



Beatrice Middle School MESSENGER

John Jarosh, Principal
Pam Henning, Assistant Principal
Amy Randel, Counselor
Angie Vogel, Counselor

December, 2017/January, 2018

Beatrice Middle School Newsletter

Vol. 26 No. 2

PRINCIPAL POINTS - JOHN JAROSH



During the week of November 6th 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 1st 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.



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Pam Henning

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

As you know, we are offering after school activities again this year at BMS. It is my hope to expand the number and variety of activities being offered. I would love to have the community become involved with this wonderful experience. The activities run from 3:15 to 3:45 every day except Wednesdays. If you are interested or know someone who would like to become a part of the fun please give me a call. You would be committing to one day a week through the third quarter. A few of the activities that are going to be offered third quarter are basketball, choir, fitness room, book club, Apples to Apples, band, and Chess. A few ideas if you are interested might be embroidery, knitting, cards, board games (which we have), or coloring, which was a huge hit first quarter. Please consider sharing your time and talents with us. We would love to have you be a part of the Middle School community.



MRS. SYKES' 6TH AND 7TH GRADE MATH PARENTS.....



Want to know what your child's math homework assignments are? Check out Mrs. Sykes website. Here you will find the homework assignments for my 6th and 7th grade math students. This page is updated on a weekly basis and will let you know not only the daily assignments but also will keep you up to date when quizzes and tests will be. This is a great way to keep on top of things and will also allow you and your child to keep current on assignments when they are absent. Simply log on to beatricepublicschools.org and click on the Beatrice Middle School tab under the Schools section. From there, click on the Teacher Websites box and click on Sykes. The assignments are posted on the Math 6 and Math 7 link. Add this link to your favorites or bookmarks so you have a direct link to the homework anytime!

BHS Black Diamond Dancers



offering a workshop & performance

" just for you "

middle school/gr. 6 - 8

Mark your calendars and pencil us in, sign up and join us!!

Date: Saturday Dec 9, 2017

Time: 10:00AM - 12:00PM

Place: Cedar School Gym

Cost : \$25.00

Please come and join us as we offer a middle school dance workshop just for you, grades 6 - 8. You will receive dance instruction and choreography for the performance you will participate in during halftime of the 4:30pm Boys Varsity basketball game in the Ozone at Beatrice High School. You will also receive a shirt, hair piece and refreshments. Come learn about our program and perform with us.

BHS Black Diamond Dancers Workshop

**** Please turn this portion into the middle school or high school office ****

Name: _____ Grade _____

Phone # _____

Parent name: _____

Tea Size (baby tees) Small Medium Large XLarge



COUNSELORS' QUIPS

Amy Randel, Counselor
Angie Vogel, Counselor



The average young adult clicks or taps their phone 2,617 times a day. Extreme users will do so 5,427 times a day. It's almost unbelievable. Doctors are now diagnosing hand cramps, neck cramps and thumbs that have become temporarily paralyzed. The diagnosis? Tendinitis, according to physician, Dr. Teresa Wick. The tendons connecting the muscles and bone become enflamed. It's happening more and more.

Business solutions firm LivePerson just released the results of a poll after talking to 4,000 18 to 34-year-olds around the world to find out how much of their lives are being lived out digitally. The vast majority of Millennials and Generation Z said they'd rather talk to someone online than in person. In the United States, nearly 74 percent of respondents would rather send a text message instead of having a conversation in person. The majority of them (62 percent) would rather leave their wallet at home than their phone when going out. And a full 70 percent sleep with their phone next to them.

Now, here's where it becomes anti-social.

That same data confirms that 41.6 percent of respondents also considered it acceptable to text while at a family dinner, and 27.7 percent thought it was fine to text during an in-person conversation. What we're seeing is that the people right in front of us are becoming less important than those who are virtual. It is now common to "phub" others, which is snubbing a person next to us because we are on our phone.

Balancing Acts to Lead Them Well

I recommend you discuss the data above with your students. Remind them that your intention is not to completely eliminate devices from their lives, but to guide them as they grow into adults. Then, talk over a game plan as they attempt the following balancing acts.

1. Physical Balancing Acts with Schoolwork

Talk to them about their need to be familiar with using technology in preparing for a career, but also creating healthy limits. Get them to agree they want to be healthy physically. Talk about the bodily harm many students are suffering in their necks, their arms and their hands, due to overuse of their phones. Agree on "phone free" zones during the day when they do school work without a portable device around. During these times and places, make sure the phone isn't even in sight.

