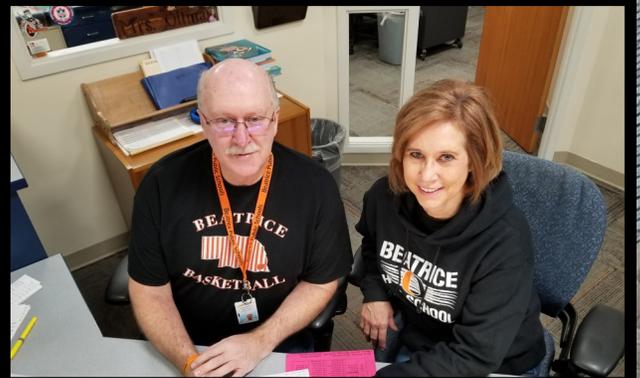


Going inside...



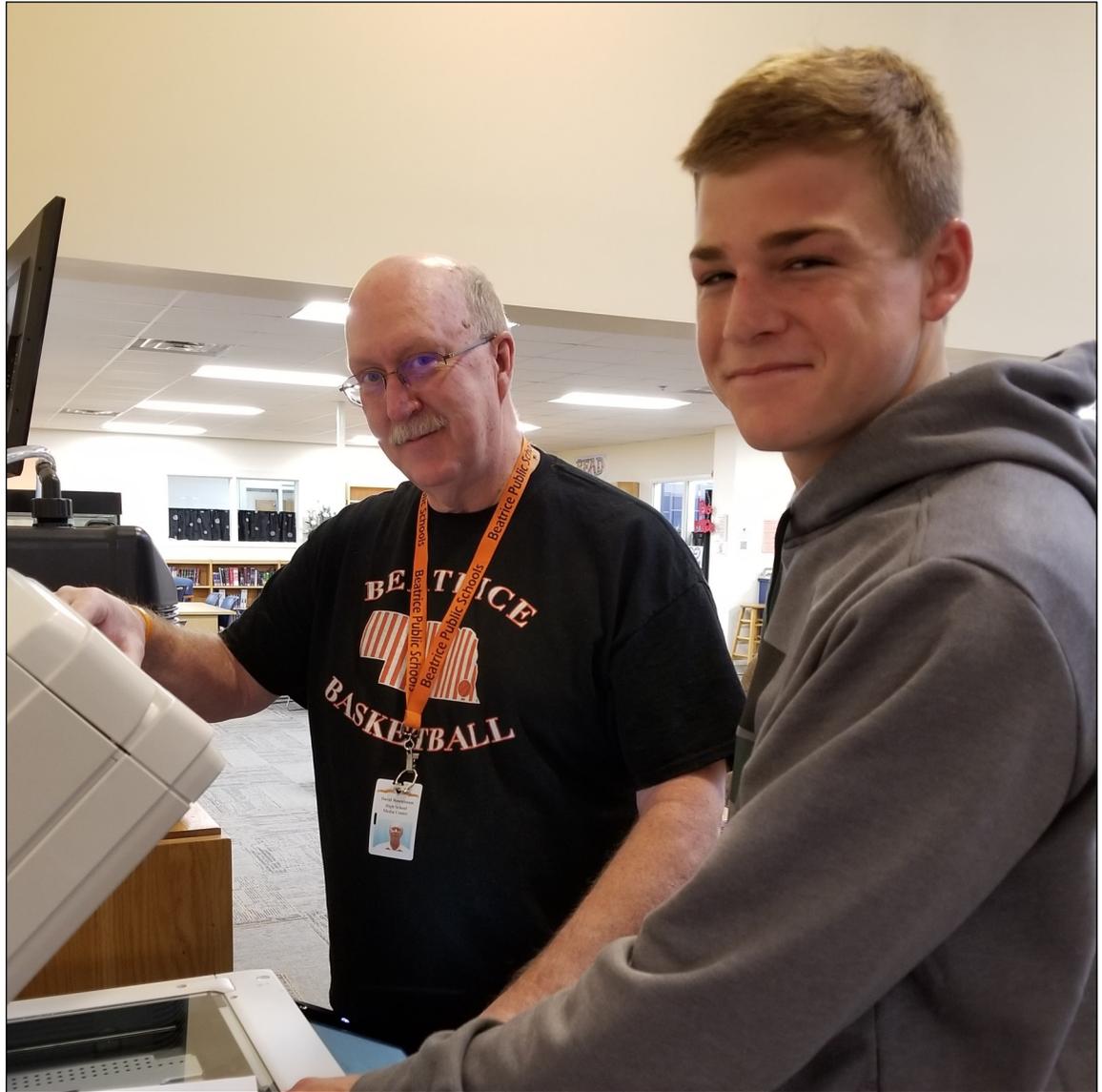
**Middle School students after first quarter Awards Assembly
See page 3**



