



# THE AGGIE EXPRESS

## School Board Leaders Honored in January

January is School Board Recognition Month – a time to salute the work of our volunteer school board members and to celebrate public education. This special recognition of School Board members reflects our combined commitment to leadership and accountability assuring ALL children succeed.

It's an exciting and challenging time in public education. School board members in Beal City Public Schools develop policies and make tough decisions that help shape the future of our educational system. They are citizens whose decisions affect our children and build our communities.

Our Board of Education, and the hundreds like it across the state, preserve the core of our democracy – public education. They ensure that decisions on school programming are made by people we've elected to represent our community's values, culture and circumstances.

Showing appreciation for the important work of school boards should be a year-round process, but too often we neglect to recognize the dedication and hard work of these men and women who represent us. This January, the staff and students of our district are asking all members of the community to take a moment and thank a school board member.

Thank you to the men and women who dedicate countless personal hours to ensure the needs of our community are met by our public schools. We salute the public servants of Beal City Public Schools whose dedication and civic responsibility make local control of public schools in our community possible. We applaud them for their vision and voice to prepare today's students to be tomorrow's leaders.

The men and women serving and their years of service are:

Robert Pasch	15 years
Rod Cole	12 years
Denise McBride	11 years
Ron Neyer	7 years
Curt Gottschalk	6 years
Heather Curtiss	2 years
Tom Gross	2 years



## **Aggie Alumna Spotlight**

Beal City Alumna, Emily Steffke, is an Honors College senior majoring in neuroscience in the College of Natural Science and English in the College of Arts and Letters at Michigan State University. Recently, Ms. Steffke was named a Marshall Scholar.

Steffke is from Beal City, Michigan. She is an undergraduate researcher at MSU's Institute for Quantitative Health Science and Engineering. Steffke is also the co-founder and president of Reach Outside, a service organization through which MSU students help underprivileged children in the Lansing area experience a variety of outdoor sports.

"I am deeply honored to have been granted this opportunity to leap to the forefront of international health discourse and so excited to pursue a doctorate of philosophy in oncology at Oxford," Emily stated. "It is inspiring to know that the Marshall Commission not only values my pursuits and achievements during my time at MSU, but also believes in my ability to further blossom into a leader capable of addressing some of the world's greatest health concerns.

Steffke's research focuses on genetic mechanisms of cancer immunosurveillance escape. The Marshall Commission provides support for up to 50 of the most outstanding undergraduates in the country to study at any university in the United Kingdom.

Congratulations, Emily, on this prestigious honor!



### **Rotary Student of the Month—Sidney Upton**

Beal City High School is proud to recognize Sidney Upton as the December Rotary Student of the Month! Sidney was joined by her parents, Michele and Mark, to receive a plaque and recognition from the Rotarians. Great work, Sidney!

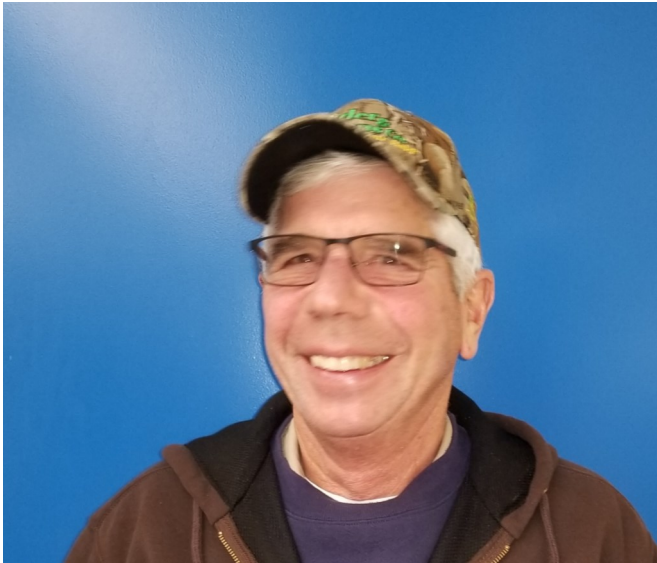
## **Board Briefs**

The following was approved at a regular board meeting on December 16, 2019:

- General Fund payments of \$655,517.30, Payroll Account payments of \$1,233.49, Hot Lunch payments of \$14,094.56, Student Activity Account payments of \$25,410.35, Athletic Fund payments of \$27,615.09, Arbiter Sports payments of \$1,848.73.

