



The Aggie Express

A publication of the Beal City Public Schools

www.bealcityschools.net

January, 2014

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.

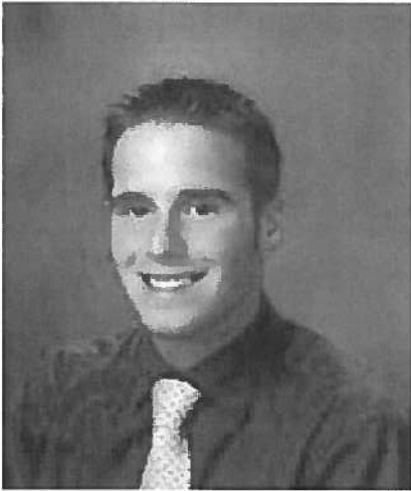
Their job is to establish a vision for the education program, design a structure to achieve that vision, ensure schools are accountable to the community and strongly advocate for continuous improvement in student learning. The job of a school board member is tough, the hours long, and the thanks few 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:

Terry Hutchinson	12 years
Robert Pasch	10 years
Kari Rojas	7 years
Rod Cole	7 years
Denise McBride	5 years
Jane Finnerty	3 years
Ron Neyer	1 year



Staff Members 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 or member(s) each month for their service to the students and community of Beal City. This month's honorees are Chadd Fletcher and Marci Faber.

Mr. Fletcher and Mrs. Faber have been working with Mr. Fletcher's 9th grade health class on making healthy posters to display in the cafeteria. It has become federally mandated that the lunchroom has a visual board at the front of the serving line to explain what is being served for lunch that day and what component it is so that students can make a healthy lunch tray. Mr. Fletcher's class made a beautiful sign with picture cutouts and Mrs. Faber and her staff can't wait to start using it! They also made posters about the importance of eating breakfast, what foods fuel your body, facts about sugary drinks, and a new and improved poster with ala carte prices and a newly designed menu! Mrs. Faber enjoyed being in the classroom and she adds that Mr. Fletcher does a wonderful job of educating his students about health and nutrition. They have plans to work together in the future and they are looking forward to it! Also, Mr. Fletcher gives up his free time at Jr. High lunch every day to help monitor the students in the cafeteria. Mrs. Faber and her staff really appreciate that.

Thank you Mr. Fletcher and Mrs. Faber for your leadership and dedication in making the cafeteria a fun and healthy place to have lunch.



Kids Care Drive a Success

The Mayes 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. Zachary Raitz, a 4th grade student and student council representative added, "The holiday season is a great time to think of others. Donating is fun!"



Mayes Elementary Student Council

The election results are tallied, and the following students have been elected to represent his or her classroom on the first Mayes Elementary Student Council.

President-Sidney Upton

Vice-President-Logan Chilman

Secretary-Jay Lyon

Treasurer-Talon Neath

3rd Grade Representatives: Karana Langlois, Haydyn Armstrong, Rylee Sisco and Tailor Onstott

4th Grade Representatives: Hannah Bass, Chase Owens, Zachary Raitz and Matt Oswald

5th Grade representatives: Breanna Pety, Ethan Gott, Matt Clark, and Rosie Daniels

6th Grade Representatives: Gavin Purgiel, and Easton Yuncker

The Student Council will meet monthly to plan school activities, promote community service projects and provide input on school events. Be sure to check out the website and elementary newsletter for upcoming Student Council announcements.

BOARD BRIEFS

The following was approved at a regular board meeting on December 16, 2013:

- General Fund payments of \$407,873.20, Hot Lunch payments of \$17,669.30, and Athletic Fund payments of \$26,811.67.
- The Longevity Letter of Agreement as presented.
- The Bond Refinancing Resolution 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.



NHS: Penny Drive

In early December, the National Honor Society put on their annual penny drive. Students were encouraged to bring in pennies to their 4th hour class for positive points, but could also place silver coins or bills in other class' jars, for negative points. The class with the highest score at the end would be the winner. Not only did the Jr. High and High School students compete for an Olive Garden Pasta Party, but they also raised an all-time high of over \$1,600 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society! At the end of the drive Mrs. Clouse's class finished in first place. Ms. Spry's class finished not too far behind, coming in second place, and Mrs. Gigowski's class came in third. The National Honor Society would like to thank all of those who participated by donating money to such a great cause!