**Employee of the Month Dave Rosenbaum and Carol Oltman keep the Media Center movin' an' groovin'
See page 2**



January 2018
the BEAT



Dave Rosenbaum helps a student with the copy machine.

Rosenbaum named Employee of the Month

Dave Rosenbaum was the December employee of the month.

Dave does so much for the school, he is willing to do whatever is asked of him, according to his nominator. “He helps students in so many ways. He reads senior scholarship essays for students and provides valuable feedback to help them improve their essays.

Quite a few teachers in our building have student aides, and Dave trains all of them on using the copier in the library.

Most mornings before school, you can count on students stopping by the media desk to say, “Hi” to Dave. He visits with them about their interests, and develops positive relationships with them. Dave is very kind to every student who comes to the library. He is friendly and will give them his undivided time and listen to their stories.

Dave will do whatever teachers ask, from proctoring tests, to making copies, to laminating and proofreading the

Orange Peel. Dave is an expert in running the Distance Learning equipment and will troubleshoot for teachers if it isn’t working. He also finds distance learning opportunities for teachers to use in their classroom. For example, he organized the science class to visit Denali and learn about their environment. Dave supervises academic ineligibility study hall every Wednesday and ensures students are working toward academic success. Dave also works with our lunch study group. He not only organizes the lunch study, but he also helps kids meet the expectations of their classes. I have seen Dave read a history book to create his own chapter reviews for students before they take the test for the teacher. He goes above and beyond to help students be successful.

Dave also volunteers his time. He works the Beatrice Powerlifting tournaments, and is willing to help however he can. If Dave sees something needs to be done, he just does it. We would be lost without Dave in the library and as an employee of our district.”

Beatrice Middle School Students enjoy a variety of experiences... ...with makerspaces

On Thursday, November 9, the media center opened its doors for the first ever BMS Makerspace. What is a Makerspace? "Makerspaces provide hands-on, creative ways to encourage students to design, experiment, build, and invent as they deeply engage in science, engineering, and tinkering." So our makerspace is just that. A place to get creative, try out new things, build, design, etc while eventually building toward real world solutions to problems existing out there today.

The initial projects to choose from include craft/art table, Circuit Light Up Cards, ThinkFun Maze Games, Ozobots (mini robots programmed using 4 basic colors), coding starting with basic drag and drop codes and heading into more difficult full blown coding, spherosphere shaped robots that use drag and drop programming to navigate the robot through different tasks, and finally 3D pens.

Students are able to come to the Makerspace on assigned grade days during 8th period. In order to be eligible students may not have an F in any class, no late work in any class, and no think times in the week prior to attending.



...when being recognized for achieving good grades, attendance, behavior

In November, Beatrice Middle School celebrated student success for the first quarter of the 2017-2018 school year. The Student Council helped organize and conduct the celebration. Students were brought to the cafeteria during their study hall period and recognized for good behavior, honor roll, and attaining a 4.0 grade point average. Good behavior includes no office referrals, no "think-times," and no more than one "needs improvement" behavior rubric grade on the first quarter report card. Students were called to the front of the cafeteria as

their honors were announced. They were given certificates and a snack. During the celebration for the first quarter, 332 students were recognized. It is always

a pleasure to celebrate our student's efforts, accomplishments, and positive behaviors.



Beatrice Middle School Students enjoy a variety of experiences...