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.





### **\*\*\*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 Bill Gross.

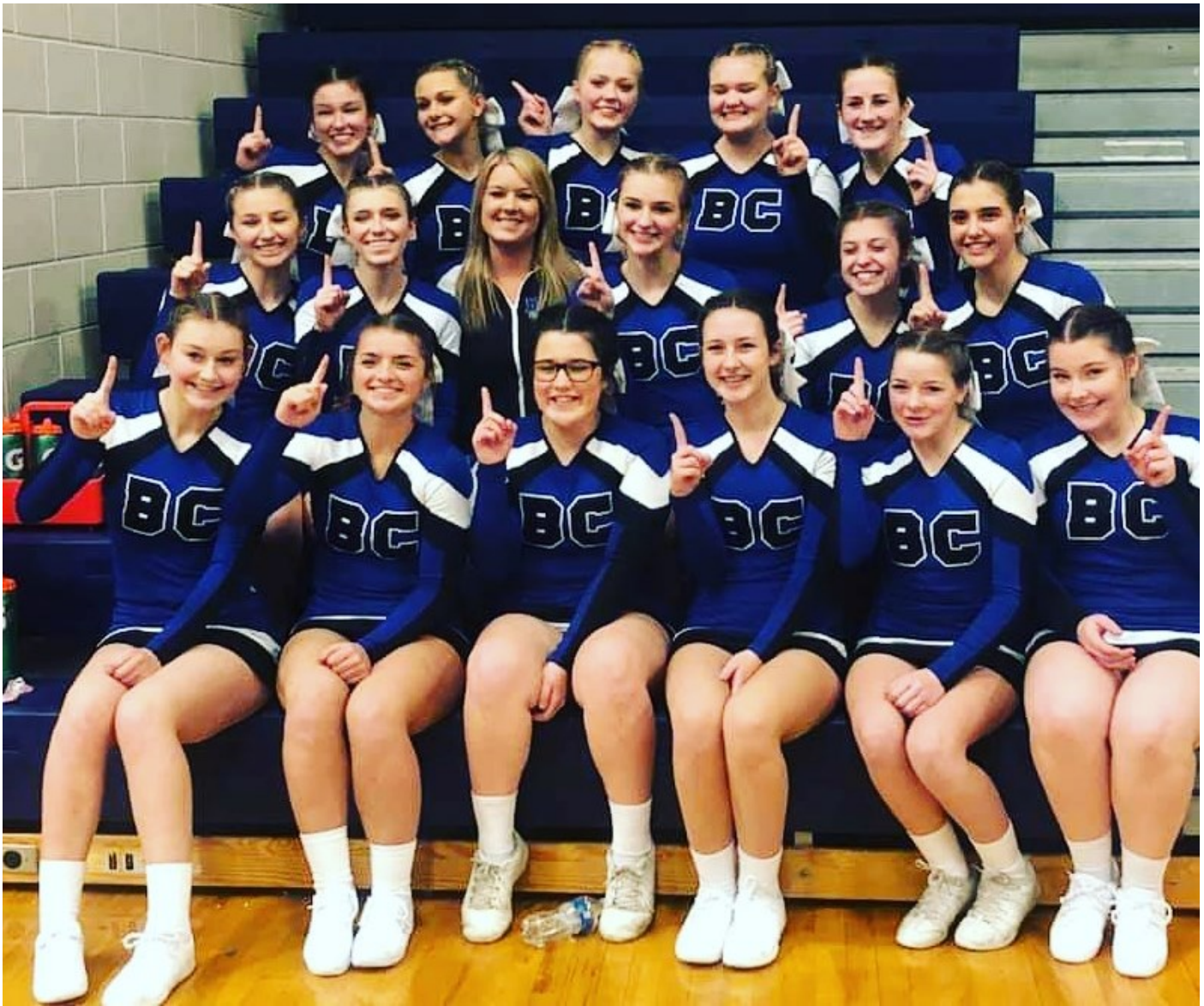
Bill was hired as a part time on call maintenance worker over four years ago and has been a great part of the team. Bill is always readily available when he is called upon and does a great job in any task he is given. He takes pride in our school and making sure everything is always looked after. He is always willing to lend a hand and we appreciate him very much. Thanks, Bill for all your help and dedication to Beal City Schools.



