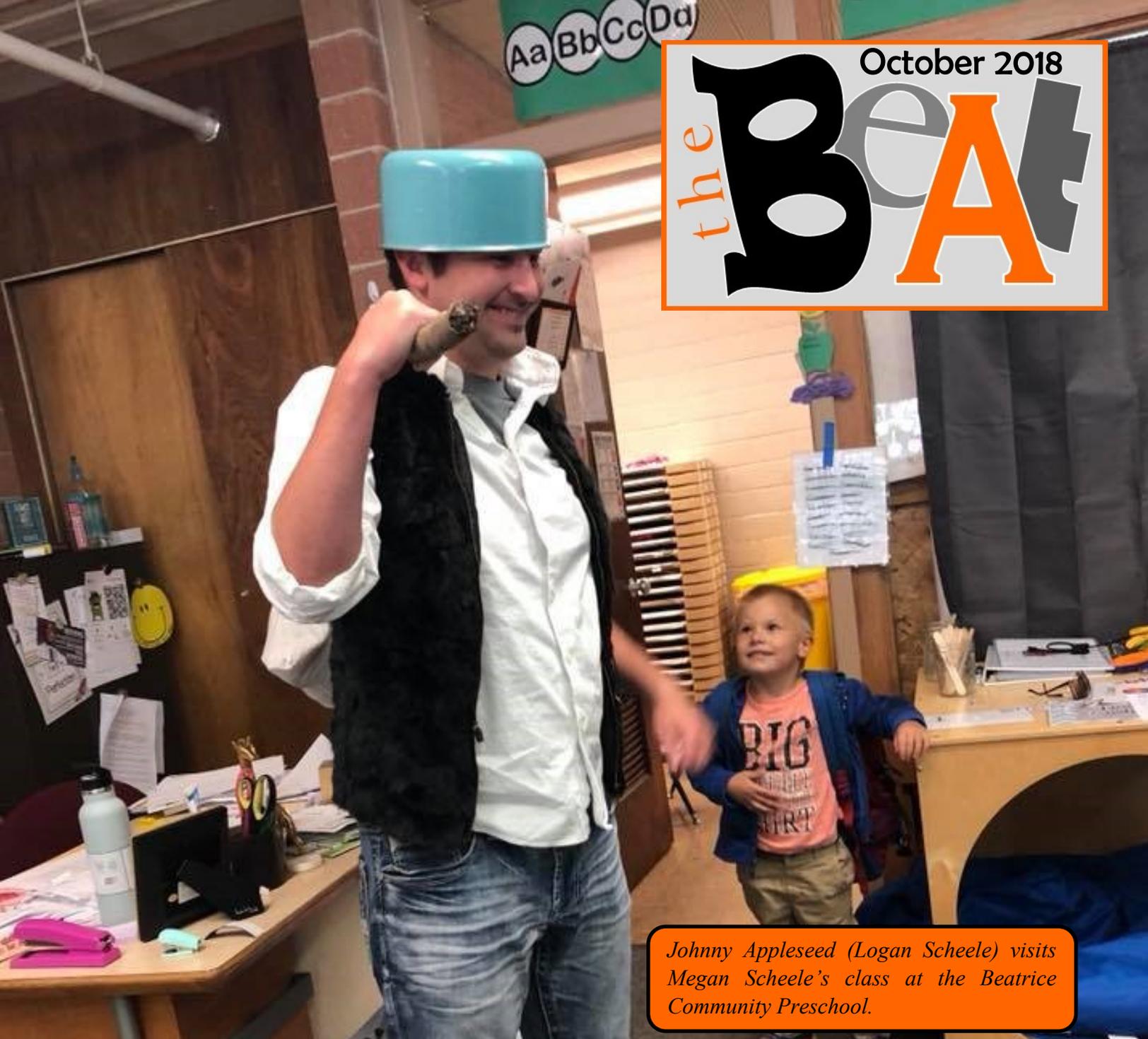


# the **Be**at



*Johnny Appleseed (Logan Scheele) visits Megan Scheele's class at the Beatrice Community Preschool.*

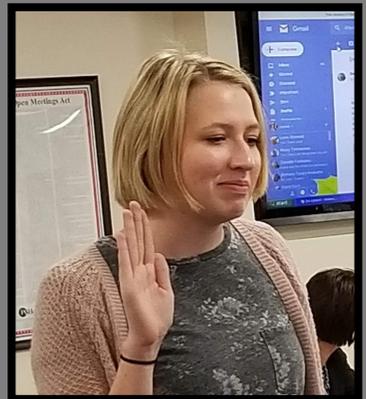
## On the Inside



*Officer Price  
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*Karen  
Schlueter  
Page 3*



*Hannah Rinne  
Page 5*



(above) Officer Tim Price swabs a student's mouth for the Nebraska Freemasons Child Identification Program (CHIP).

