



# THE AGGIE EXPRESS

## Beal City Public Schools Announces Their Valedictorians and Salutatorians And the Rest of the Top Ten for the Class of 2016

### Valedictorians—Class of 2016



**Tucker Gross**

Tucker will be attending CMU to study Business. He is the son of Deb and Pete Gross.



**Rachel Pung**

Rachel will be attending CMU to study Math and Early Education. She is the daughter of Paul and Kelly Pung.

## Valedictorians—Class of 2016



**Chase Rollin**

Chase is attending CMU to pursue a degree in the medical field. He is the son of Dawn and Jim Rollin.



**Emily Schripsema**

Emily will be a member of the Honors College at Ball State University, majoring in Interior Design and minoring in Historic Preservation. Emily's parents are Tania and Craig Schripsema.



**Hannah Steffke**

Hannah will attend either Yale or MSU and is undecided on a major. She is the daughter of Stephen and Elizabeth Steffke.

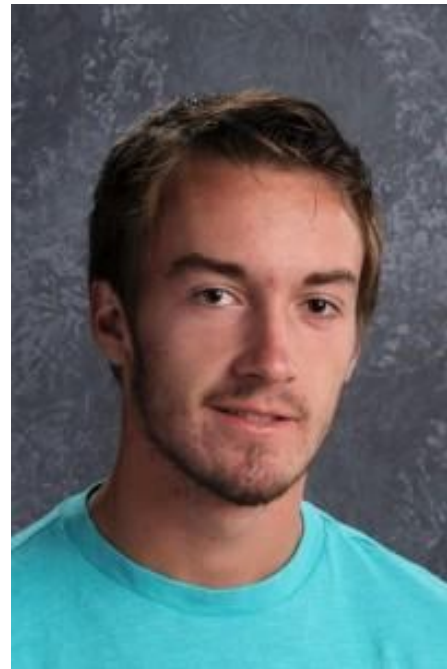


## Salutatorians—Class of 2016



**William Chilman**

William will be attending CMU to study Business or Political Science. He is the son of William and Tami Chilman.



**Apollo Schafer**

Apollo plans to attend the University of Michigan in the fall with an undecided major. Apollo's parents are Amy Smith and Ron Schafer.

## Remainder of the Top 10



**Phoenix Vavzincak**



**Paige Lorenz**



**Alexia Lynch**



### **\*\*\*Staff Member of the Month\*\*\***

The Beal City Board of Education, in appreciation of the hard work that is done by all members of Beal City Public Schools, would like to honor one staff member each month for their service to the students and community of Beal City. This month's honoree is Julie Christensen

Mrs. Christensen has been an employee of Beal City Public Schools for the past 14 years. During that time Julie has served as an Advisor for Student Council, German LINKS, and Spanish Club. She is also the current BCEA President. Her relationship with students and staff has allowed her the opportunity to help create a wonderful learning environment. She is a committed educator who helps make Beal City a great place to learn. Congratulations to Julie for being selected as the Staff Member of The Month.

## Board Briefs

The following was approved at a regular board meeting on April 18, 2016:

- General Fund payments of \$326,194.82, Hot Lunch payments of \$16,397.31, and Athletic Fund payments of \$1,807.82.
- The Superintendent Evaluation as presented.
- The recommendation to hire Rod Freeze as our Business Manager.
- The following Probationary/Tenure Teacher recommendations for the 2016-2017 school year: Secondary probationary recommendations are Kyle Carter – 4<sup>th</sup> year and G'ne Hole – 3<sup>rd</sup> year. The secondary tenure recommendation is Chadd Fletcher. The elementary probationary recommendation is Kelli Van Blargan – 2<sup>nd</sup> year and the elementary tenure recommendation is Kristin Schafer.

To locate the Beal City Board of Education agenda and minutes from the monthly Board meetings, please see the Beal City website. Click on District Info, Board of Education, then click on the Board of Education on the left hand side to receive a menu. From there click on Meeting.