### **Teen Court**

The 2019-2020 Senior Survival class attended Teen Court in November. The class took an educational tour of the Isabella County Jail and had the opportunity to ask questions about local law enforcement issues and current trends in corrections. Students then sat on a Teen Court jury at the Isabella County Courthouse where they participated in two cases. Judge Stuart Black presided over the cases and was gracious enough to spend time with the class answering questions about the law and his experiences in the courtroom.





### Competitive Cheer Grant

The Beal City Competitive Cheer program is sending a hearty thank you to the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation for awarding a \$1,000 grant to the Beal City competitive cheer program. The grant was funded through the Tumbl Trak Fund for Youth Fitness in honor of Doug Davis and Diana Hughes. The cheer team utilized the funds for professional choreography of rounds 1 and 3, which assisted in an early season victory at the team's first competition of the year.

Thank you for the generous contribution!



Making Beal City THE School of Choice in our area requires contributions from a wide range of people. We would like to say thank you to our Beal City community for their dedication and effort in supporting our school district. A HUGE thank you to our support and professional staff of Beal City Public Schools for helping make Beal City a high quality educational institution. Last but not least, thank you to the hundreds of students and parents that make Beal City Public Schools their school of choice each and every day. The success that Beal City has enjoyed takes the teamwork of all of our stakeholders.

There are a lot of reasons folks choose a school district. Some families are drawn to programming in the arts, athletics and academics. Others see school size, quality of facilities, and location as important factors. The idea of tradition cannot be discounted either. Many of our parents and/or family members were Aggies during their elementary and high school years and want their kids to be Aggies too. Finally, it is not uncommon for our school of choice parents to cite school climate and academic rigor as reasons for bringing their students to Beal City. Sometimes it is best to just hear from the parents that choose Beal City for their students. Below are some quotes from a few of our school of choice parents.

*"When looking for a school in the area, we were impressed with the Beal City staff's passion for students and their investment in the Beal City community. It is clear that the people who work at Beal really love their jobs, and they are excited to work there."*

*We've also been very impressed by the school's emphasis on the development of personal character along with academics"* **Deric & Sarah Learman**

*"We chose Beal City public schools for the small town feel. The class sizes are kept low which means the students get more one on one attention. The teachers and administrative staff are amazing. And we love the strong, supportive community of Beal City!"* **Ann Smith**

*"I chose Beal City Schools for my kids because of the community feel and the educational opportunities available."* **Angie Latham**

*"We chose to send our son to Beal City Public Schools due to their commitment to student success. From their student to teacher ratio, athletic opportunities, and extra-curricular activities, Beal City provides the infrastructure for students to grow and prepare themselves for whatever their future might be."* **Denny & Kelly Berryhill**

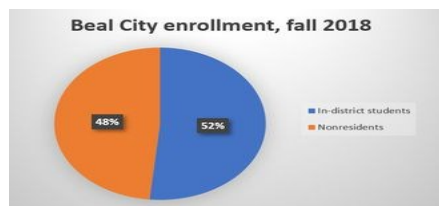
Here is a link to a TV 9 and 10 story on our School of Choice program here at Beal City Public Schools.

<https://www.9and10news.com/2018/09/25/beal-city-public-schools-have-almost-half-of-students-from-out-of-district/>

In an Mlive News article by Julie Mack on Schools of Choice, Beal City was listed as the 8<sup>th</sup> highest school district in the state when it came to Schools of Choice student gains. See the attached link below to read the full Article.

<https://www.mlive.com/news/g66l-2019/11/ddb6967b2a5909/68-michigan-districts-with->

The graph below from the above article shows Beal City's statics for student loss and gains with School of Choice students.



### **Beal City Public Schools (Isabella County): 62%**

The Beal City school district enrolled 62% more public-school students than lived in the district in fall 2018. The breakdown:

Number of public-schools students living in the district: 424;

District's fall 2018 enrollment: 688;

Gain from non-resident students: 333;

Loss from residents enrolled in other districts or charters: -69;

Net gain: 264.

