



## THE AGGIE EXPRESS

## Millage Renewal Up for Vote in November

At the general election on November 8, 2016 taxpayers will be asked to renew the district's operating millage. This millage was originally passed in June of 1999, renewed in 2004, 2008 and again in 2012.

The proposal will authorize a millage rate of 19.3909. However, the district cannot levy more than 18 operating mills in any given year. Simply approving 18 mills does not allow the district to levy the 18 mills for more than one year. Due to a law called Headlee, the operating millage is often "rolled back" each year as the law is designed to limit the increase in the operating tax levy to the increase in the consumer price index.

Operating millage is not paid on home or farmland. Operating millage is levied on non-homestead property only.

You may be questioning why the district is levying any operating millage. Doesn't the state fund our schools, not local property tax? The state assumes that each school district in the state of Michigan is levying 18 mills of local property tax on all non-homestead property. Therefore, the state decreases the amount of state funding based on the levy of 18 mills of local tax. For the 2016-2017 school year the state assumes that Beal City Public Schools would have to figure out a way to operate with \$254,000 less.

We understand that you, as a taxpayer, are facing the same economic times as the school district. Costs continue to increase, putting more of a strain on the family and district budget. When considering your support for the millage proposal please keep a couple things in mind. Operating millage is levied on property classified as non-homestead. Passage of the above proposition would not affect tax bills for primary residences (homesteads) or qualified agricultural properties. Properties that would be affected include commercial/industrial property, apartment buildings, rental homes, vacation property and vacant land. In addition, this is not a new tax, rather it is a renewal of a millage approved by the voters in 2012, 2008, 2004 and 1999. This renewal will have little effect on your current taxes. For a business property with taxable value of \$200,000, the tax would cost \$3,600 (\$200,000/1,000 X 18 mills), similar to what you are paying today.

It is extremely important that the district be allowed to levy this operating millage. Please consider supporting this millage proposal on November 8<sup>th</sup>

## Student Drop-Off Procedures

When dropping children off at the Elementary School, please encourage them to use the crosswalk by the front entrance. It is difficult to see students when they are cutting through the parking lot and walking in between buses. We have had some close calls in the past and hope to avoid these situations in the future. Vehicles are also PROHIBITED from dropping off students in the yellow Bus Loading Zone in front of the building during bus drop-off times (7:35-7:55am), as this presents a hazard to children, bus drivers and other vehicles. An adult will be helping to direct traffic at that time. Thank you for following these procedures to keep our children safe.

## **Elementary School Hours**

Elementary School hours are from 8:00am-3:00pm. Elementary students will be able to enter the cafeteria at 7:35am for breakfast. All other Elementary students will have supervision on the playground starting at 7:35am as well. Please do not drop off your child earlier than 7:35am. There is no supervision available until that time. Students that arrive in class between 8:00 and 8:15am will be marked tardy. Those who arrive after 8:15am will be marked absent. Lunch and recess will continue to be held from 11:00am until 11:45am.

## **Box Top\$ for Education Volunteer**

The Elementary is looking for a volunteer coordinator to organize our Box Top\$ for Education fundraiser. This is a volunteer effort that is greatly needed and has the flexibility to be done at home. If you are interested, please contact the Elementary office at 644-2740.



## **PTA News**

All parents are invited to join our wonderful PTA! Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the School Media Center. We hope to see you there! If you have questions, please contact the Elementary Office at (989) 644-2740.

## LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Make sure you follow **Beal City Elementary** on Facebook for all the latest school updates and special events happening at our school.



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Mon. Sept. 12	6:00 p.m.	Evart
Thurs. Sept. 15	5:00 p.m.	@McBain NMC
Mon. Sept. 19	6:00 p.m.	@Pine River
Thurs. Sept. 22	6:00 p.m.	Marion
Mon. Sept. 26	6:00 p.m.	@McBain
Thurs. Sept. 29	5:30 p.m.	Lake City
Mon. Oct. 3	5:30 p.m.	Manton
Thurs. Oct. 6	5:00 p.m.	@Evart
Mon. Oct. 10	6:00 p.m.	McBain NMC
Thurs. Oct. 13	6:00 p.m.	Pine River
Mon. Oct. 17	6:00 p.m.	@Marion
Wed. Oct. 19	6:00 p.m.	@Manton
Schedules are su	bject to chang	је

## **Job Openings at Beal City Public Schools**

Beal City Schools is looking for subs in the following areas: kitchen, custodian, bus drivers, para-pro and teachers thru PCMI/Willsub. Please apply at the Superintendent's Office at Beal City Public Schools, 3180 W Beal City Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.