2. Social Balancing Acts with People

Talk to them about the development of both hard skills and soft skills. This is a balance too few recent graduates have mastered. Employers are saying it's rare to find a young job candidate who's not only good with a screen but with real people— face to face— interacting on a team, communicating well and demonstrating empathy. The proficiency of people skills set four people apart from their colleagues in our last four hires at Growing Leaders. We invited the candidates who had better people skills, not just technical skills, for the job. Take time to model and teach these young people how to greet someone, look them in the eye, shake their hand, and ask relevant questions that show interest.

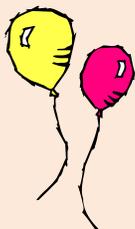
3. Personal Balancing Acts When Alone

Studies have shown anxiety and stress levels to rise when a phone is nearby, even when a student isn't using it. Just sitting on a table within view raises our level of angst, knowing it could ping or ring any moment. Putting phones away when alone allows a student to practice mono-tasking (as opposed to multi-tasking). They can genuinely focus on what's in front of them, or even let their mind wander in silence. Thinking and reflecting in quietness makes us healthier in a world of noise or clutter.

In short, our young people need quiet times, they need face-to-face interaction and they need boundaries to ensure that technology is their servant—not their master.

Elmore, Tim. "The Heavy Price Parents Pay When iPhones Become Babysitters." Growing Leaders. 14 November 2017. https://growingleaders.com/blog/heavy-price-pay-iphones-become-babysitters/?utm_source=Master+List+%28Monthly%2C+Weekly%2C+Daily%2C+Events+%26+Offers%29&utm_campaign=b4fb5ab2de-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b8af65516c-b4fb5ab2de

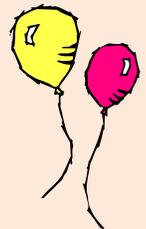
6TH GRADE STUDENT COUNCIL



Kate Gleason
Addison Perrett

Alternate
Hannah Jobman

Ellie Jurgens
Lucas Hamilton





NOTES FROM THE NURSE



If your child has a fever (100.0 F or higher), for any reason, they should not return back to school until they are “fever free” for 24 hours without the use of a fever reducing medication. Do not send your child to school if they wake up with vomiting or diarrhea. When calling the school to report a sick child please be specific as to their symptoms or diagnosis. This will help us to track any outbreaks at Beatrice Middle School.

Asthma/Allergy Action Plan

Any student diagnosed with Asthma or Anaphylaxis due to allergy (includes food allergy, bee sting allergy etc...) needs to have an updated Asthma/Allergy action plan on file in the nurse’s office every year. If you have not had your doctor fill one out yet for your student for this school year, please get this done ASAP. If we do not have one on file we will use the Rule 59 protocol for any life-threatening “breathing” emergency. For more information regarding Rule 59 please visit: <http://www.airenebraska.org/rule-59-protocol.html>.

****If your child requires an Epi-Pen for any allergy please make sure we have one for him/her prescribed by their physician in the nurse's office. Also, if your child requires a rescue inhaler for asthma, please make sure we have an inhaler for him/her in the nurse’s office.** Please remember to fill out a medication consent form when sending an inhaler with your child. If you would like your child to carry the inhaler with them this is also possible by marking the box in the medication consent form. This is especially important when your child is in PE class.

Free Dental Clinic

FREE dental clinic open to children ages 5-18. Appointment and pre-screenings required. Contact Public Health Solutions District Health Department for applications, pre-screenings, appointments, and transportation arrangements.

When: Friday, February 2, 2018

1-844-830-0813

Where: UNMC College of Dentistry (Lincoln)

402-826-3880



BMS WINTER SPORTS...2017-2018



7th & 8th Grade Girls Basketball

7th Grade Coaches: Mrs. Fairbanks/Mr. Campbell

8th Grade Coaches: Mrs. Sykes/Mr. Policky

7th Grade Girls Basketball

Dec. 4	Crete	4:00 (H)
Dec. 7	Fairbury	4:00 (H)
Dec. 12	York	4:00 (H)

8th Grade Girls Basketball

Dec. 4	Crete	4:00 (T)
Dec. 7	Fairbury	4:00 (H)
Dec. 12	York	4:00 (H)

