a huge "THANK YOU" to C&C Enterprises, Inc. for their generous donation of knit gloves. The students used the gloves to make these adorable Santa Glove Christmas decorations! Donations like this help the teachers tremendously. Especially around the holidays!! Thanks again, C&C!!

Board Briefs

The following was approved at a regular board meeting on December 17, 2012:

- General Fund payments of \$312,203.99, Hot Lunch payments of \$15,291.77, Capital Projects/General Fund payments of \$936.00, and Athletic Fund payments of \$28,639.51.
- The 2nd Reading of the Neola New, Revised, and Replacement Policies as presented.
- The following coaching recommendations as presented: Pete Lorenz – Voluntary Girls Basketball, Matt Bleumer - Voluntary Boys Basketball, Josh Skiver – Voluntary Boys Basketball and Garrett Gawn - Voluntary Boys Basketball.

JH Girls Basketball

Mon. Jan 14	6:00 p.m.	Marion
Thurs. Jan. 17	4:00 p.m.	@McBain NMC
Mon. Jan. 21	6:00 p.m.	Manton
Thurs. Jan. 24	5:00 p.m.	@Lake City
Mon. Jan. 28	6:00 p.m.	McBain
Thurs. Jan. 31	5:00 p.m.	@Ewart
Mon. Feb. 4	6:00 p.m.	Pine River
Mon. Feb. 11	6:00 p.m.	McBain NMC
Thurs. Feb. 14	6:00 p.m.	@Manton
Mon. Feb. 18	6:00 p.m.	Lake City
Thurs. Feb. 21	6:00 p.m.	@McBain
Mon. Feb. 25	6:00 p.m.	@Marion

Schedules are subject to change

Attention Seniors!

Financial Aid Night @ Beal City High School

Who?

All parents of seniors who plan to begin college following graduation are *strongly* encouraged to attend. Students are encouraged to join their parents!

What?

Learn about grants, loans, scholarships, and how to file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) - a form that EVERY college student should file, no matter your family income or demographic! A representative will be here from CMU's Scholarships and Financial Aid office to discuss and outline all things financial aid, for students who plan to attend *any* college or university.

When?

Wednesday, January 16th @ 6:00pm (back-up inclement weather date=January 23rd).

Where?

High school media center

RSVP to Mrs. Millerov in the guidance office by January 11th, 2013 @ 644-3944 or smillerov@bealcityschools.net to reserve *your* seat! Hope to see you there!



Baseball/Softball Facility Upgrade Information:

We are excited to announce that we will begin breaking ground this upcoming spring on our baseball and softball field upgrades!!! A special thank you goes out to everyone that has donated money and time thus far! This would not be possible without the continued community support of Beal City Athletics. Current commitments of money, time, materials, and equipment account for approximately 2/3 of the anticipated needs for the project to be completed in its entirety. We are continuing to write grants and raise funds to complete the project. The plans include building two press boxes (one for each field), putting turf in our batting cages allowing for more use out of them, and resurfacing our infields that have not been resurfaced in 10 years. These are all important upgrades that will allow us to continue to hold the awesome reputation of having outstanding athletic facilities. If you are interested in donating please contact Coaches Brad Antcliff or Alicia Wernette.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Time: 5:00 to 7:00

Date: Thursday March 21, 2013

Place: Beal City Cafeteria

Cost: \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00

***All You Can Enjoy* for kids ages 5-12, Pre-schoolers Free**



Meal includes spaghetti and meat sauce, salad, drink (milk, lemonade, or coffee) and dessert.

Hosted by the Beal City Varsity and JV baseball teams.



REPORT_{to} PARENTS

RP 32:2

Effective and Appropriate Help With Homework

Parenting requires many judgment calls, including numerous decisions related to schoolwork and school projects. Principals and teachers are always stressing how important it is for parents to be involved, but how much is too much? For a start, put yourself in these situations:

- Your child's big science project is due tomorrow, but her after-school schedule has been so busy lately that she hasn't had time to finish it herself. Not wanting her to get a bad grade, you end up doing most of the work with her so she can turn it in on time.
- Your son's math homework packet is a big part of his grade, but he's having trouble with a few of the concepts. Is it OK to help him with some of the answers?
- Your daughter must write a poem for a school competition, but the verses she's come up with so far seem pretty bad. After thinking about her theme, you suggest different rhyming phrases that sound better. When the awards are announced, your daughter comes home excited and says, "We won!"

We all want our children to do well in school. But, sometimes, we might want it too much and end up giving them too much assistance. The problem is, while their grades might look stellar, their self-esteem can suffer. Children are smarter than we sometimes give them credit for. They know when they've earned a grade—and when they haven't. Instead of helping them succeed, too much parental involvement can lead them to failure.

So what's a concerned parent to do? How much help is reasonable? What kinds of suggestions or assistance are acceptable? And what do you do if they don't understand their homework, even after asking you for guidance?

Don't do it for them. Rule No. 1 is an easy one to remember: Don't ever do your children's homework or school projects for

them. The assignments were given to them for a reason—they need to learn the concepts, and they can't do that learning if you do their work.