# **B**oard Briefs

The following was approved at a regular board meeting on August 15, 2016:

- General Fund payments as follows: Check #56882-56974 \$305,118.40, Employee Direct Deposits & Net Pr Cks \$133,858.11, ORS Electronic Payments \$70,825.77, UAAL Rate Stabilization Electronic Pmt. \$30,698.67, H.S.A. Electronic Payment \$33,150.00, Total General Fund payments of \$573,650.95, Athletic Fund Payments of \$4,819.49
- The following coaching recommendations as presented: Dave King – Cross Country, Ben Danforth – Voluntary Assistant Cross Country, Brandon Shirley – Voluntary Assistant Football, Britni Buesking – Voluntary Assistant Volleyball, Andrea Esch – Voluntary Assistant Volleyball, Paige Lorenz – Voluntary Assistant Volleyball, Larissa Stevens – Voluntary Assistant Cheer, and Erin Sowmick – Voluntary Assistant Cheer.

The following coaches and support staff are being hired through PCMI: Brad Gross – Head Football, Brad Antcliff – Assistant Football, Tom Atkinson – Assistant Football, Dan Martin – Assistant Football, Heather Griffis – JV Volleyball, Anne Weber – Freshman Volleyball and Taylor Johnson – 8<sup>th</sup> Gr. Volleyball. Heather Coffell, Nicole Ganong and Samantha Corey are being hired through PCMI as Para-Pros.

- Accept Glen Smith's and Rich Wight's resignations as Maintenance Personnel and Kim Gruss' resignation as Para-Pro/Bus Driver as presented.
- To hire Wolgast as our Construction Manager for the August 2017 Bond Issue.

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.

## 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@bealcityschools.net.

## Ethan Schafer Represents Michigan at CONA

Ethan Schafer, a 2016 Beal City graduate and four year Youth in Government member, traveled to Washington D. C. and North Carolina this summer for the second time. Ethan was selected as part of a twenty-five member group to represent Michigan at the Conference on National Affairs. Ethan created a proposal that would increase accountability and transparency for non-profit organizations. After a pre-trip in D.C., he presented to and debated his proposal in North Carolina with hundreds of the most talented youth from thirty-eight states. As a returning CONA member, Ethan welcomed the opportunity to serve as a leader within his delegation, by concentrating not only on assisting new members, but increasing his knowledge of current issues and improving his debating skills. Ethan's involvement in the Beal City YIG program and the national CONA program has influenced his decision to study Political Science and Legal Studies at Grand Valley State University beginning in the fall of 2016.

## **Grand Marshall**

Student Council is now taking nominations for this year's Homecoming Grand Marshall. Submit a nomination with a paragraph explaining why he/she deserves the honor. Nominations can be emailed to kschafer@bealcityschools.net.

## **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.

1<sup>st</sup> offense – written warning

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

 $3^{\rm rd}$  offense – one month loss of transportation and mandatory meeting with the Transportation Director and Principal

4<sup>th</sup> 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

## 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 readmitted to school after treatment and examination. If, upon examination, school personnel find no live lice on the child, the child may reenter 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.

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Jason McDonald @ 644-3901.

## **Asbestos Management Plan Available for Review**

Our school district has conducted an extensive asbestos survey of all of our buildings. Based on the finding of this inspection, a comprehensive management plan was drafted. This plan details the response actions that the district will be taking regarding asbestos containing materials found in our buildings.

This plan is available for inspection at our offices without cost or restriction during normal business hours. If you desire to have a personal copy, please notify the main administrative office and it will be supplied to you within 5 working days at a cost of \$.30 per page.

Our main administrative office is located at: 3180 W Beal City Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. We endeavor to make our schools a safe place in which students can learn. Our procedures for dealing with this problem reflect that concern. Please let us know if we can answer any questions.

## Safe Drinking Water Act

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 Jason McDonald to review it.



## We Need YOU!

Would you like to make a difference in your child's school? Well, here's how!

Every year, your family receives a Free and Reduced Price Meal Application. It is important to fill out this form and return it to school for two reasons:

- The application lets us know if your child is eligible for free or reduced price school meals.
   Children from families that earn below a certain income level can receive free or reduced price lunch and breakfast at school.
- Applications are used to match funding our school receives for resources for students such as books and classroom furniture.