### **THE BEAL CITY BASEBALL TEAM GIVES THANKS!!!**

The Beal City Baseball Program would like to give a huge thank you to all who came out Friday April 8th to support us at our annual Spaghetti Dinner. Special thank you to all the parents for all your help. Also a big thank you to Jodi Flaughter, Dave Haynes and Hanging By a Thread for all your support.

### **SPRING SING—JOIN THE FUN!!**

The annual Mayes Elementary Spring Sing/Senior Citizen Reception will take place on Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Senior Citizen Reception will

begin at 12:30 p.m., with the Spring

Sing immediately following at 1:00 p.m. Both will take place in the elementary gym. Come out for an afternoon of fun and entertainment!



### **CAMP HAYO-WENT-HA HERE WE COME!**

Mayes Elementary 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be leaving for Camp Hayo-Went-Ha on Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and returning on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. 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 to school 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, donations and/or parents paying for a portion of the trip. We would like to thank our PTA for their generous contribution 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.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

May 2	PTA meeting - 5:30 pm
May 2-6	Camp Hayo-Went-Ha Field Trip for 4th-6th graders
May 4-6	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade M-STEP Testing Week
May 19	Senior Citizens Reception 12:30 p.m, and Spring Sing 1:00 p.m, in small gym
May 16-20	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade M-STEP Testing Week
May 30	Memorial Day – NO SCHOOL
June 3	Elementary Field Day (K-2 playground, 3-6 Athletic Complex)
June 8	Kindergarten Graduation – 1:00 p.m. in small gym
June 9	Last Day of School – full day for students

### **FIELD DAY**



The annual Field Day for Mayes Elementary students will take place on Friday, June 3. There is no rain make-up date. The Kdg. – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade activities will be on the Elementary playground, and 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will be at the athletic complex. The Field Day takes place from 11:45 a.m until 2:30 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 if you have any questions.

## Third Semester Honor Roll

GPA 4.00		GPA 3.5—3.99		GPA 3.5—3.99 Cont.	
Baning, Katelyn	12	Carson, Hailey	12	Fillenworth, Jordyn	9
Gross, Tucker	12	Chilman, William	12	Fussman, Alexandria	9
Matthews, Jacob	12	Eldred, Taylor	12	Fussman, Spencer	9
Pung, Rachel	12	Flaugher, Kendall	12	Gottleber, Jadrian	9
Schripsema, Emily	12	Hoogerhyde, Ian	12	Haynes, Keegan	9
Steffke, Hannah	12	Lorenz, Paige	12	Hoover, Kylea	9
Eiseler, McKenzie	11	Lynch, Alexia	12	Jaessing, Chloe	9
Fike, Madeline	11	Nelson, Kaylee	12	Lorenz, Anna	9
Garrett, Samantha	11	Pung, Kayla	12	Lybeer, Kara	9
Gross, Natalie	11	Schafer, Apollo	12	Mindel, Gracie	9
Horsley, Nathan	11	Starr, Jessica	12	Mishler, Zoey	9
McMullen, Haley	11	Straus, Stone	12	Moody, Faith	9
Reihl, David	11	Vavzincak, Phoenix	12	Pung, Adam	9
Salvatore, Keaton	11	Bierschbach, Mikayla	11	Reihl, Kayla	9
Belтинck, Rachel	10	Cole, Navid	11	Sandel, Kyle	9
Freeze, Nicholas	10	Hauck, Erica	11	Schwerin, Amy	9
McCoy, Wyatt	10	Hood, Kristen	11	Torpey, Cody	9
Reihl, Ashley	10	Keller, Kodie	11	Vavzincak, Blade	9
Steffke, Madeline	10	Maxon, Eric	11	Zeien, Megan	9
Turner, Lauren	10	McGuire, John	11	Ames, Ryan	8
Daniels, Katharine	9	Neyer, Heidie	11	Armstrong, Jourdyn	8
Fike, Kennedy	9	Powell, Ryan	11	Benaske, Alex	8
Lynch, Dexter	9	Rau, Grace	11	Bushong, Sara	8
Pasch, Kelsey	9	Schafer, Nicholas	11	Chilman, Logan	8
Wilson, Kendyl	9	Schumacher, Darrik	11	De Vos, Wannes	8
Yoder, Katlyn	9	Smith, Tristan	11	Faber, Eric	8
Yuncker, Valerie	9	Clark, Jason	10	Faber, Joslyn	8
Zeneberg, Zoey	9	Hodges, Rebecca	10	Fillenworth, Lyndsey	8
Schafer, Christina	8	Lefere, Rachael	10	Gamble, Gabrielle	8
Upton, Sidney	8	Lorenz, Madison	10	Gottschalk, Jared	8
Daniels, Rosalie	7	Matthews, Caitlyn	10	Lorenz, Shane	8
Fussman, Chloe	7	Raitz, Rebekah	10	Lyon, Jay	8
Locke, Ethan	7	Schafer, Aaron	10	Meyers, Grace	8
Lynch, Cameron	7	Schafer, Ryan	10	Nelson, Olivia	8
Mindel, Aidan	7	Sharrar, Kollin	10	Pasch, Lauren	8
Schumacher, Sage	7	Trevino, Shelby	10	Purgiel, Gavin	8
Soules, Sydney	7	Yuncker, Mackenzie	10	Reihl, Nathan	8
Weber, Grace	7	Coston, Kristen	9	Schafer, Jack	8
		Dodds, Erin	9	Schafer, Seth	8
		Ehler, Emilie	9		
		Eiseler, Alexandra	9		