## *Price named Employee of the Month*

Police Officer Tim Price was named the September Employee of the Month.

Officer Price is a great asset to Beatrice Public Schools. He spends his time getting to know the students and understanding our safety procedures so he can ensure a great environment for all students.

If Officer Price is apprised of situations that could put our students in danger, he immediately begins the process of investigating the situation and looking deeper to ensure that there is nothing that could potentially interrupt the school day or setting.

During the summer, Officer Price spent time helping to evaluate the transportation situation at the middle school to make it safer for the students. Together, we developed a situation which promotes strong, safe environment. Every morning and afternoon, you can venture down 4th street and see Officer Price ensuring that all transportation is running smoothly.

Not only does Officer Price spend his days at the middle school, but he also makes his way out to the elementary schools to meet and greet the students.

He is active throughout the district. This year, he played a strong role in bringing professional development to our district in partnership with the Beatrice Police Department and the Gage County Sheriff Department. This Standard-Response Protocol and active shooter training helped all staff members begin to think about their response in a crisis situation.

Officer Price continues to collaborate with the Beatrice Police Department and Beatrice Public Schools to ensure our schools are a safe place for all students, staff, and families.

# Be

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Go to <http://www.beatricepublicschools.org/vcalendar/>

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[www.beatricepublicschools.org](http://www.beatricepublicschools.org)

## Schlueter's positive influence felt in the classroom, on the field



Karen Schlueter has been a substitute since 1999 for Beatrice Public Schools. She has been a sub

in seventh grade math teacher Dick Stuart's class on a regular basis while he is gone coaching both the girls and boys golf teams.

**"Karen is one of the best subs, if not the best sub, that I have ever had. Mrs. Schlueter cares about kids and is willing to help them in any way to be successful. It doesn't matter if I have her teach a lesson or give a test; I know that when I return it will be done and be done correctly so that the students have achieved what they needed to. I can always count on her to keep me informed about my classes while I was gone,"** said Stuart.

Schlueter also makes a difference with student athletes according to Athletic Director Neal Randel. She is currently the seventh grade volleyball coach and the head girls and boys track coach.

**"Karen Schlueter makes a difference in the lives of track athletes by genuinely caring about the well-being and improvement of every single participant. She devotes as much time, energy, and encouragement to the least talented athlete as she does the most talented athlete. She is a former Big 8 Conference champion in track, and she is a very competitive person. That can be exemplified in the state championship, conference championships, and multiple meet championships her teams have won. But Karen is very humble. She was named the 2018 US Track and Field & Cross Country Coaches Association Coach of the Year, but didn't say anything about it to me. I did not know about it until her husband, Randy, told me,"** said Randel.

**"Karen is organized, detail-oriented,**

**hard-working, and very intelligent. However, what stands out most to me is the sincere care and concern she has for others,"** added Randel.

Dillon Damme, a member of the state championship team, agreed with Randel and said Schlueter made a difference in his life.

**"Coach Schlueter has made a difference in my life by just being a positive influence. If I did well in an event or got a new personal record, she would be one of the first to congratulate me. If something didn't go the way that I wanted, she would look for the good in the situation and tell me to focus on my next event,"** said Damme.

**"It is also evident that she cares for her athletes outside of athletics as well. She made sure we sang happy birthday at practice whenever someone on the team had a birthday, and she also made it a point to congratulate kids for other activities such as band or show choir. I could tell that she cared because she not only pushed me to be a better track athlete, but she also would ask about other things like classes, other extracurricular activi-**



**ties, and where I was thinking of going to college. Overall, she is just the kind of person that you know is always cheering for you to do your best,"** said Damme.

When Schlueter is not in the classroom or on the athletic field she helps with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter at Beatrice High School. Karen Schlueter plays an integral part on the FCA board according to fellow board member Joni Bruhn.

**"She makes the calls to provide breakfast for the FCA students every other week. If no one is available to provide a meal, Karen steps up and serves (never to leave the students hungry). Karen also brings games and activities to our FCA events and is a prayer warrior for all of our students,"** said Bruhn.

Schlueter is also the Coordinator for Children and Youth Ministries at First Presbyterian Church.

