



THE AGGIE EXPRESS

School Board Officers Elected

The following school board officers were elected at their annual Organizational Meeting held on Monday, January 18, 2016:

Denise McBride	President
Rod Cole	Vice President
Kari Rojas	Secretary
Bob Pasch	Treasurer
Jane Finnerty	Trustee
Curt Gottschalk	Trustee
Ron Neyer	Trustee

The School Board meetings are held on the third Monday of every month unless otherwise noted. The start time for this year's meetings will be at 7:00 p.m. This year's meeting schedule is as follows:

Monday, January 18, 2016	Organizational Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Monday, January 18, 2016	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Monday, February 15, 2016		7:00 p.m.
Monday, March 21, 2016		7:00 p.m.
Monday, April 18, 2016		7:00 p.m.
Monday, May 16, 2016		7:00 p.m.
Monday, June 27, 2016	Budget Hearing	6:30 p.m.
Monday, June 27, 2016	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Monday, July 18, 2016		7:00 p.m.
Monday, August 15, 2016		7:00 p.m.
Monday, September 19, 2016		7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 17, 2016		7:00 p.m.
Monday, November 21, 2016		7:00 p.m.
Monday, December 19, 2016		7:00 p.m.
Monday, January 16, 2017	Organizational Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Monday, January 16, 2017	Regular Meeting	7:00 p.m.

Correction from the January Aggie Express:

Bob Pasch

Bob has been a member of the Board of Education for 13 years and is currently the Treasurer of the Board. Bob is a farmer in our local community. Bob and his wife Mary have four children; Sara (Kory) Mindel, Abe (Misty) Pasch, Molly (Shawn) Graham and Joe (DeAnna Jewell) Pasch and 8 grandchildren.



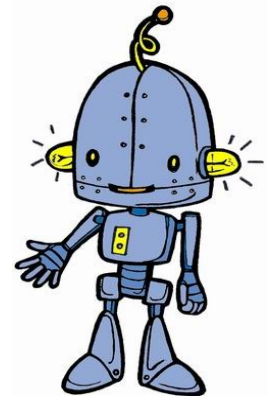
*****Staff Member of the Month*****

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

Mr. Pittsley has been employed with the Beal City Public School District for the past 23 years. He is dedicated to the school, community and students and is always willing to go above and beyond his regular duties to help students achieve. He has started a Chess Club at lunch time and has many students participate in the Club. Mr. Pittsley has also started a Robotics Team, which is new this school year. He has 15 members on the Robotics Team made up of male and female students. He continues to make himself available to students and parents before school, at lunch time, during his prep time as well as after school for anyone who may need additional assistance. Mr. Pittsley's commitment to the Beal City School District is recognized and deeply appreciated.

The Beal City Robotics Team

We became aware of the First Robotics Competition (FRC) program after receiving an email asking if anyone would be willing to start a team at Beal City. It has been said the program is as close to real-world engineering as a student will get. The program combines the excitement of sports with the rigors of science and technology. Under strict rules, limited resources, and an intense six-week time limit, teams are challenged to raise funds, design a team, and build an industrial-size robot to play a difficult field game against competitors.



The program was founded in 1989 by Dean Kamen, and is often referred to simply as FIRST. FIRST is an acronym meaning "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology" and now has programs at all grade levels. Research has documented that over 88% of students participating in FIRST have more interest in school, 90% have more interest in taking a challenging math or science course, and 90 % are more interested in attending college.

The State of Michigan has more teams than any other state. This might be due to an \$18,000.00 incentive it offers to new teams. This money covers the basic costs of the program but is much lower than the annual amount spent by the average team. Students are exposed to sophisticated software, hardware, and power tools, some with hefty price tags. A team must build and compete with a robot made and designed by them. They are free to purchase anything they wish as long as it meets with the rules. The work and time required can be very demanding but well worth the investment. Team members qualify for more than 25 million dollars in scholarship money.