## Third Semester Honor Roll

### GPA 3.5—3.99 Cont.

Schafer, Ty	8
Schripsema, Chelsea	8
Sparks, John	8
Wilson, Aleisha	8
Case, Ayden	7
Ciochetto, James	7
Clark, Matthew	7
Coston, Nathan	7
Faber, Travis	7
Gross, Jacob	7
Hauck, Austin	7
Jones, Greenlee	7
Kolb, Matthew	7
Licina, Ana	7
Matthews, Ben	7
Maxon, Jason	7
Noeker, Dulaney	7
Pety, Breanna	7
Pratt, Jesse	7
Theisen, Ellie	7
Torpey, Bailey	7
Turner, Kirsten	7

### GPA 3.0—3.49

Bellmer, Karina	12
Beltinck, Lauren	12
Burman, Aubrey	12
Esch, Andrea	12
Gross, Cody	12
Jensen, Katelyn	12
Marchiando, Joseph	12
Mauldin, Shawn	12
Miller, Maddison	12
Moore, Bradley	12
Nelson, Trevor	12
Newman, Rannon	12
Reihl, Sarah	12
Robison, Jacob	12
Rollin, Chase	12
Schafer, Eric	12
Schafer, Noah	12
Straus, Curtis	12
Yuncker, Emma	12
McCann, Thomas	11

### GPA 3.0—3.49 Cont.

Philo, David	11
Prill, Justine	11
Salter, Ariel	11
Schafer, Hannah	11
Schafer, Landon	11
Schneider, Mackenzie	11
Andrews, Mahealani	10
Clouse, Spencer	10
Darnell, Tyler	10
Farrell, Dale	10
Kotecki, Alex	10
Lambourn, William	10
McMullen, Amanda	10
Natzel, Gabriel	10
Nelson, Max	10
Pung, Katlyn	10
Reihl, Nathaniel	10
Render, Brenden	10
Schumacher, Lucas	10
Schwerin, Charles	10
Vondoloski, Miles	10
Beltinck, Jason	9
Carnes, Jaelyn	9
Case, Austin	9
Childs, Jordon	9
Clark, Joe	9
Fussman, Mitchell	9
Garrett, Grant	9
Gross, Jackson	9
Haupt, Amanda	9
Mowen, Haley	9
Paul, Hazel	9
Powell, Elizabeth	9
Schafer, Daniel	9
Schafer, Noel	9
Shaner, Brenden	9
Small, Trevor	9
Stevens, Melanie	9
Whitehead, Brennen	9
Wichert, Ethan	9
Embs, Nicholas Carmon	8
Faber, Heather	8
Finnerty, Nicholas	8