### **JH Girls Basketball**

Fri. Jan. 17	5:00 p.m.	Pine River & McBain
Mon. Jan. 20	6:00 p.m.	@Pine River
Thurs. Jan. 23	6:00 p.m.	Houghton Lake
Mon. Jan. 27	6:00 p.m.	Lake City
Fri. Jan. 31	5:30 p.m.	@Lake City w/Roscommon
Mon. Feb. 3	6:00 p.m.	@Ewart
Thurs. Feb. 6	6:00 p.m.	Roscommon
Mon. Feb. 10	6:00 p.m.	@McBain NMC
Tues. Feb. 18	6:00 p.m.	@McBain
Thurs. Feb. 20	6:00 p.m.	Manton
Mon. Feb. 24	6:00 p.m.	Ewart

Schedules are subject to change







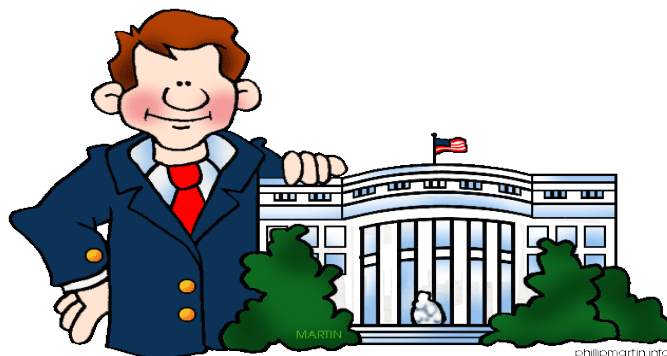
### **Beal City Middle School Youth in Government**

Just before Thanksgiving, the Beal City Youth in Government delegation participated in their yearly conference in Lansing. The MS YIG students wrote their own bills and spent a couple of months learning about the legislative process before heading to the State's Capitol.

For the first time this year, 6th grade students were able to join YIG, and the team had their largest delegation membership in the middle school program's history. Three Beal City students were honored for their achievements at the program.

Liam Fox (8th Grade) was presented an award for Outstanding Committee Chair. Two other students were recognized for writing bills that passed through both the House of Representatives and the Senate, before being signed by the program's Youth Governor. Out of nearly 300 bills submitted to the program, only about 20 received this distinction. Joey Federico (7th Grade) wrote a bill to increase funding for sports safety equipment in schools. Parker McDonald (8th grade) wrote a bill to increase the minimum age to use tobacco to 21 years old.

These 19 young people did a fantastic job representing the Beal City community, and should be watched for more great achievements to come!





# Beal City Elementary



## Students of the Month



**Back Row (L to R):** Bryce Schultz, Collin Martin, Madyson Stack, Ashlyn Graham  
**Front Row (L to R):** Blaise Soeltner, Kylee Little

**Students**  
OF THE  
**MONTH**

## **Beal City and Mt. Pleasant visit London, Paris, and Madrid**

As we close up 2019, we can't help but realize how many opportunities our community has to offer. On June 18, 2019, 43 students, relatives, and teachers set out on a 10 day trip to Europe. Some of us had never flown before. Some of us had never been out of Michigan, but all of us were ready for an incredible experience.

We visited the capitals of England, France, and Spain. We took trains, planes, metros, and busses. We tried new foods and found comfort in some fast food favorites. We visited some of the world's largest museums, castles, and palaces.

In London, we visited Windsor Castle, saw the changing of the Guard, had a "fan" freak out moment with James Corden, and got to travel around the city. Paris was amazing as well. While the Eiffel Tower was the focal point of our trip to this city, we were able to see the Mona Lisa in the Louvre, take a boat ride down the Seine river, and see the Cathedral of Notre Dame from a distance. Madrid had some incredible places as well. We visited the Prado Museum and had a scavenger hunt, watched a Flamenco show, and traveled to Toledo to visit the original capital of Spain.

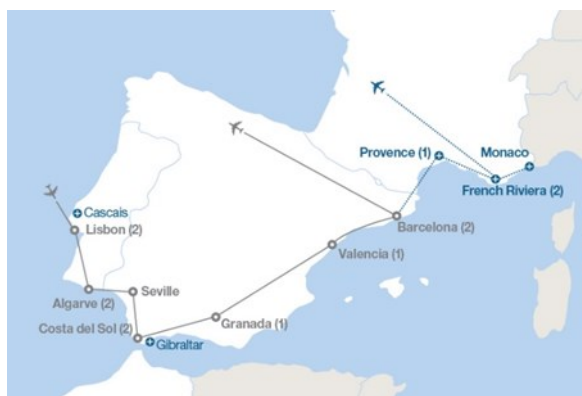
Having this opportunity is due to the adventurous spirit of our families, the support of our family and friends, and the willingness of our teachers to make this possible. We learned about other countries, cultures, and histories. However, the most important was what we learned about ourselves. We are so amazed that 2019 had such global opportunities for us.