Attention Seniors!

Financial Aid Night @ Beal City High School

Who?

All parents of seniors who plan to begin college following graduation are *strongly* encouraged to attend. Students are encouraged to join their parents!

What?

Learn about grants, loans, scholarships, and how to file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) - a form that EVERY college student should file, no matter your family income or demographic! A representative will be here from CMU's Scholarships and Financial Aid office to discuss and outline all things financial aid, for students who plan to attend *any* college or university.

When?

Wednesday, January 8th @ 6:00pm

Where?

High school media center

RSVP to Mrs. Millerov in the guidance office by January 3, 2014 @ 644-3944 or smillerov@bealcityschools.net to reserve *your* seat! Hope to see you there!

AMES, RYAN MITCHELL	6	BASS, ABIGAIL GRACE	5
ARMSTRONG, JOURDYN ELIZABETH	6	CASE, AYDEN MICHAEL	5
BENASKE, ALEX J	6	CIOCHETTO, JAMES ANTON	5
CHILMAN, LOGAN DANIEL	6	CLARK, MATTHEW DONALD	5
DARNELL, TRAVIS JEFFREY	6	COSTON, NATHAN SCOTT	5
EISENBACH, LEVI DAVID	6	COTTER, DAVID JAMES	5
EMBS, NICHOLAS CARMON MILTON	6	DANIELS, ROSALIE ELEANORE	5
FABER, HEATHER MARIE	6	EMBS, MYLES LANLEND	5
FILLENWORTH, LYNDSY NICOLE	6	FUSSMAN, NATALIE	5
FINNERTY, ROBERT JOHN	6	GOTT, ETHAN JAMES	5
GARRETT, BREANNA MAE	6	HOPKINS, MICHAEL CLIFTON	5
GOTTSCHALK, JARED MATTHEW	6	KOLB, MATTHEW CHARLES	5
HINES, RYLEIGH LYNN	6	KOTECKI, ANGELA GABRIEL	5
KERR, CODY RAY	6	LICINA, ANA MEJRA	5
LYON, JAY MATTHEW	6	LONG, JAYDEN FRANK	5
MAYER, RAYMOND LOUIS	6	MAXON, JASON MICHAEL	5
METHNER, WILLIAM JOSEPH	6	MINDEL, AIDAN	5
MEYERS, GRACE ELIZABETH	6	PETY, BREANNA MARIE	5
NEATH, TALON JOHN JOSEPH	6	PRATT, JESSE LUCILLE	5
NELSON, OLIVIA NICOLE	6	SANDEL, CASSIDY ALAINA	5
PUHLMAN, ALLISON AUGUST	6	SEEBURGER, NATALIE ANN	5
PUNG, JACE DUANE	6	THEISEN, ELLIE JANE	5
PURGIEL, GAVIN PATRICK	6	TORPEY, BAILEY JO	5
RAITZ, ROBERT JASON	6	TURNER, KIRSTEN EVE	5
SALTER, HAYDEN GARRET	6	TYLER, DUSTIN JAMES	5
SCHAFFER, SETH CHARLES	6	ZUKER, TERRELL	5
SCHRIPSEMA, CHELSEA MARIE	6		
SEGER, CIERRA SKYE	6		
SMALL, TREY JAMES	6		
SMITH, CHASE WILLIAM	6		
SWANSON, TIMOTHY HARBOR	6		
SYTEK, ASHLYNN JANELLE	6		
UPTON, SIDNEY ROSE	6		
WIGGINS, CHAYTON LEE	6		
YUNCKER, EASTON EDWARD	6		

5th AND 6TH GRADE FIRST MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

The end of the first
semester is January 17th.

School will dismiss
at 11:40 a.m.