7th & 8th Grade Wrestling

Coaches: Mr. Kaiser/Mr. Wells

Dec. 4	Tri County Invite	6:00(T)
Dec. 12	Crete	5:00(T)
Dec. 16	Seward Tourn.	9:00(T)



7th & 8th Grade Boys Basketball

7th Grade Coaches: Mr. Brand/Mr. Stuart

8th Grade Coaches: Mr. Post/Mr. Hognlund

7th Grade Boys Basketball

Jan. 18	York	4:00 (T)
Jan. 22	Wymore(B)	4:00 (H)
Jan. 23	Crete	4:00 (H)
Jan. 25	Fairbury	4:00 (T)
Jan. 30	Marysville	4:00 (H)

8th Grade Boys Basketball

Jan. 18	York	4:00 (H)
Jan. 22	Wymore(B)	5:00 (H)
Jan. 23	Crete	4:00 (T)
Jan. 25	Fairbury	4:00 (T)
Jan. 30	Marysville	4:30 (T)



Limited Bus Service 2017-2018

When snow and closed roads pose a problem for transportation, limited bus service will be announced on KWBE Radio each of those mornings before buses leave on their routes. Parents may take their children to the nearest point of pickup regardless of whether or not it is their regular assigned bus. The students will be returned to that point again in the afternoon. It is important that students remember the number of the bus he or she gets on in the morning so they get on the same bus for the afternoon return. If you have any questions, please call 402-806-4444.

Route # 1 Bus will leave Pioneer Acres Addition at 7:30 a.m. and pick up along Highway 4 on the way back to Beatrice.

Route # 2 Bus will leave a point one mile south of Highway 136 on the Odell blacktop at 7:20. Bus will proceed north to Highway 136 then east on the by-pass turning north on S. Sumner street. Bus will continue into town on S. Sumner blacktop picking up students along the way.

Route # 3 Bus will leave from the Ellis corner on Highway 136 at 7:15 a.m. and proceed east to Highway 77 picking up students along the way. At Highway 77 bus will turn north and continue into Beatrice.

Route # 4 Bus will leave from a point 3 miles south of Beatrice on Highway 77 at 7:20 a.m. and proceed north to Beatrice picking up students along the way.

Route # 7 Bus will leave a point 8 miles east of Beatrice (Rockford Corner) on Highway 136 at 7:25 a.m. and proceed to Beatrice picking up students along the way. Students on 120th rd must come to Rockford Corner.

Route # 6 Bus will leave from a point 6 miles east on Highway 136 and 3 miles north on 66th Rd at 6:45 a.m. Bus will proceed south to Highway 136, then turn west and continue into Beatrice.

Route # 8 Bus will leave Pleasant View Cemetery on Elm Rd. & 10th Rd. at 7:00 a.m. and proceed south to the blacktop and then come into Beatrice on north 19th street picking up students along the way.

Route # 9 Dear Haven students come to Hwy 77 by 6:55. Bus will leave from a point 3 miles east and 4 miles north of Pickrell on the Christ Lutheran Church blacktop at 7:15 and proceed south to the Pickrell blacktop then west to Highway 77 and then south into Beatrice picking up students along the way.

Route #10 Bus will pick up students from Cherry Rd on Hwy 77 at 6:55. Bus will leave from a point 3 miles north of Pickrell on Highway 77 at 7:10. Bus will then proceed south on Highway 77 to the Pickrell corner. Bus will then turn east and go into Pickrell picking up students. Bus will leave Pickrell at 7:25 and go back to Highway 77. Bus will turn south onto Hwy 77 and proceed into Beatrice, picking up students along the way.

SKILLS OF THE WEEK

Dec. 4	Appropriate Voice Tone
Dec. 11	Accepting a Consequence
Dec. 18	Making an Apology
Jan. 15	Appropriate Voice Tone
Jan. 22	Accepting Consequence
Jan. 29	Making an Apology

DID YOU KNOW BMS IS ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK?

CHECK US OUT ON:

Twitter: @BMSbrags

Facebook: Beatrice Public Schools

Website: beatricepublicschools.org

LOOK AT SOME OF THE FUN THINGS HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOL

MakerSpace

On Thursday, November 9, the media center opened its doors for the first ever BMS Maker Space. 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, sphero-sphere 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.

PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST



The 5th Annual Media Center Pumpkin Decorating Contest was held Oct 25-27. 23 pumpkins were entered in a variety of categories with the winners being Laney Stevens, Joseph Bates, Ashley Revis, Iyanna Garcia and Remi Weiss. Thanks to all who entered.