The Beal City team attended the Kickoff on January 9th where they watched the worldwide webcast and picked up their basic kit of parts for building their robot. January 10th they attended a quick build in Grand Rapids where they began working on their Robot.



Students Teaching Health and Wellness in the Classroom

Mr. Fletcher's 9th grade health class put together presentations about health and wellness to educate elementary classrooms. Mr. Fletcher and Marci Faber partnered together as part of Beal City School's wellness committee to bring awareness to our younger students. These presentations included several important topics: healthy eating, physical activity, sugars in food, how to read a label, my plate, sodium in food, fruits/vegetables on your plate and so much more.

This was a very positive experience for all involved. We went into classrooms in our elementary and St. Joe's on Monday, December 21st, 2015 and we are planning to make this an annual project to keep educating our students about the importance of wellness. Go to the Food Service page of our website, click on Wellness Resources and click on this article at the top of the page to view the slideshow of pictures.

SAT & ACT Study Sessions





Today's students.
Tomorrow's business professionals.



Every year Beal City High School students have the opportunity to compete in the Business Professionals Of America (BPA) program through GI-TEC (Gratiot Isabella Technical Education Center) at Mt. Pleasant High School. The BPA Regional Leadership Conference was held Saturday, January 9, 2016 at Central Michigan University. Over 600 students from 29 Northern-Lower Peninsula high schools participated in 54 business related contests.

Congratulations to Alexia Lynch for placing 6th in Prepared Speech. She is now eligible to compete at the state competition in Grand Rapids March 17 – 20, 2016. The top six finalists in individual competitions and the top two finalists in team competition can advance to the state competition. Good Luck Alexia!!!

Board Briefs

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

- General Fund payments of \$340,549.60, hot lunch payments of \$14,484.42 and Athletic Fund payments of \$2,910.22.
- The second reading of the revised Neola Policies as presented.

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.



Breakfast Logic

Breakfast is a good thing!

When students need to take achievement tests, schools strongly urge them to eat breakfast first on testing days. Why? Because we know that when students eat breakfast, they perform better and are better able to concentrate. Yet on “normal” days, many students fail to eat breakfast: they’re too busy, too tired, or just don’t know what to eat.

Let’s help students to perform better every day, by making sure they eat a healthy breakfast at home or at school.

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

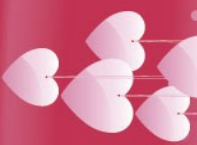
Reduced: \$.30

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



Elvis Day Was A Hit In The Cafeteria

The Beal City cafeteria was rockin’ on January 8th for Elvis’ birthday! The cafeteria was decked out with Elvis memorabilia and the 50’s. Art, or as we like to call him, Elvis, sang and entertained during all lunch hours. Students were singing, dancing and requesting songs. Everyone really enjoyed themselves. Check out the pictures we captured from this memorable event on the Food Service page of our website. The Aggie Cafe staff would like to thank everyone for their enthusiasm and especially to Art Fredericks for being our Elvis and showing everyone a good time. We will be celebrating Valentine’s Day with heart-shaped cookies on Feb. 12th!