JH Girls Basketball

Mon. Jan. 13	6:00 p.m.	@Pine River
Thurs. Jan. 16	6:00 p.m.	Marion
Mon. Jan. 20	6:00 p.m.	@McBain NMC
Thurs. Jan. 23	6:00 p.m.	@Manton
Mon. Jan. 27	6:00 p.m.	Lake City
Thurs. Jan. 30	6:00 p.m.	McBain
Mon. Feb. 3	6:00 p.m.	Ewart
Thurs. Feb. 6	6:00 p.m.	Pine River
Mon. Feb. 10	6:00 p.m.	@Marion
Thurs. Feb. 13	6:00 p.m.	McBain NMC
Mon. Feb. 17	6:00 p.m.	Manton
Thurs. Feb. 20	5:00 p.m.	@Lake City

Schedules are subject to change

CYBERBULLYING

If you are targeted by cyberbullies, it's important not to respond to any messages or posts written about you, no matter how hurtful or untrue. Responding will only make the situation worse and provoking a reaction from you is exactly what the cyberbullies want, so don't give them the satisfaction.

It's also very important that you don't seek revenge on a cyberbully by becoming a cyberbully yourself. Again, it will only make the problem worse and could result in serious legal consequences for you. If you wouldn't say it in person, don't say it online.

Instead, respond to cyberbullying by:

- Saving the evidence of the cyberbullying, keep abusive text messages or a screenshot of a webpage, for example, and then report them to a trusted adult, such as a family member, teacher, or school counselor. If you don't report incidents, the cyberbully will often become more aggressive.
- Reporting threats of harm and inappropriate sexual messages to the police. In many cases, the cyberbully's actions can be prosecuted by law.
- Being relentless. Cyberbullying is rarely limited to one or two incidents. It's far more likely to be a sustained attack on you over a period of time. So, like the cyberbully, you may have to be relentless and keep reporting each and every bullying incident until it stops. There is no reason for you to ever put up with cyberbullying.
- Preventing communication from the cyberbully, by blocking their email address, cell phone number, and deleting them from social media contacts. Report their activities to their internet service provider (ISP) or to any web sites they use to target you.

If you are being cyberbullied, remember:

- Don't blame yourself. It is not your fault. No matter what a cyberbully says or does, you should not be ashamed of who you are or what you feel. The cyberbully is the person with the problem, not you.
- Try to view cyberbullying from a different perspective. The cyberbully is an unhappy, frustrated person who wants to have control over your feelings so that you feel as badly as they do. Don't give them the satisfaction.
- Don't beat yourself up. Don't make a cyberbullying incident worse by dwelling on it or reading the message over and over. Instead, delete any cyberbullying messages and focus on positive experiences. There are many wonderful things about you so be proud of who you are.
- Get help. Talk to a parent, teacher, counselor, or other trusted adult. Seeing a counselor does not mean there is something wrong with you.
- Learn to deal with stress. Finding ways to relieve stress can make you more resilient so you won't feel overwhelmed by cyberbullying. Exercise, meditation, positive self-talk, muscle relaxation, and breathing exercises are all good ways to manage the stress from cyberbullying.
- Spend time doing things you enjoy. The more time you spend with activities that bring you pleasure—sports, hobbies, hanging out with friends who don't participate in cyberbullying, for example—the less significance cyberbullying will have on your life.

Parent Engagement is vital to student achievement and personal success.

According to research, the most accurate predictor of a student's achievement in school is not income or social status, but the extent to which that student's family is able to:

1. Create a home environment that encourages learning;
2. Communicate high, yet reasonable, expectations for their children's achievement and future careers;
3. Become involved in their children's education at school and in the community.

These three seemingly simple steps require dedication and commitment from all students, parents, and school personnel. The resulting benefit of this investment in time and effort is well worth the future aspirations and success of every child. Please review the following list of Academic Benefits of Parent Engagement:



BENEFITS OF PARENT ENGAGEMENT

1. Students achieve more, regardless of socio-economic status, ethnic/racial background or the parents' education level.
2. Students have higher grades and test scores, better attendance, and complete homework more consistently.
3. Students have higher graduation rates and greater enrollment rates in post-secondary education.
4. Educators hold higher expectations of students whose parents collaborate with the teacher
5. Student achievement for disadvantaged children not only improves, but can also reach levels that are standard for middle-class children. In addition, the children who are farthest behind make the greatest gains.
6. Children from diverse cultural backgrounds perform better when parents and professionals collaborate to bridge the gap between the culture at home and at the learning institution.
7. Student behaviors such as alcohol use, violence, and antisocial behavior decrease as parent engagement increases.
8. Students keep pace with academic performance if their parents participate in school events, develop a working relationship with educators, and keep up with what is happening with their child's school.
9. Junior and senior high school students whose parents remain involved make better transitions, maintain the quality of their work, and develop realistic plans for their future. Students whose parents are not involved, on the other hand, are more likely to drop out of school.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Time: 5:00 to 7:00