The application is easy to fill out and easy to understand. Also, you do not have to worry about your information being shared with others because application information is CONFIDENTIAL.

Support the School Breakfast Program today by completing your application! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Marci Faber 989-644-3901 or mfaber@bealcityschools.net.

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: \$.30

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





# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE & FAMILY PICNIC

The Elementary will be having their annual Welcome Back to School Open House & Family Picnic, on Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 to 6:30pm. The Open House is informal, allowing Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> graders and their families to meet their teachers and visit classrooms prior to the start of school. The PTA will also be hosting its annual picnic at this time, to help welcome all the kids back to school. The PTA will be asking for a \$6 donation per family for the picnic, which includes hot dogs, chips, and drinks. A donation will also give each family a membership to the Beal City Elementary PTA. If you have any questions regarding our Open House, please contact the elementary office at 644-2740.

# Beal City Schools Lunch Menu

				1	- 25
cher salad, gniled chicken salad, a berry burst parfait and strawberry parfait.	30 nachos chipsicheeselmeat, refried beans (9-12 cold carrots) garden bar, pineapple, and milk Daily option: wg cheese	29 bread (9-12 2 w slice) with mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, garden bar, peach cup, juice and milk Daily option: wg chicken tenders when slice of head tenders when slice of head	28 Chicken Patty w/wg bun, sweet potato fries, garden bar, apples, juice and milk Daily option: (cheese) hamburger w/wg bun	27 macaroni and cheese, (9-12 dimer roll), peas, garden bar, strawberry cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg breakfast	26 tangeine chicken why rice, stir fry vegetakes, garden bar, mandarin oranges, juice and milk Daily option: com dogs
Ingrade add lunch option lunch	23 chicken quesadilla, refried beans (9-12 cold carrots), garden bar, grapes, juice and milk Daily option: wg pepperoni calcone	22 salisbury steak, broccoli, (9-12 wg bread), garden bar, sliced peaches, juice and milk Daily option: wg chicken tenders, wg cinn graham crackers, mached potatoes and gravy wiboth	21 hot dog wiwg bun, (9-12 wg goldfich crackers), sweet potato fries, garden, bar, apple, juice and milk Daily option: (cheese) hamburger wiwg bun	20 wg cinn French toast w/ sausage links, hash brown, cold carrots, garden bar, mixed fruit, juice and milk Daily option: wg breakfast pizza	19 meathall sub, cauliflower, garden bar, strawberny cups, juice and milk Daily option: wy corn dog nuggets
	16 taco wi wg tortila shell, refried beans (9-12 cold carrots) garden bar, oranges, juice and milk Daily option: wiwg pepperoni pizza	15 twisty chicken alfredo.(6-12 wg garlic breadstick), broccoli, garden bar, apricot caps, juice and milk Daly option: wg chicken tenders (6-12 same) (K-5 can graham cracker)	14 scalloped potatoesham wivey dinner roll, cookie, cookied carrots, garden bar, apple, juice and milk Daily option: (cheese) hamburger wivey bun and cookie	Wg ham&chesse calzone, green beans, pears, juice and milk Daily option: wg breakfast pizza	12 chicken mached potato bowl wicom, wg dinner roll, garden bar, applesauce cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg com dog muggets
Aggie Spirit Week: 26 <sup>th</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup> !	9 machos chipsicheeselmeat, refined beans (9-12 cold carrots) garden bar, pineapple, and milk Daily option: wg cheese pizza	8 Chicken Patty wlwg bun, sweet potato fries, garden bar, apples, juice and milk Daily option: (cheese) hamburger wlwg bun	7 macaroni and cheese, (9-12 dinner roll), peas, garden bar, strawberry cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg breakfast pizza	6 tangerine chicken wiwg rice, stir fry vegetables, garden bar, mandarin oranges, juice and milk Daily option: corm dog nuggets	5 Labor Day
<i>News</i> Welcome Back!!!! ©	N	1			
	FRIDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	TUESDAY	MONDAY

Menus are subject to change. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer

## **Beal City PTA**

## We need your help!

I'm guessing that many of you do not know about everything that the PTA does. We start by trying to raise money throughout the school year to put money back into events and programs for our students. We do this by hosting 3 to 4 Fun Zones (after school events with music, activities, food and drink), selling spirit gear for Homecoming, Apple Pie Fundraiser, and Snowfest Carnival.