Mrs. Dittbrenner, Media Center

IN CHAIN LINK NEWS.....

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!

3rd place : 7th grade—\$89.25

2nd place: 8th grade—\$130.25

1st place: 6th grade—\$158.77

Thanks to everyone who donated money. You will help put a smile on someone's face Christmas morning!



6th graders will earn a “lounge” party T.B.D.!



STUDENTS OF CHARACTER



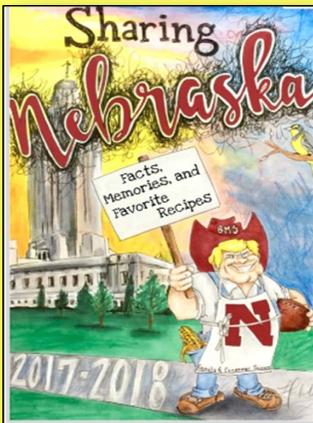
Week of November 6

Left to right: Kalynn Jeardoe, Carly Meints, Katelin Sturdivant, and Jordyn Vanschoiack.



Week of November 13

Left to right: Boston Manes, Branson Chab, Ashton Hovendick, Cami Weber, and Codey Behrends.



Share Nebraska Facts, Memories, and Tasty Treats this Christmas! . . .

Yes, soon we will all be rushing around searching for that one special gift for a family member or friend! How about a cookbook filled with some great family recipes. This year the FACS department will once again be selling some awesome cookbooks for just \$7.00. All recipes were shared by our 8th grade students during their 7th grade FACS class. Since Nebraska is celebrating its 150th birthday this year, we decided to honor our state. Facts about Nebraska, family memories, and student snapshots are also included with the recipes.

We will sell the books during mentor and study hall starting right after the Thanksgiving break. So listen to announcements for more details.

~ Ms. Smaus and 8th Grade FACS Students

Everyone is Welcome
to Come to the
Beatrice Middle School
Library
to View Exhibits

8TH GRADE NATIONAL HISTORY DAY EXHIBIT DISPLAYS

December 13-15
8:15-3:00

THEME
"Conflict and Compromise
In History"



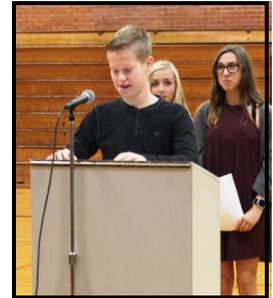
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL FREE THROW CONTEST

The annual Knights of Columbus Free Throw contest will be held again this year at the Saint Joseph Catholic School gym on Tuesday, January 16th, 2018. This contest is open to boys and girls ages 9-14 based on their age as of January 1st. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the contest will start at 7:00 p.m. Everyone will receive a certificate of participation and a can of pop while the winners of each division will receive a medal and winner's certificate. The Beatrice Knights of Columbus Council 1723 invites all students to an evening of fun and competition. We hope to see you there. If you have any questions, please call Michael Policky at [402228-4642](tel:4022284642).

VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION



“CELEBRATE” means to make known publicly. Beatrice Middle School students and staff held their annual Veteran’s Day Celebration honoring America’s military veterans with an assembly on the Friday before Veteran’s Day. Mr. Ben Essam’s and Mr. Mike Policky’s mentor classes hosted the assembly. The students of the classes were responsible for the organization of the assembly including set-up, contacting the guest speaker and the color guard, providing music, and for conducting the ceremony. The Veteran’s Day assembly is an annual event that the eighth grade students of Beatrice Middle School have sponsored for over 18 years.