### GPA 3.0—3.49 Cont.

Garrett, Breanna	8
Hines, Ryleigh	8
Kerr, Cody	8
Mayer, Raymond	8
Paul, Ivan	8
Puhlman, Allison	8
Pung, Jace	8
Small, Trey	8
Smith, Chase	8
Ambs, Hunter	7
Conner, Hunter	7
De Vos, Tijl	7
Embs, Myles	7
Gott, Ethan	7
Hopkins, Michael	7
Keller, Kinleigh	7
Kent, Marcus	7
Kotecki, Angela	7
Maxon, Tyler	7
Schuch, Faith	7
Tyler, Dustin	7
Vondoloski, Macy	7
Zuker, Terrell	7



## 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade All A's & B's

Ambs, Owen	6	Armstrong, Hadyen	5
Ames, Samantha	6	Carnes, Elaina	5
Antcliff, Natalie	6	Carrier, Alyssa	5
Antcliff, Paige	6	Goffnett, Audree	5
Benzinger, Izabella	6	Gross, Rachel	5
Embrey, Madalyn	6	Hall, Grant	5
Fike, Rylee	6	Haupt, Luke	5
Fussman, Jacob	6	Hazen, Levi	5
Haynes, Brayden	6	Langlois, Karana	5
Johnston, Megan	6	Long, Haylee	5
Martin, Brendan	6	Noeker, Eric	5
Methner, Kyleigh	6	Onstott, Tailor	5
Onstott, Haiden	6	Pratt, Waylon	5
Owens, Chase	6	Recker, Justin	5
Pritchard, Logan	6	Seeger, Mattie	5
Raitz, Zachary	6	Seeger, Samantha	5
Schafer, Darren	6	Sisco, Rylee	5
Smith, Karly	6	Straus, Benjamin	5
Sparks, Jenna	6	Weeden, Angel	5
Wilson, Konnor	6	Winegardner, Cayden	5
Wilson, Wade	6		
Wood, Olivia	6		

~ **THANK YOU** ~

Family and Friends of

**LaVern "Gern" Yunker**

for the recent donations made in his memory.

- Beal City Sports Boosters -



**Parents of High School / Jr High Athletes**

to schedule a time to work the concession stand,

contact Lisa Schneider

([Lisa.Schneider@mtwfs.com](mailto:Lisa.Schneider@mtwfs.com) or 989-289-8689)





## **Parent Engagement is Vital to Student Achievement and Personal Success**

According to research, the most accurate predictor of a student's achievement in school is not income or social status, but the extent to which that student's family is able to:

1. Create a home environment that encourages learning;
2. Communicate high, yet reasonable expectations for their children's achievement and future careers;
3. Become involved in their children's education at school and in the community.

These three seemingly simple steps require dedication and commitment from all students, parents, and school personnel. The resulting benefit of this investment in time and effort is well worth the future aspirations and success of every child. Please review the following list of Academic Benefits of Parent Engagement:

### **BENEFITS OF PARENT ENGAGEMENT**

1. Students achieve more, regardless of socio-economic status, ethnic/racial background or the parents' education level.
2. Students have higher grades and test scores, better attendance, and complete homework more consistently.
3. Students have higher graduation rates and greater enrollment rates in post-secondary education.
4. Educators hold higher expectations of students whose parents collaborate with the teacher.
5. Student achievement for disadvantaged children not only improves, but can also reach levels that are standard for middle-class children. In addition, the children who are farthest behind make the greatest gains.
6. Children from diverse cultural backgrounds perform better when parents and professionals collaborate to bridge the gap between the culture at home and at the learning institution.
7. Student behaviors such as alcohol use, violence, and anti-social behavior decrease as parent engagement increases.
8. Students keep pace with academic performance if their parents participate in school events, develop a working relationship with educators, and keep up with what is happening with their child's school.
9. Junior and senior high school students whose parents remain involved make better transitions, maintain the quality of their work, and develop realistic plans for their future. Students whose parents are not involved, on the other hand, are more likely to drop out of school.



## **School Breakfast is Cool!**

Everyday is a perfect day for school breakfast!

As the summer approaches, kids are often more restless and distracted at school. You can help to make sure that their last weeks of school are productive by ensuring that they begin the day with a nutritious breakfast. Studies show a good breakfast makes kids more alert, less distractible and better behaved in school; it even improves their test scores!

Let's keep our students focused by making sure they begin every school day with a balanced meal at home or at the School Breakfast Program.

**Every morning our breakfast consists of these whole grain items: assorted pop tarts, muffins, uncrustables, donuts, cereal, yogurt, juice, cheese stick and milk. Students must choose a fruit and 2 grain items.**

**Location: Aggie Cafeteria**

**Breakfast time every day: 7:40-8:05**

**Full pay price: \$1.50**

**Reduced price: \$.30**

**Remember, no breakfast will be served if we have a delay.**



Beal City Schools Cafeteria is hiring a food service worker

The cafeteria is hiring a full time position for the 2016-2017 school year. This job would require appropriate knowledge in basic food safety and sanitation. We focus on team work with a positive attitude. The approximate hours are 8:00a.m.-2:00p.m. An application is available in the superintendent's office and on our website: [bealcityschools.net](http://bealcityschools.net), click district info on left-hand side and then click on employment application on the right-hand side. The deadline to apply is 3:00p.m., May 27, 2016.

# MAY 2016

## Beal City School Lunch Menu

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>2</b> chicken mashed potato bowl w/corn, wg dinner roll, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Daily option: wg corn dog nuggets	<b>3</b> *NEW ITEM* wg ham and cheese calzone, green beans, pears, juice and milk Daily option: wg breakfast pizza	<b>4</b> scalloped potatoes/ham w/wg dinner roll, cookie, cooked carrots, garden bar, apple, juice and milk Daily option: (cheese) hamburger w/wg bun	<b>5</b> twisty chicken Alfredo, wg garlic breadstick, broccoli, garden bar, apricot cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg chicken nuggets w/wg garlic breadstick	<b>6</b> Picnic grilled hot dogs, baked beans, chips, ice cream cup, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk No Daily option:
<b>9</b> meatball sub, cauliflower, garden bar, strawberry cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg corn dog nuggets	<b>10</b> wg maple waffle w/ sausage links, hash brown, cold carrots, garden bar, mixed fruit, juice and milk Daily option: wg breakfast pizza	<b>11</b> hot dog w/wg bun, sweet potato fries, garden bar, apple, juice and milk Daily option: (cheese) hamburger w/wg bun	<b>12</b> Salisbury steak w/mashed potato and gravy, broccoli, (9-12wg bread), garden bar, sliced peaches, juice and milk Daily option: wg chicken nuggets, wg cinnamon graham crackers with both	<b>13</b> chicken quesadilla, refried beans (9-12 cold carrots), garden bar, grapes, juice and milk Daily option: wg pepperoni calzone
<b>16</b> tangerine chicken w/wg rice, stir fry vegetables, garden bar, mandarin oranges, juice and milk Daily option: corn dog nuggets	<b>17</b> *NEW ITEM* French toast w/ sausage links, sweet potato tots, garden bar, strawberry cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg breakfast pizza	<b>18</b> Chicken Patty w/wg bun, peas, garden bar, apples, juice and milk Daily option: (cheese) hamburger w/wg bun	<b>19</b> macaroni and cheese, broccoli, garden bar, peach cup, juice and milk Daily option: wg chicken nuggets w/wg slice of bread	<b>20</b> nachos chips/cheese/meat, refried beans (9-12 cold carrots) garden bar, pineapple, and milk Daily option: wg cheese pizza
<b>23</b> chicken mashed potato bowl w/corn, wg dinner roll, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Daily option: wg corn dog nuggets	<b>24</b> *NEW ITEM* wg ham and cheese calzone, green beans, pears, juice and milk Daily option: wg breakfast pizza	<b>25</b> scalloped potatoes/ham w/wg dinner roll, cookie, cooked carrots, garden bar, apple, juice and milk Daily option: (cheese) hamburger w/wg bun	<b>26</b> twisty chicken Alfredo, wg garlic breadstick, broccoli, garden bar, apricot cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg chicken nuggets w/wg garlic breadstick	<b>27</b> chicken quesadilla, refried beans (9-12 cold carrots), garden bar, grapes, juice and milk Daily option: wg pepperoni calzone
<b>30</b> NO SCHOOL	<b>31</b> Cook's Choice			