## **Beal City and Mt. Pleasant Spanish Trip – Europe 2021**

The Beal City Spanish trip for 2021 will be heading to Portugal, Spain, and France. We have partnered up with Mt. Pleasant High School again for another incredible trip. We are currently fundraising and getting ourselves ready for this incredible experience. We will be having an additional sign up meeting in February. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Christensen.

Check out the tour information here...

[www.eftours.com/2206432dw](http://www.eftours.com/2206432dw)



## **Beal City Experiences Día de los Muertos in Detroit**

Thanks to a generous grant from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and Target, our Spanish II and Advanced Art students were able to go to the Detroit Institute of Arts this October. It was an incredible experience for all of us.

Our students and chaperones were able to visit the museum during the museum's annual Día de los Muertos Ofrenda Exhibit. We were able to see artistic renditions of these ofrendas and make real connections between what we learned in the classroom and what we have within our communities.

We were also able to visit the Diego Rivera Courtyard. It is always a favorite. We learned a little bit about the history of Detroit and the artist as well. Then, because of the wonderful chaperones, we were able to visit different parts of the museum.

After our trip, we were able to get some treats at La Gloria Bakery, an authentic Mexican bakery, near the museum and have lunch at Great Lakes Crossings. It was an incredible experience for all of us. We all had our favorite parts, but churros from the bakery, the medieval armor display, ofrendas, the Rivera Courtyard, and shopping were all mentioned repeatedly as being reasons to go again.

Back at school, Mrs. Christensen's classes and Mrs. Henry's classes created some projects to tie in with the lesson. They did a great job. We even had a few students make Pan de muertos, a traditional bread served during the holiday.

Thanks again to our wonderful chaperones and our staff for making this possible. Thanks to Target and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, we are hoping to do this again next year.

## **MAYES ELEMENTARY STUDENT COUNCIL DONATES TO THE HOMELESS SHELTER**



The Mayes Elementary Student Council organized and collected paper products to donate to the local homeless shelter. These products will be used for several meals during the holiday season. The students do this collection in lieu of a classroom gift exchange. Thank you to all of the generous families who donated products and money towards this worthy cause.





### Start the Day (and the Year) Right!

Make giving your kids a healthy breakfast every day one of your New Year's resolutions.

If you don't have much time in the morning or your kids aren't hungry when they wake up, send them to school for breakfast. Healthy food choices are available every morning in the cafeteria for ALL students. We cannot wait to see them there!

Help your kids to make this semester a success - encourage them to eat breakfast!

**Every morning our breakfast consists of a hot lunch item and these cold whole grain items: muffins, uncrustables, donuts, cereal, cheese stick, juice 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: \$1.75**

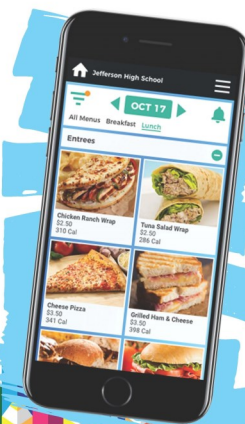
**Reduced: \$.30**

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

## Your school menu has now gone digital!

**Visit:** [bealcityschools.nutrislice.com](http://bealcityschools.nutrislice.com)

**to see menus!**



**Your menus are now more convenient and informative than ever before!**

- > View images and descriptions
- > View nutrition information for each food
- > Filter the menu for specific food allergens
- > Access menus with the Nutrislice mobile app
- > Rate foods and see carb counts



**If any community member, parent or student is interested in joining our Wellness Committee, please contact Marci Faber or William Chilman at 989-644-3901.**

Wellness Goals 2017 to Present:

1. Farm to school-we will participate as long as there is availability (Right now we are searching for a provider).
2. Apple Crunch- We will participate in this every year. Providing everyone in our school with an apple.
3. No fundraising during the school day unless it meets the smart snack guidelines. Bill Chilman will monitor this because he approves all fundraising.
4. Chadd's class presenting nutrition facts/findings with Beal and St. Joe elementary.
5. Marci working at least once a year in the classroom with Chadd's health class.
6. Updates on our goals in the Aggie Express and on the website.
7. Posters will be posted in the cafeteria about health and wellness.
8. Inform the public through Aggie Express and website at least once a year.
9. All ala carte items will meet the smart snack guidelines
10. Elementary will stay involved in the "backpack program" (sending food home on the weekends to feed free students) as long as it is available to us.
11. Wellness survey HSAT completed every other year.
12. Posters about the harm of tobacco are completed by Chadd's class and hung up in the hall way.
13. Posters about nutrition are completed by Chadd's class and hung up in the hallway.
14. Marci will monitor and keep track of completing these goals.