Date: Thursday March 21, 2013

Place: Beal City Cafeteria

**Cost: \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00
for kids ages 5-12, Pre-
schoolers Free**

All You Can Enjoy



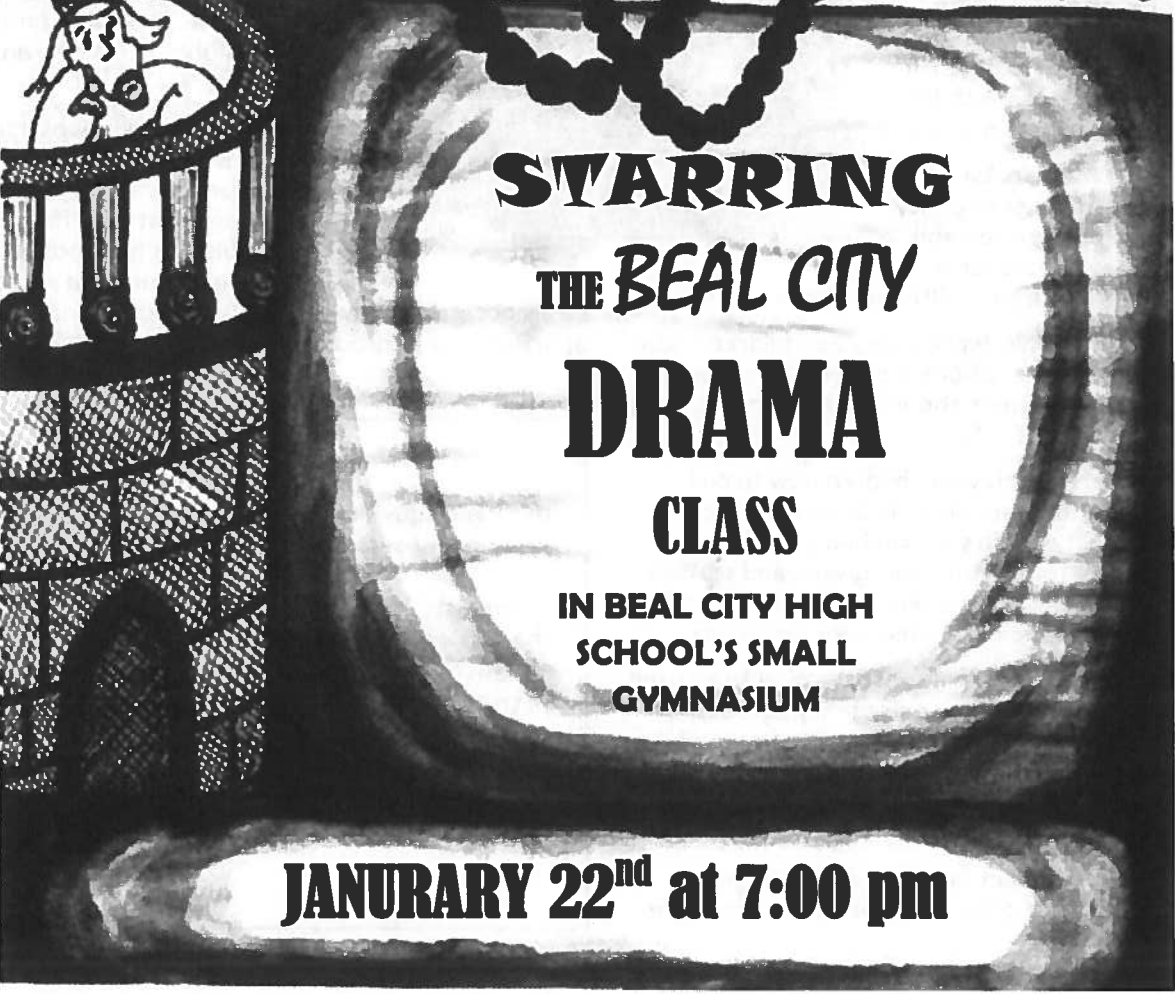
Meal includes spaghetti
and meat sauce, salad,
drink (milk, lemonade, or
coffee) and dessert.