FEBRUARY 2016

Beal City School Lunch Menu

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 chicken mashed potato bowl w/comm, wg dinner roll, garden bar, applesauce cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg corn dog nuggets	2 sloppy jo w/wg bun, green beans, pears, juice and milk Daily option: wg breakfast pizza	3 scalloped potatoes/ham w/wg dinner roll, cookie, cooked carrots, garden bar, apple, juice and milk Daily option: (cheese) hamburger w/wg bun	4 twisty chicken Alfredo, wg garlic breadstick, broccoli, garden bar, apricot cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg chicken nuggets w/wg garlic breadstick	5 taco w/ wg tortilla shell, refried beans (9-12 cold carrots) garden bar, oranges, juice and milk Daily option: wg pepperoni pizza
8 meatball sub, cauliflower, garden bar, strawberry cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg corn dog nuggets	9 hot dog w/wg bun, sweet potato fries, garden bar, apple, juice and milk Daily option: (cheese) hamburger w/wg bun	10 Wg grilled cheese sandwich, tomato soup, broccoli, garden bar, mixed fruit, juice and milk Daily option: (cheese)/fish sandwich w/wg bun	11 saisbury steak w/mashed potato and gravy, carrots, (9-12wg bread),garden bar, sliced peaches,juice and milk Daily option: wg chicken nuggets, wg cinn graham crackers with both	12 wg maple waffle w/ sausage links, hash brown, cold carrots, garden bar, mixed fruit, juice and milk Daily option: wg breakfast pizza
15 tangerine chicken w/wg rice, stir fry vegetables, garden bar, mandarin oranges, juice and milk Daily option: corn dog nuggets	16 macaroni and cheese, (9-12 dinner roll), peas, garden bar, strawberry cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg breakfast pizza	17 Chicken Patty w/wg bun, sweet potato fries, garden bar, apples, juice and milk Daily option: (cheese) hamburger w/wg bun	18 hot turkey sandwich (wg bread) with mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, garden bar, peach cup, juice and milk Daily option: wg chicken nuggets w/wg slice of bread	19 nachos chips/cheese/meat, refried beans (9-12 cold carrots) garden bar, pineapple, and milk Daily option: wg cheese pizza
22 chicken mashed potato bowl w/comm, wg dinner roll, garden bar, applesauce cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg corn dog nuggets	23 sloppy jo w/wg bun, green beans, pears, juice and milk Daily option: wg breakfast pizza	24 scalloped potatoes/ham w/wg dinner roll, cookie, cooked carrots, garden bar, apple, juice and milk Daily option: (cheese) hamburger w/wg bun	25 twisty chicken Alfredo, wg garlic breadstick, broccoli, garden bar, apricot cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg chicken nuggets w/wg garlic breadstick	26 taco w/ wg tortilla shell, refried beans (9-12 cold carrots) garden bar, oranges, juice and milk Daily option: wg cheese pizza
29 meatball sub, cauliflower, garden bar, strawberry cups, juice and milk Daily option: wg corn dog nuggets				

News

Love is in the air! Come and join us for a Valentine Celebration on the 12th!

February 23rd is our Food for Thought meeting at 2:00 in the cafeteria!

All grains are whole grain!
Milk choices:

Fat free chocolate

1% white

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

6th-12th grade additional daily lunch options:
Turkey sub, Crispy Chicken wrap, chef salad or a strawberry parfait!



Carnival Volunteers

Snowfest Carnival is here! Mark your calendar for Saturday, February 6th, from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.. We are in need of volunteers. All volunteers will receive Snow Bucks which can be used at the concession stand (excludes cotton candy and sno-cones). Anyone interested in volunteering can call the elementary office at 644-2740 or Jen Ames at 989-560-2302. We have divided it up as follows:

Friday Decorating	4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Saturday Set-up	11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Saturday 1 st Shift	3:10 p.m. – 6:10 p.m.
Saturday 2 nd Shift	6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Saturday Clean-up	8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.



Cake-Walk Donations

We also need donations for the Cake-Walk. We are asking for baked goods packaged in quantities of approximately 6. Some ideas would be cinnamon rolls, brownies, cookies, cupcakes, etc. These items can be brought in to school on Friday, February 5th or can be dropped off the day of the carnival after 11:00.

Snowfest Poster Competition

The winner of this year's poster competition is Karly Smith. She will receive a free wristband for admission into the carnival and her poster will be used for carnival advertising. Runners-up were Morgan Wilson and Eric Noeker.

ANNUAL

carnival games

cake walk

silent

auction

raffle

Concessions

- Hot dogs
- Popcorn
- Pretzels
- Nachos
- Cotton Candy
- Sno-cones
- Candy
- Refreshments

Yum.