### News

**Hawaiian Picnic Day  
May 6!**

**All grains are whole  
grain!**

**Milk choices:**

**Fat free chocolate**

**1% white**

**A variety of vegetable  
choices are offered  
daily on our garden  
bar.**

**6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade additional  
daily lunch options:**

**Turkey sub, Crispy  
Chicken wrap, chef  
salad or a strawberry  
parfait!**

# BEAL CITY HIGH SCHOOL



“Building Champions 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
&  
9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Football Camp”

July 18, 2016 – July 20, 2016

CAMP LOCATION: Beal City High School

Football camp is open to any football player entering grades 5 – 8 and 9 - 12 in 2016/2017

**Monday, July 18th**

5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

**Tuesday, July 19th**

5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

**Wednesday, July 20th**

5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

7:15 PM - 8:45 PM

9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

7:15 PM – 8:45 PM

9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>

7:15 PM - 8:45 PM

\*Introduction of Coaching Staff

\*Competition and Team Building Drills

\*Tackling fundamentals – Heads up

\*Warm-up and Stretching

\*Offensive and Defensive Fundamentals

\*Ball Skills

\*5<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade coaches welcome

Make checks payable to: BEAL CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Contact: BRAD GROSS (989) 289-6814

\$25.00 PRE CAMP REGISTRATION

\$30.00 DAY OF CAMP REGISTRATION

PLEASE RETURN BOTTOM WITH PAYMENT BY JULY 8<sup>TH</sup> TO DIANE FUSSMAN IN HIGH SCHOOL OFFICE OR

MAIL TO: BRAD GROSS 4620 W JORDAN RD WEIDMAN MI 48893

FREE T-SHIRTS FOR ALL CAMPERS

Player's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Player's 2016/2017 Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

T-SHIRT SIZE (Please Circle): 2XL XL L M S YL YM Paid by Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

Waiver and release: In consideration for allowing the Participant to participate in the Activity, I agree not to sue and I hereby release, waive, discharge, hold harmless, indemnify, and defend the Camp, its employees, staff, volunteers, agents, directors, affiliates, sponsors, representatives, and Beal City High School from any and all liability, losses, damages, claims, actions, and causes of action of every nature for any and all known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, bodily or personal injuries, property damage, or other loss relating in any way to the Participants' involvement in the Camp.