Now I want to tell you about everything else the PTA does. Along with the fundraising we host/fund the Back To School Picnic (accepting only donations), participate in the Homecoming Parade, 2 non-profit book fairs, Santa Shop (non-profit), supply gifts and decorations for Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, \$500 per grade for field trips, \$1000 camp scholarship, \$100 per teacher for classroom supplies, fulfill special requests (ex. Ipods for special needs classroom), and other various needs that arise. This year we are able to fund a special event. The Sky Dome Planetarium will be here September 21<sup>st</sup>.

Unfortunately, according to our bylaws, an officer can hold a position for not more than 4 one-year terms and we are all at the end of our terms. We NEED more parent involvement! President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer will all need to be filled at the end of the year. Without these positions filled there will NOT be a PTA and everything that goes with it.

PLEASE come to our meetings and check it out. Kids are always welcome! Meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday every month in the Media Center @ 5:30pm. The first meeting will be Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please ask any of our officers.

Co-President: Jennifer Ames (989)560-2302 Co-President: Amy Lehnert (989)289-3652

Vice-President: Missy Hall Secretary: Tami Wilson Treasurer: Julie Wichert



## Who are we?

The Winn Area Activity Center (WAAC) is a state-licensed child care program. This is the first year WAAC is offering the Beal City After School Program. We are excited to meet you. Our program offers the following:

- Highly-trained, professional, caring staff members
- Low program fees and we accept DHS Childcare payments
- Healthy afternoon snacks
- Time for your child to complete homework with our staff of future educators.
- A FUN AND SAFE PLACE FOR YOUR CHILD TO GO AFTER SCHOOL!

## Enrollment Requirements

- All enrollment forms must be completed by the first day of your child attending the program.
- The enrollment fee is required to offset the cost of enrollment forms, handbooks, emergency cards, and other necessary paperwork required for state licensing.
- Children must be enrolled in Kindergarten through 12 years of age to attend this program.
- Daily attendance is currently limited to 54 children.

Beal City After School Program



At Carl D. Mayes Elementary School 3117 Elias Road Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

## General Info

Registration Fee:
\$5 per FAMILY
Price:
\$6 per day
(first child)
\$4 per day (each additional
sibling)
Location:
School Cafeteria
Afterschool
Program:
3:00 pm—5:30 pm

## **Payment Details**

Tuition invoices are issued via email bi-weekly.

Accounts must be in good standing to attend the program.

## Daily Schedule for After School Program:

3:00-3:10 Arrival and attendance

3:10-3:40 Free Choice (Outside; weather permitting)

3:40-4:00 Wash hands, snack time

4:00-4:30 Homework time

4:30-5:30 Free time (Outside; weather permitting)

## Have more questions?

Contact our program director Liz Ogreen.

An informational parent meeting will be announced on Facebook prior to the start of school.

"Like" Winn Area Activity
Center on Facebook for
the latest updates
and program information!

## **Carl D. Mayes Elementary Beal City After School Program Registration Instructions**

- 1) Print this page and fill out completely; (additional enrollment paperwork will be required before starting the program.)
- 2) Remember to identify the days of the week your child will attend the program, a two day minimum is required.
- 3) Include a \$5.00 enrollment fee (per family) with your registration (Checks payable to WAAC)
- !4) Send your form and payment to:

Liz Ogreen WAAC-Beal City After School Program PO Box 92 Winn, MI 48896

Or drop off the form and payment to the elementary office.

Number of	Children Att	ending:						
Child(ren)'s	Name(s) and	Grade:						
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5 5 H		H 58		= = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = =			a a	
Parent/Guar	dian Contact N	ame(s):						
Address	65 06	# # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # #					<u> </u>	
Primary Em	ail Address (re	equired):	555				69	
		r (Required): _						2750
	Ple	ease CIRCLE th	ie Days You	ır Child	l Will Attend			
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes	day	Thursday	Friday		

## For more information contact:

Liz Ogreen, Program Director

(231) 571-0143

Or email: WAACprograms@gmail.com



## MARCHING AGGIES DON'T STOP!

BACK ON THE FIELD WITH A GREAT SHOW!
WHAT A GREAT BAND WEEK!

## MARCHING AGGIES

fall performance season.