Members of the Color Guard of the American Legion Post #27 were guests at the assembly and brought the American flag into the assembly. The guest speaker for the program was Mr. Phil Dittbrenner. He is the current Gage County Veteran’s Services Officer/Manager. Dittbrenner served in both the Army and the Air Force from 1981-1986 and part of his time was served as a military policeman. He is the father of middle school student Ty Dittbrenner and husband of Middle School librarian Karen Dittbrenner. In his speech, Dittbrenner made many references about his time in the military and the duties he was given. He said that travel, education, and experiences as well as friendships made during his time in the military really stand out. He said that he has seen sacrifice and loss in his service to the country with the loss of a very close friend, and that we should all be thankful. He encouraged kids to listen to the stories of Veterans and to focus on the dash between our birth and death dates. He said it is what we do with the dash that makes all of the difference. Dittbrenner also said to be sure to thank veterans for their service and sacrifices. Those in attendance at the assembly were entertained by 8th graders who sang the National Anthem, the playing of “Taps”, first and second quarter Civics classes that sang the Preamble of the American Constitution, and The Kensington Chimers played three patriotic songs with their bells. This was a great addition to the yearly program. The students involved in the assembly displayed many characteristics of the Character Counts program as well as the Boys Town Skills in which Beatrice Middle School participates. The students of Beatrice Middle School received several compliments from the veterans, guests, and administration present at the ceremony regarding the appropriate citizenship displayed during the assembly. The celebration is also being recognized by the Nebraska Secretary of State, John Gale, and the Beatrice Daily Sun did a news story on the event. The staff and administration thank Mr. Essam, Mr. Policky, and the students of BMS for a job well done.





2018 WASHINGTON D.C. AND GETTYSBURG TRIP UPDATE



With only six months until our trip to Washington D.C. and Gettysburg we have 74 people signed up for the trip. Students are actively working to pay off their accounts, several have received FLAG-financial scholarships from Worldstrides, and most are looking to make some money through our fundraisers such as the trick-or-treating for education, the candle sale, Pastry puffin sale, jewelry, etc. The trip dates are May 29-June 2, 2018. All fundraiser sales were to be turned in by November 27th, 2017.

I would encourage students to consider asking for money for Christmas and the holidays to put towards their upcoming trip. I would also encourage leaf raking, shoveling snow, babysitting, and asking people if they have jobs you could do for pay for the purpose of this educational trip. People support education and educational experiences—find them and they will help make this trip possible. I would also like to invite anyone else who may have considered signing up and who still would like to go. We have a few seats still available and there will be a late sign up opportunity in January. Watch for information when your child returns from Christmas break.

I would encourage all 6th and 7th graders and parents who may be considering taking this trip in the future to start saving now to make the trip more affordable and realistic. The tentative dates for the 2019 Washington D.C. trip are May 28th-June 1st, 2019. That will be here before you know it and if you would like to make this a possibility for your child(ren), you need to begin saving now. The 2018 trip is costing each participant \$2,278.00. I will have informational meetings for your 2019 trip in February or March. Watch the school newsletter for further details.

SCHOOL BUS STOP SAFETY



One thing I'd like to bring to people's attention is school bus stop safety. This is what Nebraska State Statute 60-6175 reads:

Upon meeting or overtaking, from the front or rear, any school bus on which the yellow warning signal lights are flashing, the driver of a motor vehicle shall reduce the speed of such vehicle to not more than twenty-five miles per hour, shall bring such vehicle to a complete stop when the school bus is stopped, the stop signal arm is extended, and the flashing red signal lights are turned on, and shall remain stopped until the flashing red signal lights are turned off, the stop signal arm is retracted, and the school bus resumes motion. Any person violating this subsection shall be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor, shall be fined five hundred dollars.

It has been noticed that some people are not following this law. The Beatrice Police Department has been seeking out these violators and the violators will be subject to a \$500 fine. The Beatrice Police Department is committed to the safety of the students in our community! If you have specific questions please contact me at one of the schools or the Beatrice Police Department, and have a safe and enjoyable school year.

Officer Timothy Price



To receive information on Beatrice Public Schools closing or a late start due to Inclement weather, please call:
223-1555

Middle School Holiday Concert
December 14, 2017
7:00 p.m.
Hevelone Center



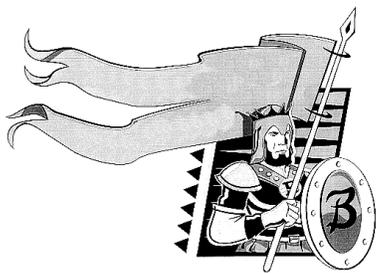
LOST AND FOUND

Please check the lost and found at the office for anything that may be yours. All unclaimed items will be distributed to area agencies Monday, December 11.



BMS Messenger
Editor
Laurie Bloomquist

Beatrice Middle School
215 N. 5th Street
Beatrice, NE 68310



The mission of Beatrice Public Schools, a collaborative partnership of students, staff, families, and community, is to guarantee all students achieve academic excellence and develop responsible citizenship by providing aligned, rigorous curriculum and high-quality instruction that utilizes 21st Century tools in a system that is measurably among the best in the nation.