Hosted by the Beal City
Varsity and JV baseball
teams.



OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE

Rebecca Salomonsson



STARRING
THE *BEAL CITY*
DRAMA
CLASS

IN BEAL CITY HIGH
SCHOOL'S SMALL
GYMNASIUM

JANURARY 22nd at 7:00 pm

Report to PARENTS

Prep for Emergencies

School safety has recently been at the forefront of everyone's minds. Schools have emergency plans to keep students safe from threats of violence or natural disasters—and your family should, too. Preparation is key to ensure that you and your family members can react quickly and calmly if a serious threat arises. Take these steps to ensure your family is prepared for emergencies.

Talk it out. Discuss, in an age-appropriate way, the emergencies your family might encounter, including the natural disasters your area may be susceptible to. You may be reluctant to talk about emergencies with your children because you don't want to alarm them. But discussing situations ahead of time will not only help your children know what to do, it will also help them cope with the stress if something does happen.

Know your school's plan. Every school should have an emergency plan in place. Make sure you and your child know what students should do and how parents will be notified of a crisis.

Memorize the essentials. Make sure your children know their full name, address, phone number, and parents' full names. Kindergarteners should have this memorized before their first day of school.

Know the numbers. Teach your children how to dial 911, but stress that they should only do so in case of an emergency. Post a list in your kitchen of home, cell, and work numbers for parents, caregivers, and trusted neighbors. Give copies to teachers and the school office, childcare providers, and other emergency contacts.

Make a plan. Create your family's escape plan to be used in case of a fire or other home emergency. Establish a meeting place outside your home, and make sure to devise a secondary plan in case the first exit is blocked or unsafe. In your plan, address the needs of pets and any family members who need extra assistance.

Practice the plan. Conduct fire drills and emergency evacuation drills. Teach older children how to use a fire

extinguisher, or sign them up for a first-aid class. Quiz your family members every six months to make sure they remember what to do.

Build a disaster kit. Make sure you have a stocked first-aid kit at home, and gather the supplies for an emergency kit, including water, nonperishable food, a flashlight, medicines, and batteries.

Check your equipment. Make sure your home's smoke detectors are always in working order and that your fire extinguishers have not passed their expiration date and are

easily accessible. Buy drop-down window ladders if your apartment or bedrooms are not on the first floor.



Web Resources

Use **Ready.gov's** disaster supply list to stock your kit.
www.ready.gov/basic-disaster-supplies-kit

Learn facts about specific types of emergencies on the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's** emergency page.
www.emergency.cdc.gov/planning/

The American Red Cross has checklists for every type of disaster (in a variety of languages).
www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster-safety-library

MENU

January 6 – 10, 2014

Monday: Breakfast – wg maple flavored waffle or wg cereal w/light cheesestick, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – popcorn chicken w/wg dinner roll, green beans, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: wg cheese pizza.**

Tuesday: Breakfast – egg and sausage on a bagel or cereal, fruit, and milk. **Lunch** – breakfast pizza, hashbrown, muffin, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: wg cheese pizza.**

Wednesday: Breakfast – wg nutrirain bar or wg cereal w/yogurt, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch – Elvis Day - “Love Me Tender”** chicken sandwich, “Blue Suede Shoes”, wg dinner roll, garden bar, carrots, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: wg cheese pizza.**

Thursday: Breakfast – wg breakfast pizza or wg cereal w/light cheesestick, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – hot turkey sandwich (wg bread) with mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, garden bar, fruit juice and milk. **Weekly Option: wg cheese pizza.**

Friday: Breakfast – pretzel w/cheese sauce or wg cereal w/light cheesestick, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – nachos chips/cheese/meat, refried beans, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: wg cheese pizza.**

January 13 – 17, 2014

Monday: Breakfast –wg cinnamon tasties or cereal w/yogurt, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – sloppy jo w/wg bun, celery, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: chicken nuggets w/wg breadstick.**

Tuesday: Breakfast – wg pancake wrap or cereal w/light cheesestick, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – corn dog w/wg bun, cooked carrots, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: chicken nuggets w/wg breadstick.**

