



The Aggie Express

A publication of the Beal City Public Schools

www.bealcityschools.net

January, 2015

School Board Leaders Honored in January

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

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

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

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

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

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

Robert Pasch	11 years
Kari Rojas	8 years
Rod Cole	8 years
Denise McBride	6 years
Jane Finnerty	4 years
Ron Neyer	1 year
Curt Gottschalk	1 year



****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 Marylyn Gross.

Marylyn Gross have been a valuable employee for Beal City Public Schools. Her commitment to the district and community is to be commended. She has brought a sense of unity and structure to the staff and students of Beal City Public Schools. Her presence on a daily basis has filled the school with a positive attitude. We will miss her dearly and wish her the best in her retirement. On a personal note, I will miss her most of all, as she has been with me for going on 20 years. Best of luck Marylyn in your next endeavor. It has been my pleasure to work with someone so professional. Your friend and relative JMJ

5th & 6th Grade First Semester All A's & B's

5th Grade

Owen Ambs
Samantha Ames
Natalie Antcliff
Paige Antcliff
Hannah Bass
Isabella Benzinger
Eliza Dempsey
Madalyn Embrey
Rylee Fike
Jacob Fussman
Clara Galvez
Megan Gamble
Brayden Haynes
Megan Johnston
Mykenzie Kent
Brendan Martin
Kyleigh Methner
Hunter Miles
Amanda Morgenstern
Haiden Onstott
Matthew Oswald
Chase Owens
Elizabeth Philo
Logan Pritchard
Zachary Raitz
Darren Schafer
Peyton Sellers
Karly Smith
Allison Wichert
Konnor Wilson
Morgan Wilson
Wade Wilson
Olivia Wood
Donovan Zuker

6th Grade

Hunter Ambs
Abigail Bass
Angelica Camp
Ayden Case
Matthew Clark
Nathan Coston
Rosalie Daniels
Natalie Fussman
Ethan Gott
Kinleigh Keller
Marcus Kent
Matthew Kolb
Bailey Lawens
Ana Licina
Jayden Long
Jason Maxon
Ana McGuire
Aiden Mindel
Dulaney Noeker
Breanna Pety
Jesse Pratt
Cassidy Sandel
Faith Schuch
Ellie Theisen
Bailey Torpey
Kirsten Turner
Macy Vondoloski
Terrell Zuker

Santa's Secret Shop

There were lots of Santa's elves scurrying around the small gym making last minute purchases on December 11th. Students were clutching many lists and checking them twice with the help of our terrific PTA. We appreciate the PTA providing the gift items and volunteers to assist students with making these very special purchases.



Kids Care Drive a Success

For the second year in a row, our Elementary students took part in spreading holiday cheer to the less fortunate in our community. In lieu of exchanging Christmas gifts with classmates, the students collected personal care products. These products were then delivered to the Isabella County Community Food Pantry to be redistributed to families in our area. The response was overwhelming.

HOLIDAY SING PROGRAM IS A HIT!

A capacity crowd filled the Elementary gym for the annual holiday program on Friday, December 12th. Prior to the program, the Elementary school hosted our semi-annual Senior Citizens Reception. Community members were able to warm up with a cup of coffee and enjoy a variety of treats. Our thanks to the PTA for their assistance with setting up, serving, and cleaning up the gym. We also appreciate all the wonderful parents that baked the delicious treats we enjoyed. Our thanks also goes out to Mrs. Amy Sharrar, and the Elementary staff for an outstanding performance! And most of all, we would like to give a big THANK YOU to all of our students for putting on such a wonderful holiday program, showcasing their great musical and acting talents. Great Job Kids!!

Mayes Elementary November Students' of the Month



Back Row Left to Right, Luke Lyon (3rd Grade) son of Matt Lyon and Stephanie Schafer, Levi Hazen (4th Grade) son of Levi and Kay Hazen, Kyleigh Methner (5th Grade) daughter of Kim Methner and Wendy Webster, and Ellie Theisen (6th grade) daughter of Mark and Lori Theisen. Front Row Left to Right, Cuyler Smith (Kdg.) son of Rick and Ann Smith, Mylie Kent (1st Grade) daughter of Bryan and Nicole Kent, and Chase Wezensky (2nd Grade) son of Travis and Erin Wezensky.



1st Annual Snowfest Winter Carnival

Games, Inflatables, Cake-Walk, Raffles, Silent Auction, Concessions

Location: Beal City Schools

Saturday, February 7th

Time: 4:00 – 8:00pm

(All proceeds will benefit the Elementary Playground Project)

Volunteers Needed—Contact Jen Ames (989-560-2302)

Fun for the whole Family!!!