PARENT/GUARDIAN: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



**FOOTBALL SIGN UP**  
**BEAL CITY JR HIGH**  
**FOOTBALL**  
**BEAL CITY ROCKET FOOTBALL AND**  
**ROCKET CHEERLEADING**

**IN THE LOBBY**  
**IN FRONT OF BIG GYM**  
**MONDAY MAY 16TH**  
**TUESDAY MAY 17TH**  
**6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

**7TH & 8TH**  
**GRADES**  
**FALL 2016**



FOR INFORMATION  
MICK STRAUS 644-5224  
MSTRAUS63@GMAIL.COM

*The Beal City High School Drama Club*

*presents*



*Book, Music, and Lyrics by*

*Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey*

*May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm and 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm, 2016*

*Cost is \$5 for Students \$7 for Adults*



## Encourage Your Child's Creativity to Flourish

**C**reativity has been called a key 21st century skill. That means it—along with skills like communication and critical thinking—will help students navigate the increasingly collaborative and information-rich world that awaits them once they leave school. The arts have been shown to boost students' academic performance, perseverance, self-confidence, and more. Here are strategies for supporting your child's creativity.

**Take stock of your toys.** Flashy electronic toys are fun, but they don't offer children opportunities for open-ended, imaginative play. Make sure to have basic art supplies—paper, crayons, glue, clay—at home, along with toys like building blocks, puzzles, or costumes for dress-up.

**Cut the screen time.** Set limits on TV and iPad time. Try designating a certain time during the week when your entire family will put down cell phones and work on a creative project.

**Embrace mistakes.** Children who are afraid of failure are less likely to think creatively. Teach your child that mistakes are opportunities for growth. Ask, "What could you do differently next time?" Be patient with your child—and model patience as he or she learns new skills or tries a new project.

**Encourage curiosity.** Don't squelch kids' natural curiosity by being frustrated when your child asks lots of questions. Embrace it! Ask, "What if" questions, and encourage your child to use his or her imagination.

**Offer constructive praise...** Too much praise can make a child "hooked" on success. Instead of offering general praise ("You're so smart!"), offer specific feedback that praises your child's effort or the process he or she used ("You found a great way to paint that scene," or "I can tell you've been practicing.") Offer non-verbal praise (a hug



or a thumbs-up), or implicit encouragement by displaying your child's work on the refrigerator.

**...but step back sometimes.** If a child feels constantly watched, he or she may be less likely to try new ideas. Give your child space to play on his or her own. Wait until your child is finished drawing to ask what he or she has made.

**Look for community resources.** Check your local library, museum, or community center for art

classes or workshops to try new creative skills. Keep an eye out for poster or story contests offered by community organizations, too. Or, try teaming up with a neighbor or friend to host an art playdate. Some projects can be time-consuming or expensive, but working together with other families can help ease the burden.

### Web Resources

Visit Crayola's **Creative Parenting Web page** for activities and tips to spark creativity at home. [bit.ly/creativeparenting](http://bit.ly/creativeparenting)

The **Tinkerlab** offers dozens of hands-on art, science, writing, and craft ideas for families to try. [tinkerlab.com/](http://tinkerlab.com/)

At **The Artful Parent** blog, explore interviews with children's art experts along with lists of the best supplies. [artfulparent.com/](http://artfulparent.com/)



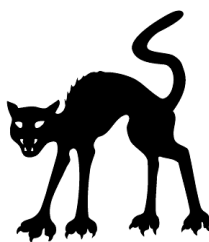
Beal City Public Schools  
3180 W Beal City Rd  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

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□

### Level 1 Drivers Education Sign Up

Classes for level 1 Drivers Education are being scheduled from August 1 – 20, 2016. Sign up in the High School Office by May 18, 2016 if you want to be a part of the class. You must be 14 years and 8 months old by August 1, 2016 to be eligible. The school reserves the right to cancel this class if enrollment does not meet at least 20 students. The cost for the class is \$320.00 which includes Segment 2 classes.



SAVE THE DATE!!!!

The BCEF is thrilled to announce that we will again be hosting our annual “Halloween Bash” on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016!!! “The Foolish Dreams Band” will be providing our entertainment! We had a great time last year and are really looking forward to this year. Mark your calendar you won’t want to miss this year’s event.