Wednesday: Breakfast – scrambled eggs/ham or wg cereal w/light cheesestick, hashbrown, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – twisty chicken alfredo, wg garlic breadstick, broccoli, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: chicken nuggets w/wg breadstick.**

Thursday: Breakfast – wg breakfast pizza or wg cereal w/yogurt, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – scalloped potatoes/ham w/wg dinner roll, corn, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: chicken nuggets w/wg dinner roll.**

Friday: Breakfast – wg muffin or wg cereal, sausage links, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – taco w/wg tortilla shell, refried beans, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: chicken nuggets w/wg tortilla shell.**

January 20 – 24, 2014

Monday: Breakfast – wg maple flavored waffle or wg cereal w/light cheesestick, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – tangerine chicken w/wg rice, stir fry vegetables, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: hamburger w/wg bun.**

Tuesday: Breakfast – egg and sausage on a bagel or cereal, fruit and milk. **Lunch** – hot dog w/wg bun, cooked carrots, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: hamburger w/wg bun.**

Wednesday: Breakfast – scrambled eggs/ham or cereal w/light cheesestick, hashbrown, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – hot turkey sandwich (wg bread) with mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, garden bar, fruit juice and milk. **Weekly Option: hamburger w/wg bun.**

Thursday: Breakfast – wg breakfast pizza or wg cereal w/light cheesestick, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – chicken strips w/wg dinner roll, broccoli, garden bar, fruit juice and milk. **Weekly Option: hamburger w/wg bun.**

Friday: Breakfast – pretzel w/cheese sauce or wg cereal w/light cheesestick, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch HALF DAY – NO LUNCH.**

January 27 – 31, 2014

Monday: Breakfast – wg cinnamon tasties or cereal w/yogurt, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – popcorn chicken w/wg dinner roll, green beans, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: wg cheese pizza**

Tuesday: Breakfast – wg pancake wrap or cereal w/light cheesestick, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – breakfast pizza or hashbrown, muffin, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: wg cheese pizza.**

Wednesday: Breakfast – scrambled eggs/ham or cereal w/light cheesestick, hashbrown, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – hot turkey sandwich (wg bread) w/mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, garden bar, fruit juice and milk. **Weekly Option: wg cheese pizza.**

Thursday: Breakfast – wg breakfast pizza or wg cereal w/yogurt, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – chicken patty w/wg bun, cold carrots, garden bar, fruit, juice and milk. **Weekly Option: wg cheese pizza.**

Friday: Breakfast – wg muffin or wg cereal, sausage links, fruit, juice and milk. **Lunch** – nachos chips/cheese/meat, refried beans, garden bar, fruit and milk. **Weekly Option: wg cheese pizza.**

New federal regulation changes to our menu: *WG = Whole Grain. All students must take a fruit or vegetable with a hot lunch. This menu is based on K-8 menu guidelines. See new Federal Regulations in the Aggie Express. Note: Menus are subject to change without notice.

In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave, SW, Washington D.S. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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

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Permit No. 35

Christmas Outreach Thank You!

A big THANK YOU to Mayes Elementary families, community and staff members for donating items for Christmas Outreach stockings! The toys, clothing and personal items were very much needed and added holiday cheer to many homes that otherwise would not have much to celebrate, especially in this time of need.

Emergency Information

Please notify the school offices immediately if your address, phone number(s) or emergency contacts have changed since the beginning of the school year. It is especially distressing for a sick or injured child to wait in the office for prolonged periods of time due to disconnected phones or contact people that have moved. Likewise, it puts the school in a precarious position when a person not listed on the form attempts to pick your child up from school only to be told they cannot do so. Call the elementary office at 644-2740 or the Jr./Sr. High Office at 644-3944 to update your child's emergency information form. Your child and the school greatly appreciate your assistance with this request.

Santa's Shop

There were lots of Santa's elves scurrying around the small gym making last minute purchases on December 12th. 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.

HOLIDAY PROGRAM IS A HIT!

A capacity crowd filled the Mayes Elementary School gym for the annual holiday program, on December 19th. 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, Mr. Dan Beckwith, and staff for an outstanding performance! And most of all, we would like to give a big THANK YOU to all the students at Mayes Elementary for putting on such a wonderful holiday program, showcasing their great musical talents. Great Job Kids!!