The link to read our Wellness Policy is on the Food Service page of our website under Wellness Resources. If any community member, parent or student is interested in joining our Wellness Committee please contact, Marci Faber or William Chilman at 989-644-3901.



# **Fall Post Season Athletic Awards**

## **Boys Cross Country:**

12<sup>th</sup> Place state finals Finish

3rd Overall Team Academic All State

Derek Gross – First Team Highland Conference

Owen Gross – First Team Highland Conference

Matthew Kolb – MITCA Academic All State and Honorable Mention Highland Conference

## **Girls Cross Country:**

17<sup>th</sup> Place state finals Finish

Rachal Weber - First Team MITCA All-State and First Team Highland Conference

Kaylee Locke – First Team MITCA All-State and First Team Highland Conference

## **Football:**

State Finalist

Regional Champs, District Champs and Highland Conference Co-Champs

Team Academic All-State Honorable Mention

Seth Schafer – AP First Team All-State, MHSFCA First Team All-State, Academic All-State – Honorable Mention and First Team Highland Conference

Chase Smith – MHSFCA First Team All-State, AP All State Honorable Mention, First Team Highland Conf.

Logan Chilman – MHSFCA First Team All-State, First Team Highland Conference

Trey Small – MHSFCA First Team All-State, First Team Highland Conference

Jack Schafer – Academic All-State, First Team Highland Conference

Wade Wilson – First Team Highland Conference

Ben Matthews – First Team Highland Conference

Ethan Locke – First Team Highland Conference

Matt Oswald – Highland Conference Honorable Mention

Jared Gottschalk – Academic All-State, Highland Conference Honorable Mention

Easton Yuncker – Academic All State – Honorable Mention

## **Volleyball:**

MHSAA District Champion and Highland Conference Champion

Team Academic All State

Sage Schumacher – Honorable Mention All-State, All Region and First Team Highland Conference

Lyndsey Fillenworth – Academic All State, Hon. Men. All-State, All Region and 1st Team All-Conference

Bailey Torpey – All Region and First Team Highland Conference

Sidney Upton – Academic All State and Honorable Mention Highland Conference

Macy Vondoloski – 1<sup>st</sup> Team Highland Conference

Chelsa Schripsema – Academic All State

Olivia Nelson – Academic All State



# **6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SNOWFEST CARNIVAL**

**February 1, 2020**

**3:00PM-7:00PM**

**GAMES  
INFLATABLES  
MAGICIAN  
BALLOONS  
FACE PAINTING  
RAFFLE  
ICE CREAM  
CONCESSIONS  
SILENT AUCTION  
(ENDS AT 6:30PM)  
& MORE**



**BEAL CITY HIGH SCHOOL**

**\$10 Wristband Entry per Child**

**CHILDREN UNDER 13 MUST BE  
ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.**

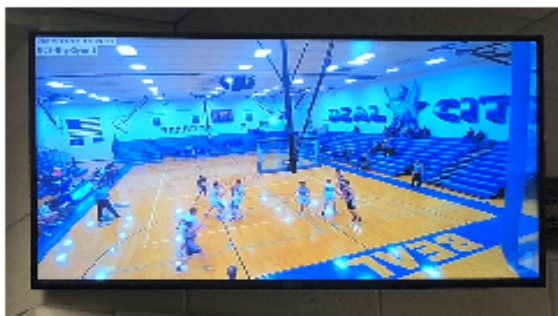
Beal City Public Schools  
3180 W Beal City Rd  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

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PERMIT NO 269

□

**Don't miss any of the action while you're waiting  
in line or working the concession stand!**

**The Sports Boosters recently installed a flat screen TV  
in the hallway that now displays a live camera feed of  
sporting events taking place in the Big Gym!**



Funding for this project was made possible  
by generous community memorial donations.

Thank you also to the following who  
helped with this project:

Jason McDonald - Aarron Butkovich  
Ben Eggenberger - Block Electric

**WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS NEW ADDITION!**