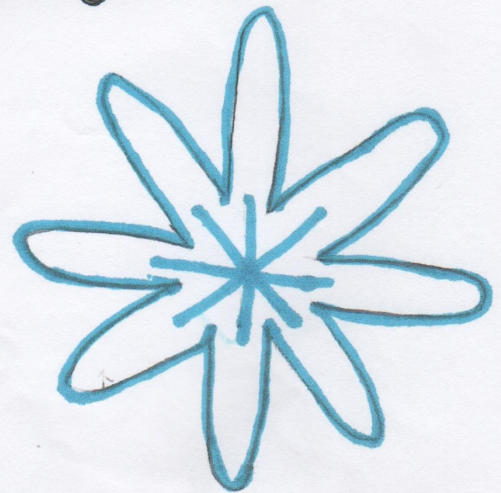
SNOWFEST

Date: Saturday,
February 6th

Time: 4pm - 8pm

Place: Beal City High School

CARNIVAL



By: Karlu Smith

Beal City

Baseball/Softball

9 Pin No-Tap Bowling Tournament

Sick of being inside with the long cold winter?!?!? Come out of the house and have a blast while supporting the Beal City High School Softball and Baseball programs while we gear up for a great 2016 spring season!! Go Aggies!!!!

Saturday March 5, 2016
1:00pm at Riverwood Resort

Cost: \$25 per person

Winners are not based on bowling ability!

There will also be prize raffles and 50/50 drawings.

Names: _____

Contact Number: _____ Payment: _____ Check (# _____)

For a Chance to win entry Fee back please Pre-Register by Feb. 26, 2016

Mail bottom half of form to:

Brad Antcliff 5230 W. Beal City Rd. Weidman 48893 or put in Baseball mailbox in AD office.

All proceeds will go towards Beal City High School baseball and softball programs.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Time: 5:00 to 7:30

Date: April 8, 2016

**Place: Beal City Knights of
Columbus Hall**

**Cost: \$7.00 for adults, \$5.00
for kids ages 5-12, and
4-Under 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.

ALL YOU CAN EAT!!



The Beal City Bands' Tempo Club is selling 15oz Coffee Mugs - \$15 Each

Proceeds will help the Band purchase new instruments
for our Marching Aggie Drumline!

Ask a High School Band member about it or
Contact Mr. Lowe, Diane in High School Office
or Donna Horsley in the Media Center – Thank you!



WE NEED YOUR HELP

Kitchen and Paraprofessional subs needed



Beal City Public Schools is looking for kitchen and Paraprofessional subs. All kitchen and paraprofessional subs will be paid by a third party management company but will be called by our staff to cover regular staff when they need time off. We have a need for substitutes on a regular basis. Also, when full time positions open substitutes are often first in line if interested in full time work. Please contact Marci Faber at 644-3901 to get more information on subbing in the kitchen. Please contact Melissa Hall at 644-2740 to get more information on subbing as a paraprofessional in the elementary.



"...in harmony with the home and community..."

FESTIVAL SEASON!

CMU Jazz Festival - Friday, February 5
HS Solo & Ensemble Festival - Saturday, February 13
Band Festival - Friday, March 4

JAZZ BAND

Mark your calendar as the Beal City Jazz Band takes the big stage at Plachta Auditorium! Our Aggie Jazzers will perform at the **CMU Jazz Weekend, Friday, February 5 at 8:50 AM**. We'd love to have a big supportive audience as we play some great music in the morning!

SOLO & ENSEMBLE

Another bumper crop of participants in HS District Solo & Ensemble Festival this year - 23 events involving 27 students will be traveling to **St Johns HS on Saturday, February 13**. With over 50% of high school band students participating, these are numbers most schools dream of! Beal City produces interested and talented students reaching for musical success year after year!

BAND FESTIVAL

The schedule is in and the Beal City Bands will be performing at Freeland HS on **Friday, March 4 for MSBOA District Band Festival**. Middle School Band will perform at 4:50 PM and the High School Concert Band will perform at 7:10 PM. We'd love to have a large supportive audience - Hope to see you there!