An incredible Band Week wrapped up on Friday, August 5 with a great informative exhibition that showcased the hard work and talents of our amazing 55 student musicians! The Marching Aggies braved a week of over 90°F temperatures and high humidity (and dozens of water breaks) to put over 35 pages of drill on the field in preparation for the

Additionally, our new percussion equipment arrived in mid-June - in plenty of time for it to be ready for the week's use and to have each new harness and drum custom fit for our students. Thanks to John Manley of Herter Music who gave of his time twice in the summer to make certain our Marching Aggie Drumline was properly ready to go for the season!



## TEMPO CLUB

Band Parents: Please make time in your schedule for Monday evening, September 12 at 7PM for the monthly meeting of TEMPO Club. Getting involved with your student's music education is so important and our monthly meetings can be a great way to meet other parents and discover which ways you can serve and have fun doing so!



SIXTH GRADE PARENTS: Mr Coté from Marshall Music will be in the school during the week before Labor Day for instrument fittings. Beginning Band starts on Day One! Everyone with an instrument means we all learn together!



BAND-TASTIC CONCERT Sunday, Oct 30 - 4PM

CHECK FOR UPDATES ON THE BEAL CITY BANDS WEBSITE! bealcitybands.weebly.com

# BC Scrapbooking Crop

Date:	Saturaay, September 24, 2016

Time: 9:00a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Location: Beal City Small Gym

3180 W. Beal City Road, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Price: \$40

Includes: Light breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks, make and

takes and Door Prizes!

- The Purple Butterfly Scrapbooking store will be set up for you to shop at throughout your day of scrapbooking.
- Kim Vogel, a Stampin' Up! Demonstrator, will be doing a make and take and have product available for purchase.

Register early to reserve your table space! E-mail any questions to bhull@beakityschools.net or ahenry@beakityschools.net

Please mail or drop off your registration and payment to:

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

Name	Phone Number
Address	E-mail
	_
Who you would like to sit with	-



## The Rewards of Reading

The seeds for success in the classroom are sown at home. Encouraging children to read at home is one of the most powerful ways that parents can support students' learning. Just 15 minutes of reading at home per day can make a difference in students' reading fluency. Prioritize reading with these tips.

Always have books on hand. Keep a book in your bag

or your car's glove compartment so your child can read in the car, or while waiting in line at the grocery store. Make regular trips to the library, and keep an eye out for books at bargain sales or garage sales. Or, consider holding a "book swap" with neighbors and friends. For birthdays or holidays, give your child new reading material.

Keep it up. Find ways to encourage your child to pick up new reading material to read once one book is finished. For instance, introduce him or her to a series or ask your librarian for books by the same author. Draft a "to-read" list that your child can check off. Consider subscribing your child to a magazine for kids.

Focus on their interests. Encourage your child to check out books from the library that feature characters or topics he or she is interested in. Whether it's NASCAR to NASA, the topic doesn't matter (as long as it's age-appropriate), as long as your child is reading.

Read out loud together. Schedule time to read aloud together, taking turns to read passages. Invite your entire family to participate. Use different voices for different characters, or invite your child to make sound effects for the story.

Make it a routine. Consider how to make reading habitual. Your family could have a weekly read-aloud session, or you and your child could read each week before bed.

Be a patient listener. No matter how slowly your young learner reads, avoid finishing sentences for your child. Gently correct mistakes, sound out words together, and let your child know you're proud.

> Cut the distractions. During reading time, turn off or put away electronic devices. Make sure you follow the rule, too.

Ask questions. Ask your child about what he or she is reading in school or what you are reading together. Try open-ended questions such as, "Why do you think the character did that?," "What would you do if you were in that situation?," or "What do you think will happen next?"

Read beyond books. Invite your child to read menus, greeting cards, movie listings, newspaper comic strips, or directions to a destination. Word recognition is an important step for

reading fluency, so consider using strips of paper and tape to label everyday objects in your home to boost your child's familiarity with words.



Sign up for Club Connect, a reading and philanthropy initiative from NAESP and United Way. Your school may be already signed up—check with your principal.

www.unitedwayclubconnect.org/

Visit **Reading Rockets Parent Tips** page for specific activities for readers of various age groups.

www.pbs.org/launchingreaders/parenttips.html



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

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## **SAVE THE DATE!!!**



The BCEF is thrilled to announce that we will again be hosting our annual "Halloween Bash" on October 29, 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. We are looking for volunteers to help with soliciting sponsors. Please contact Rod Freeze at rfreeze@bealcityschools.net if you can help.