BOARD BRIEFS

The following was approved at a regular board meeting on December 15, 2014:

- General Fund payments of \$299,368.70, Hot Lunch payments of \$14,245.95, Athletic Fund payments of \$14,416.41.
- The 2nd reading of the Neola Policies including the Epi Pen Policy as presented.
- The hiring of Kelli Deters as a full time temporary elementary teacher as presented.
- The following coaching recommendation: Kelly David – Voluntary Assistant JH Girls Basketball. The following coach is being recommended through PCMI – Martha Veihl – 7th Gr. Girls Basketball.
- The hiring of Diane Fussman as a Secondary Administrative Assistant. She will take over for Marylyn Gross upon her retirement.

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.

News from the Aggie Café:

The cafeteria will hold their annual “Food for Thought” meeting on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 from 2:00 p.m.-2:55 p.m. Any parent/guardian or community member with comments, suggestions, concerns or compliments, please feel free to join us.

German Links Food Drive

The German Links food drive was a success! Our school donated over 1,000 cans of food to the REAP food pantry in Rosebush. Congratulations to the 2nd grade for bringing in the most donations and winning the ice cream party.



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: assorted pop tarts, muffins, uncrustables, cereal, yogurt, juice, cheese stick and milk. Students must choose a fruit and 2 other items.

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

Full pay price: \$1.30

Reduced: \$.30

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

January 2015

Beal City Schools Lunch Menu

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1	2 Christmas Break ends
5 wg popcorn chicken w/wg dinner roll, green beans, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Monday option: wg corn dog nuggets	6 wg maple flavored waffle, hash brown, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Tuesday option: wg breakfast pizza	7 hot turkey sandwich (wg bread) with mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, garden bar, fruit juice and milk Thursday option: wg chicken nuggets/wg breadstick	8 Love Me Tender Chicken Patty w/wg bun, All Shook Up fries, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Wednesday option: Hunka, Hunka hamburger/wg bun	9 nachos chips/cheese/meat, refried beans, garden bar, fruit, and milk Friday option: wg cheese pizza
12 sloppy jo w/wg bun, celery, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Monday option: wg corn dog nuggets	13 chili, wg cheez-its, (slice wg bread for HS) broccoli, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Tuesday option: wg breakfast pizza	14 scalloped potatoes/ham, wg breadstick, corn, cookie, broccoli, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Wednesday option: hamburger/wg bun	15 twisty chicken Alfredo, cooked carrots, wg garlic breadstick, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Thursday option: wg chicken nuggets/wg breadstick	16 taco w/ wg tortilla shell, refried beans, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Friday option: wg pepperoni pizza
19 tangerine chicken w/wg rice, stir fry vegetables, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Monday option: wg corn dog nuggets	20 macaroni and cheese, broccoli, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Tuesday option: wg breakfast pizza	21 hog dog w/wg bun, sweet potato fries, garden bar, fruit juice and milk Wednesday option: hamburger/wg bun	22 Salisbury steak w/mashed potatoes and gravy, peas, wg bread garden bar, fruit juice and milk Thursday option: wg chicken nuggets/wg breadstick	23 wg chicken quesadilla, refried beans, garden bar, fruit juice and milk Friday option: wg Calzone w/pepperoni
26 wg popcorn chicken w/wg dinner roll, green beans, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Monday option: wg corn dog nuggets	27 wg maple flavored waffle, hash brown, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Tuesday option: wg breakfast pizza	28 Chicken Patty w/wg bun, sweet potato fries, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk Wednesday option: hamburger/wg bun	29 hot turkey sandwich (wg bread) with mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, garden bar, fruit juice and milk Thursday option: wg chicken nuggets/wg breadstick	30 nachos chips/cheese/meat, refried beans, garden bar, fruit, and milk Friday option: wg cheese pizza

News

Welcome Back and Happy 2015!

January 8th is ELVIS DAY!!! Join us for a Rock N' roll celebration!!!



MY CHILD'S ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Homework Tips for Parents



- **Make sure your child has a quiet, well-lit place to do homework.**
Avoid having your child do homework with the television on or in places with other distractions, such as people coming and going.
- **Make sure the materials your child needs, such as paper, pencils and a dictionary, are available.**
Ask your child if special materials will be needed for some projects and get them in advance.
- **Help your child with time management.**
Establish a set time each day for doing homework. Don't let your child leave homework until just before bedtime. Think about using a weekend morning or afternoon for working on big projects, especially if the project involves getting together with classmates.
- **Be positive about homework.**
Tell your child how important school is. The attitude you express about homework will be the attitude your child acquires.
- **When your child does homework, you do homework.**
Show your child that the skills they are learning are related to things you do as an adult. If your child is reading, you read too. If your child is doing math, balance your checkbook.
- **When your child asks for help, provide guidance, not answers.**
Giving answers means your child will not learn the material. Too much help teaches your child that when the going gets rough, someone will do the work for him or her.
- **When the teacher asks that you play a role in homework, do it.**
Cooperate with the teacher. It shows your child that the school and home are a team. Follow the directions given by the teacher.
- **If homework is meant to be done by your child alone, stay away.**
Too much parent involvement can prevent homework from having some positive effects. Homework is a great way for kids to develop independent, lifelong learning skills.
- **Stay informed.**
Talk with your child's teacher. Make sure you know the purpose of homework and what your child's class rules are.
- **Help your child figure out what is hard homework and what is easy homework.**
Have your child do the hard work first. This will mean he will be most alert when facing the biggest challenges. Easy material will seem to go fast when fatigue begins to set in.
- **Watch your child for signs of failure and frustration.**
Let your child take a short break if she is having trouble keeping her mind on an assignment.
- **Reward progress in homework.**
If your child has been successful in homework completion and is working hard, celebrate that success with a special event (e.g., pizza, a walk, a trip to the park) to reinforce the positive effort.



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 2015 spring season!! Go Aggies!!!!

Saturday, March 1, 2015

1:00p.m. at Riverwood Resort

Cost: \$20 per person

Winners are not based on bowling ability!

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

Names: _____

Contact Number: _____

Payment: \$_____ ☐ Check (#_____) ☐ Cash

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

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Time: 5:00 to 7:30

Date: March 19, 2015

Place: Beal City Cafeteria

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

Financial Aid Night

FOR ALL COLLEGE BOUND SENIORS & SENIOR PAERNTS

January 14th @ 5:30pm in the HS Media Center
(back up weather date: January 15 @ 5:30pm)

Unsure how you will cover all the costs associated with college next year? You're not alone! Join us for a presentation by a financial aid representative from CMU on all things 'Financial Aid' that all college bound students & their parents should know no matter what college you're attending.



**RSVP to Mrs. Millerov
by January 9th**

smillerov@bealcityschools.net

989-644-3944

**All college bound seniors and
senior parents are strongly
encouraged to attend!**



Covered topics include

- How to file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
 - Information on grants, scholarships, loans & more
 - Helpful handouts as well as Q & A

BEAL CITY BANDS

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

THANK YOU!

Cookie Dough Sales earned just over \$3000 for our bands!

SCANDINAVIAN SMORGASBORD!

While we are still finalizing dates and menu, the Beal City Bands will be hosting a Scandinavian Smorgasbord for all band classes at the end of January. Traditional food from many Nordic countries will be shared. Students are encouraged to wear Nordic ski sweaters on the day of the event. See your student and/or the website for more details as they present themselves!

JAZZ BAND SECTIONALS

Jazz Band families: please check the website for your Tuesday morning sectional schedule. The third quarter is now posted.

PRACTICE RECORDS

REMINDER TO ALL 6TH, 7TH & 8TH GRADE BAND FAMILIES: Practice Records are a weekly graded assignment that serves as a progress report for you and your student. They account for approximately **20% of your child's grade** in band class, and provides substantial reinforcement of classroom goals and measurable achievement. Please be certain your student is submitting these important assignments on a **weekly basis**.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SOLO & ENSEMBLE

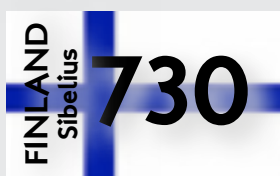
Congratulations to Emma Licina, Elizabeth Powell and Noel Schafer for their outstanding performances on Saturday, December 13! Emma earned a First Division for her clarinet solo; and Elizabeth and Noel each received a Second Division on their flute solos. Great job, ladies!

COLOR GUARD

If you are a young lady grade 7-11 who is interested in joining the Marching Aggies Color Guard for the 2015 season, we will be having an organizational meeting on Monday, January 26 at 3:05 in the Band Room. Discussion will include summer guard camps and captain audition dates.

REMIND

Mr. Lowe is using Remind to notify students of classroom assignments and obligations. There are three easy ways to sign-up. Check out the recent issue of the Drumbeat for more information.



**FESTIVAL WINDS
CONCERT**
Sunday, February 22
4PM & 5PM



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

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

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ACT Test Prep Weekends for Students!

As you know, Beal City has implemented a new program through Career Cruising, called Method Test Prep. All Beal City students 6-12 grade have access to this new program and have received cards with their passwords, etc. The Beal City Education Foundation, together with the Beal City Education Association, would like to open up our computer lab on select weekends in January and February for students to have the opportunity to come in and work on ACT test prep. The dates are listed below. We strongly encourage our current **juniors** to utilize this time as they prepare for the ACT this March; however doors will be open to any high school student who wants to begin ACT prepping. Staff will be present to assist and supervise. Contact Mrs. Millerov at smillerov@bealcityschools.net with questions or for more information. Students **MUST** sign up prior to attending—there will be a sign up sheet posted on the Guidance Office door or you may email Mrs. Millerov to have your child's name put on the list. If no one signs up by the preceding Friday, the lab will not be open.

Saturday's 9-11am and Sunday's 6-8pm

January 17/18
January 24/25
January 31
February 7/8
February 15
February 21/22
February 28/1st