BEGINNING & MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND PARENTS

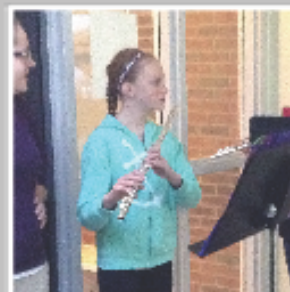
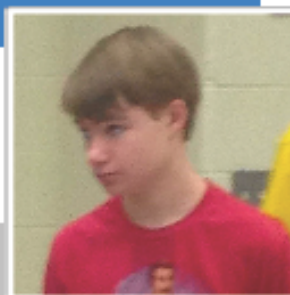
Students should be bringing practice records home to log practice time. These are weekly assignments. Practice records also serve as a progress report for parents; you can hear and know how your child is progressing in band.

BEAL CITY MUGS

Do you love Beal City and a warm beverage? Well, we have just the thing for you! Just \$15 for a 15oz ceramic mug with our awesome Beal City gym wall emblazoned on the side! See Donna Horsley or any band student for yours today!

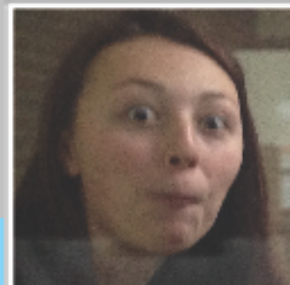
CHECK FOR UPDATES ON THE BEAL CITY BANDS WEBSITE!

bealcitybands.weebly.com



Pre-Festival Concert-Clinic

**Sunday, Feb 28;
4 & 5PM**



Rules for Parents

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

WHAT YOU DO MATTERS

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

YOU CAN'T BE TOO LOVING

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

STAY INVOLVED

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

ADAPT YOUR PARENTING

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

SET LIMITS

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

FOSTER INDEPENDENCE

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

EXPLAIN YOUR DECISIONS

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



Managing Your Child's Health Issues at School

If your child has a health issue, it is absolutely essential that you and your child's school work together as a team. Here are important strategies to advocate on behalf of your child.

Share the facts.

Each medical issue carries its own set of "management" needs. Provide school personnel with this information. For example, if your child has diabetes, you will need to outline your child's insulin schedule, meal plan, and testing times, as well as how to recognize and treat blood sugar crises. The same type of detailed information—what to look for, what to do, how to follow up—should be completed for every health issue, from epilepsy to asthma.

Know who to tell.

Clearly, your school nurse, classroom teacher, and principal need to be aware of your child's specific medical needs. Depending on your child's condition, other staff (cafeteria workers, coaches, bus drivers, and playground supervisors) may also need to be kept in the loop so they can properly respond to a situation or prevent one from occurring.

Stay up-to-date.

Make sure that the medical information on file at your child's school is up-to-date. Ensure that necessary medical supplies are on hand. Work with the school nurse to make sure you are informed well in advance if any supplies need to be restocked.



Create an IEP.

An Individual Education Plan (IEP) is used for children with disabilities, but can also be applied to children with medical issues. Work with the school to create a written plan detailing the school's role in your child's care, noting any special accommodations the school may need to make.

Get academic support.

Make sure that teachers understand that your child

may occasionally need to miss class because of his or her condition. Discuss how your child will make up missed work.

Help your child answer questions.

Children can be curious about anything that's out of the ordinary. Classmates may ask your child about his or her condition. Role-play with your child to anticipate the types of questions others might ask and how best to answer them.

Turn to the experts.

Many health conditions have advocacy organizations that provide educational materials targeted to school-age children. If you feel it would be helpful, contact the organization and request materials to share with your child's class.

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

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BUS DRIVER SUBS NEEDED

Beal City Public Schools is in need of bus driver subs. No experience is necessary. If interested please contact the Superintendent's Office at 989-644-3901.