Guidance is great. Help your children understand assignments by talking with them about the concepts. Let's say your child is having trouble with basic division. Dump out a stack of pennies or paper clips, count the total, and, together, divide them into groups of five, six, or seven. If your child has writer's block, instead of suggesting phrases to use, brainstorm together about ideas of things he or she could write about, and ask your child to list some of the things he or she could say. Help your children to learn how to think through the process.



Be encouraging. It can be frustrating to try to master new concepts and complete school projects. Give your children encouragement and understanding as they work things through.

Expand their brains. One great way parents can help their children with school projects is by asking them to go beyond their original ideas. If your son, for example, wants to do a shoebox diorama about dinosaurs, tell him that his original idea is good, but ask

what other ways he could try. Don't give him ideas, but help him use his own creativity. Ask him to think out a number of different ways he could approach the assignment. Let him follow his own path, and both you and his teacher will probably be very pleased with the result. Not only that, the work will be his own.

Finally, know when to call for help. If your child is consistently having trouble with a specific concept, even after you've helped explain it to him or her, it's time to let the teacher know. Chances are yours isn't the only child in the class who's confused. In addition to learning the schoolwork, your child will gain some very important knowledge: that it's smart to ask for help when you don't understand something.

MENU

January 3 – 4, 2013

Thursday: Breakfast – bagel sausage pizza or cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch** – Big Daddy’s cheese pizza, carrots, garden bar, fruit and milk.

Friday: Breakfast – pretzel/cheese or cereal, yogurt, juice and milk. **Lunch** – sausage bagel pizza or scrambled eggs/ham, hashbrown, muffin, fruit, juice and milk.

January 7 – 11, 2013

Monday: Breakfast – cinnamon bun sticks w/icing or cereal, yogurt, fruit and milk. **Lunch** - spaghetti w/meat sauce or chicken ranch salad, garlic bread, vegetable, garden bar, fruit and milk..

Tuesday: Breakfast – breakfast hot pocket or cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch – Elvis Day** – corn “hound” dog nuggets or hamburger/bun, “all shook up” sweet potato fries, garden bar, fruit and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast – scrambled eggs/ham or cereal, hashbrown, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – chicken quesadilla or chili cheese wrap, refried beans, garden bar, fruit and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast – breakfast pizza or cereal, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – hot turkey sandwich with mashed potatoes and gravy or meat combo/bun w/cheese, garden bar, fruit and milk.

Friday: Breakfast – muffin or cereal, sausage links, juice and milk. **Lunch** – grilled cheese sandwich w/tomato soup or chicken patty/bun, corn, garden bar, fruit and milk.

January 14 – 18, 2013

Monday: Breakfast – french toast sticks or cereal, syrup, cheese sick, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – stuffed crust pepperoni pizza, vegetable, garden bar, fruit and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast – egg and sausage on a bagel or cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch** – sloppy jo/bun or grilled chicken sandwich, vegetable, garden bar, fruit and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast – granola bar or cereal, yogurt, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – breakfast pizza or breakfast hot pocket, hashbrown, cheesestick, fruit and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast – bagel sausage pizza or cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch** – taco or chicken fajita, refried beans, garden bar fruit and milk.

Friday: Breakfast – Half Day – No Lunch Served.

January 21 – 25, 2012

Monday: Breakfast – cinnamon bun sticks w/icing or cereal, yogurt, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – tangerine chicken w/rice or pork patty sandwich, stir fry vegetables, garden bar, fruit and milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast – breakfast hot pocket or cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch** – hot dog/bun or hamburger/bun, vegetable, garden bar, fruit and milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast – scrambled eggs/ham or cereal, hashbrown, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – chicken nuggets, dinner roll, potato smiles, vegetable, garden bar, fruit and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast – breakfast pizza or cereal, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – spaghetti w/meat sauce or chicken ranch salad, garlic bread, vegetable, garden bar, fruit and milk.

Friday: Breakfast – muffin or cereal, sausage links juice and milk. **Lunch** – macaroni & cheese or bbq beef/bun, vegetable, garden bar, fruit and milk.

New federal regulation changes to our menu: All students must take a fruit or vegetable with a hot lunch. Changes to the menu may be occurring over the next few months. See new Federal Regulations in the Aggie Express. Note: Menus are subject to change without notice.

In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave, SW, Washington D.S. 2025-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Beal City Public Schools
3180 W Beal City Rd
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Ithaca, MI 48847
Permit No. 35

Rotary Students of the Month

Congratulations to our 1st semester Rotary Student of the Month recipients!

The following students were chosen and honored at the Mt Pleasant Rotary Club's monthly luncheon for their outstanding commitment to service and academics.

October – Olivia Rau

November - Bo Carrick

December – Jonathan Rau

January – Megan Ley

Old Yearbooks for Sale!

Regret not buying your yearbook? We have your solution! Please support out 2012 yearbook class by purchasing old yearbooks for a low discounted price!

Yearbooks In Stock

\$10.00

1989 2001

1990 2002

1991 2003

1993 2004

1994 2005

1995 2006

1996 2007

1997 2008

1998 2009

2000 2010

\$15.00

2011

\$5.00

2000 (Junior High Edition)

2001 (Junior High Edition)