...while gaining technology skills



Students in sixth grade STEM class collaborate on projects that allow them to apply their science, technology, engineering, and math skills. In these images, students are working together to code their Air Parrot Rolling Spider drones to fly through a specific series of challenges. After the challenges are met, students were given the opportunity to make an elaborate "freestyle" code to expand their use of the drones. Students in first and second quarter STEM classes created some truly amazing projects!

What do you like about being a part of the middle school, first as a teacher and now as an assistant principal?



'This will be my twenty-sixth year with the district and I have had the privilege of spending the last 16 of them at Beatrice Middle school. My role here has changed; however, the things that I love about the Middle School have remained constant. The culture is one of support and caring for every student, teacher, para and support staff. Every member of our team is valued as a vital part of our community. Our number one goal is helping students become the very best they can be. I am blessed to have the opportunity to work with so many outstanding people each and every day.'

Pam Henning

...while giving to others



The BMS Student Council collected money for the Gage County Christmas Wish List. For every 50 cents, one link was added to a chain located in the cafeteria. A total of \$378.27 was raised by BMS! Students helped put a smile on someone's face on Christmas morning.

3rd place : 7th grade—\$89.25

2nd place: 8th grade—\$130.25

1st place: 6th grade—\$158.77

...when learning to sew and give to others



Sewing Project Cinderella - This service project in Jan Smaus' class sews a simple dress pattern and distributes these all around the world. Becca will provide kits and directions for us to sew these dresses. Sewing experience is great, but this project will require hands to pin and iron as well as sew with the sewing machines and serger.



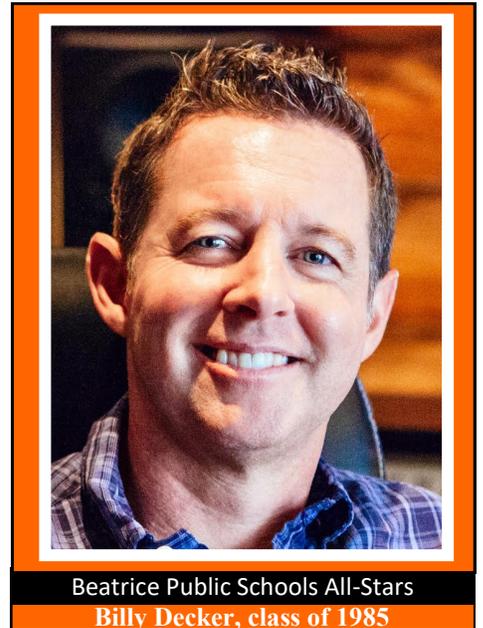
They first staked their claim with Beatrice Public Schools and now are among the best in the nation

Decker 'bakes' up 13 number one hits



'Beatrice High School has a fantastic music program that I was involved in from band to swing choir. It literally jumpstarted my musical career.'

Billy Decker



Billy Decker has gone from the Beatrice High School stage as a swing choir member to mixing albums for Kenny Chesney, Darius Rucker, Jason Aldean, Jaime Lynne Spears, and Sam Hunt. Decker made history in July of 2014 when Sam Hunt became the most added new artist of all time.

Decker works in a unique way. "I mix really fast. Most of my mixes are finished in between two and three-and-a-half hours. To be able to do this, I use a lot of templates in Pro Tools. Instead of spending two hours EQing a kick drum, I can do it in 30 seconds, because I've set up templates for the album that outline all the basic parameters for each instrument. Then, I can focus on fine-tuning and bringing levels up and down—working on the entire mix, rather than focusing on individual adjustments. It's a good way to work. It's real fast, efficient, and, most importantly, it's fun.

Even though Decker majored in Criminal Justice after graduating from high school his involvement with music continued. He played in bands throughout college and this led him to a recording school, Full Sail with internships on the island of St. Marten and San Francisco. He returned to Lincoln working at Dietz Music for a year before moving to Nashville and working as a songwriter fulltime and doing sound engineering on the side.

Twenty years ago he took a chance and started engineering independently. He was the first engineer in Music City to mix a Billboard Country Chart #1 exclusively in Pro Tools. He's mixed 8 #1s to date - most recently, Parmalee's "Carolina".