*(above right) Karen Schlueter visits with a student while subbing at the middle school. (below left) Schlueter encourages a runner during track practice. (below right) Schlueter and state track champions.*



"The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

*Do you know a difference maker?*

*Contact Doris Martin at [dmartin@bpsnebr.org](mailto:dmartin@bpsnebr.org) or 402.223.1539 so he or she can be featured in an upcoming issue.*

They first staked their claim with Beatrice Public Schools and are now making a difference every day

## Kyser turns drones into a successful business



*“I think Beatrice Public Schools prepared me most for college and my career by teaching me the value of relationships. If you can earn someone’s trust, 9 times out of 10 they’ll go out of their way to help you. Whether it was my teachers or classmates, simply learning to get along with those who surround you can take you a long way. I also learned that you don’t have to be the best at school to find success. It can definitely help, but as long as you’re willing to work at being good at something, you can find success.”*

Justin Kyser



Beatrice Public Schools All-Stars  
Justin Kyser, class of 2010

Justin Kyser is one of the co-founders of Digital Sky. It specializes in aerial imaging, full scale video production, professional photography, and other industry specific drone related services such as mapping and inspections.

It was the first commercial drone service company in Nebraska in the Midwest and has been very successful. “Since our founding in 2014 we’ve served over 90 clients and have a 73 percent repeat business rate,” said Kyser.

His current role at Digital Sky is a mixture of Director of Operations, Finance, Sales and Marketing. “It’s very hands on, which keeps it interesting! I hear a lot of people complain about how they don’t want to go to work or how they hate their jobs, which is something I’ve never experienced in my role at Digital Sky,” said Kyser. “It’s afforded me the opportunity to travel a lot for work and do things that I never thought I’d be doing.

In addition, Kyser has created a software platform called Schedudrone which helps other drone companies work smarter and be more efficient. Basically what we do is automate a lot of the day to day business that comes with growing a company like handling inbound client requests, scheduling, generating estimates, proposals and con-

tracts, invoicing and billing. “We’re in the process of launching Schedudrone currently but it’s seen quite a bit of success and is something that our customers find beneficial,” said Kyser.

He describes himself as an entrepreneur which means “I create things that hopefully bring value to people, and in-

turn, creates a return on the time and money that I invest into that thing.”

In 2016, he was awarded the Walter Scott UNL Student Entrepreneurial Award and last May he and his business, Digital Sky, was honored with the Business Entrepreneurial Award.



Justin Kyser and co-founder Grant Schlichtman review a shot on a production on the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon.

# Board approves 2018-19 budget, tax request

Beatrice Police Officer Tim Price was recognized as the September Employee of the Month. He received a plaque and \$50 in Chamber Bucks.

All new teachers were invited to the board meeting and six introduced themselves and shared with the board one way they are trying to make a difference this school year.

## Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Jason Alexander gave an update on the Paddock Lane construction work. He thanked the board for allowing him to attend the Labor Relations Conference.

Alexander then shared some basic information on a fundraiser event that was suggested by high school Spanish teacher, Cale Kaiser.

The superintendent said he will be discussing a potential partnership with a former staff member for discounted hotel rooms through Hotel Engine.

## Student Report

Hannah Rinne said all fall sports are underway and the softball team is doing exceptionally well. She added that the

home cross country meet has already been hosted. The fine arts and music departments are preparing for the musical in October. The first choral concert of the year is on Tuesday. Rinne added that class officer elections were held last week. Preparations for homecoming are underway.

## Committee of the Whole

Vice-President Doris Martin said several items were discussed at the COW meeting on Aug. 22 including grade level buildings by Lincoln and Stoddard Principal Kevin Janssen; and the summer project update by Buildings and Grounds Manager Terry Brethouwer. Alexander reported on the SOCS website/video upgrade, bus grant award, policy update, and the 2018-19 budget review.

## STANCE

Board member Steve Winter said that STANCE is preparing for the upcoming legislative session. He reminded board members Nebraska ranks 49th among all states in the percentage of K-12 state funding that comes from state resources. The national average is 47 percent but Nebraska schools receive only approximately 33 percent of their funding from state resources.

## Action Items

Board approval was given to the 2018-19 budget and the property tax request. Approval was also given to the agreement with FES for the marketing plan in accordance with the strategic plan.

## Administrator's Report

Early childhood director Missy Timmerman shared a video displaying images and clips of the preschool and what goes on during a typical day including language, math and social-emotional learning. Currently 217 students are enrolled in 13 sections.

## Next Meetings

The next meeting of the Committee of the Whole will be on Oct. 23 at 6 p.m. in the Central Administration Building. The next board meeting will be on Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. at the Central Administration Building.

## Beatrice Public Schools Board of Education

Janet Byars

Doris Martin, Vice-President

Lisa Pieper

Nancy Sedlacek

Steve Winter

Jon Zimmerman, President

## Board of Education Meetings

Oct. 23, 6 p.m.

Committee of the Whole Meeting

Nov. 13, 7 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting



Hannah Rinne takes the oath of office for the student school board position.