He describes his career path as a detour. "I realized I was better at making other people sound good, rather than myself," said Decker.

"You are either born with it or you're not. I wasn't born with the voice but I was born with the ears," added Decker.

He currently works as a mixing engineer at a studio called the cabin at Westwood. In layman's terms, "I take what the artist and their producer records in the studio and then blend all the different instruments and vocal track down to a

stereo file which is what everyone hears on the radio.

"If music were a cake, then the ingredients are what the artist and producer records and then they give it to me to bake it and then ice it," said Decker.

To date he has mixed 13 Billboard Number Ones and another currently sitting at number eight.



Billy Decker in his studio in Nashville.

Board talks about central office restructuring

Dave Rosenbaum, high school media center para, was recognized as the December Employee of the Month.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Pat Nauroth said the legislative session will begin on Jan. 3 and finishes on April 18. The revenue shortfall and property tax relief are issues which they will need to address. He added that any changes to the school funding formula will impact the district.

Student Report

Student Representative Colton Gronewold said winter activities at the high school have taken off since the November meeting. Next week is finals week with exams on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for high school students. He added that spirit dress up days are scheduled for later this week.

Committee of the Whole

Jon Zimmerman, vice-president, reported that the Committee of the Whole discussed the following topics at its October meeting; the art curriculum by middle school art teacher Kirsten Douglas and curriculum director Jackie Nielsen, the Paddock Lane addition by architect Michael Fakler, the master facility plan by Pat Phelan, tree removal plans by business manager John Brazell and building and grounds manager Terry Brethouwer, an assessment update by Jackie Nielsen, policy update and central office restructuring by Nauroth. Principal Jason Sutter also addressed the board.

School Community & Staff Relations

Janet Byars, committee chair, said the school community and staff relations committee met with administration on December 6, 2017. Some of the topics discussed included: the superintend-

ent search, drug testing, budget/finance concerns, customer service training, Breakfast with Santa at the preschool, parent/child interaction therapy, Roscoe the therapy dog, continued work on English/Language Arts assessment improvements, PBIS training, and excitement at the Middle School about the Hope Squad.

Master Facility Plan

Pat Phelan, educational facility planner and project manager for DLR, updated the Board on the master facility plan. He noted that the field work has been completed and they are compiling that information for the Board. He presented an overview of the facility audit findings (enrollment/building capacity, physical plant needs, program needs). Pat used a power point presentation to show specific demographic information for each building. Next, he shared some of the general physical plant needs for each building. A couple of basic options were included as well as some other options for consideration. The development of the details associated with the options will be done over the next month or so and will include looking at the costs associated with the options. Once that is complete, a citizens' committee will be formed so information can be shared and feedback solicited before making a final recommendation for the Board to consider.

Central Office Restructuring

Nauroth stated that the hiring of the new superintendent helps bring the central office restructuring one step closer. He added that the district currently has four administrators at the central office, but is planning to reduce down to three. Based on the strengths of the superintendent hire, it would appear that the primary duties of the second position would be curriculum and instruction. The consensus of the Board was to move towards a Superintendent/

Assistant Superintendent organization and work with current staff to examine current duties and possible re-assignment of duties. Nauroth intends to continue this discussion with the Board at a January meeting.

Action Agenda

The board approved the wide network leasing and services agreement with Unite Private Networks, LLC and the 2018-19 negotiated agreement with the Beatrice Education Association.

Approval was also given to the superintendent contract with Jason Alexander.

Next Meetings

A Committee of the Whole meeting will be held on Jan. 25 at 6 p.m. at the middle school. The next board meeting will be on Feb. 12 at 7 p.m. in the Central Administration Building.

Beatrice Public Schools Board of Education

Janet Byars, Treasurer

Doris Martin, Vice-President

Lisa Pieper

Nancy Sedlacek

Steve Winter

Jon Zimmerman, President

Board of Education Meetings

Jan. 25, 6 p.m.

Committee of the Whole Meeting

Feb. 12, 7 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting