



THE COMMUNICATOR

www.blissfieldschools.us

BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION

"Blissfield Community Schools provides a learning environment that challenges all students to become lifelong learners and productive citizens."



From the Superintendent

Welcome Back...With summer recess drawing to an end, it is time to begin making preparations for the 2010-11 school year. In an attempt to assist families better complete the myriad of school documents required each fall, Student Information Packets were mailed home on Friday, August 27th to allow ample review and completion of these documents before returning with your child upon their first day of school on **Tuesday, September 7th**. If you have questions regarding these or other matters, our school offices are open each weekday for your convenience. Special thanks to TLC Community Credit Union for sponsoring the District Calendar Magnet, which we hope you find useful.

Please note the student hours at Blissfield Middle and High Schools have changed beginning this fall. School will now begin at 7:50am and dismiss at 2:54pm which is ten minutes later than in previous years. Although the Blissfield Elementary school day will remain virtually unchanged from 7:45am-2:52pm, it will now begin and conclude prior to the secondary schools. Also, in an attempt to ease the reporting of student absences, parents may communicate all absences by contacting Extension #200 after calling any of the following school telephone numbers:

Blissfield Elementary	(517) 486-2811	Dee Crane, Principal
Blissfield Middle School	(517) 486-4420	Cris Rupp, Principal
Blissfield High School	(517) 486-2148	Jerry Johnson, Principal

Blissfield Community Schools are committed to providing an outstanding educational experience for each of our 1,210 students. As students return this fall, they will be welcomed by a variety of curricular, building, and technology enhancements including the introduction of "Project Lead the Way" at Blissfield Middle School, a recently updated World Languages curriculum, and two new computer labs and Fine Arts Wing established at Blissfield High School. These improvements will be showcased along with our 2009-10 District and Building Annual Reports during the Back To School Open Houses listed below. Our Annual Reports are also available for review through our district website at www.blissfieldschools.us.

Wednesday, September 1st

Freshman Orientation	8:00am	High School
Grades K-5 Open House	4:00pm	Elementary
Grades 6-8 Open House	6:00pm	Middle School

On behalf of the Board of Education, Administration and our outstanding teaching and support staff, we certainly look forward to the coming school year at Blissfield Community Schools and providing your child the "Royal Treatment" they deserve.

Sincerely,

Scott D. Moellenberndt

Blissfield Community Schools Upcoming Events Calendar

Aug 31	Inservice Day
Sept 1	Teacher Work Day
	Freshman Orientation 8:00a.m.
	Elementary Open House 4:00p.m.
	Middle School Open House 6:00p.m.
Sept 2	Inservice Day
Sept 6	Labor Day
Sept 7	1st Day of School for Students
Sept 10	High School Student Picture Day
Sept 13	Middle School Student Picture Day
Sept 17	Constitution Day
Sept 25	Sports Hall of Fame Dinner
Sept 20	Board of Education Meeting
Sept 29	Elementary School Student Picture Day
	Student Count Day
Oct 5	Marching Band Festival
Oct 6	Walk to School Day
Oct 8	Progress Reports Distributed
Oct 12	MEAP Testing Begins Grades 3-8
Oct 17	District Marching Band Festival
Oct 18	Board of Education Meeting
Oct 20	MEAP Testing Concludes
Nov 4-6	Middle School Musical
Nov 5	End of First Marking Period
Nov 11-12	High School Play
Nov 13	Middle School Solo and Ensemble
Nov 15	American Education Week Begins
	Board of Education Meeting
Nov 18	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Nov 19	No School
Nov 25-26	Thanksgiving Recess
Dec 9	Second Grade Music Concert
Dec 10	Progress Reports Distributed
Dec 14	Fourth/Fifth Grade Choir Concert
Dec 16	HS Band and Choir Concert
Dec 20	MS Band and Choir Concert
Dec 20	Board of Education Meeting
Dec 22	Winter Recess Begins
Jan 4	School Resumes
Jan 17	No School for Students
	Board of Education
Jan 20	1/2 Day Student Exams
	1/2 Day Records Day
Jan 21	1/2 Day Student Exams
	1/2 Day Records Day
Jan 24	Second Semester Begins

Athletic Schedules

Community members are encouraged to visit our district website at www.blissfieldschools.us for all of our 2010-11 athletic schedules. Click the Online Resources button then move to the bar labeled "HighSchoolSports.net", where you will find all Middle and High School sports schedules.

Attendance Procedures

Please call the appropriate school office as soon as possible if your child will not be in attendance on a particular day. If you need to call before office hours, please leave a voice mail message at ext 200 stating the student's name, grade, and reason for not attending school.

Arriving late or leaving early

If your child arrives to school late, please go to the building office and sign in. If your child needs to leave school early, please call before school or send a note with your child stating the time your child needs to be excused and the reason why your child will be leaving early. All students must sign out in the office before leaving school.

School Visitations

All parents and guardians are welcome at Blissfield Community Schools at any time. For the safety of our entire school community, parents and visitors entering the building **MUST** sign in at the main office. Thank you for your cooperation.

eSchool Home Access

In order to provide our student, parents and teachers current information and services, Blissfield Community School utilizes eSchool Home Access Center. Home Access Center is an Internet service offered by Blissfield Community Schools to help keep parents informed of their child's academic performance at school. Using a simple login, parents have access to grades and assignments for each course their child is enrolled in at school. Access information is available through the office of the school your student attends.

Communication between parents and teachers is vital to student success in the school setting. Home Access Center is one of many tools we use at Blissfield Community Schools to accomplish this task.

Emergency Closings & Delays

If school must be closed or delayed due to inclement weather or other conditions, the school will notify the following radio and television stations.

WABJ - 1490 AM Radio
WQTE - 95.3 FM Radio
WLEN - 103.9 FM Radio
WTVG - 13 ABC Television
WTOL - 11 CBS Television

You will also be notified via the AlertNow at your home, work, or cell phone number and computer email address upon request. To enroll or update your information, contact the office of the school your child attends.

Contact Information

Blissfield Community Schools

Scott D. Moellenberndt, Superintendent
630 S. Lane Street, Blissfield, MI 49228
Phone: 486-2205 Fax: 486-5701
Hours: 7:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Blissfield Elementary School

Dee Crane, Principal
640 S. Lane Street, Blissfield, MI 49228
Phone: 486-2811 Fax: 486-3348
Hours: 7:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Blissfield Middle School

Cris Rupp, Principal
1305 Beamer Road, Blissfield, MI 49228
Phone: 486-4420 Fax: 486-4758
Hours 7:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Blissfield High School

Jerry Johnson, Principal
630 S. Lane Street, Blissfield, MI 49228
Phone: 486-2811 Fax: 486-4749
Hours 7:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Athletics, Steve Babbitt, District Athletic Director 486-4725
Food Services, Melissa Ward, Director 486-2148 ext 222
Operations, Tom Kasefang, Director 486-2148 ext 219
Student Services, Mark Willson, Director 486-2148 ext 217
Technology, Matthew Cook, Director 486-2148 ext 302
Transportation, Tom Kasefang, Director 486-3803

Medications at School

Written permission from a parent/guardian and from the student's physician is required before school personnel may administer medication. The necessary forms are available at each school office for parents/guardians/physicians to fill out. The forms state the medication that is required, the exact dosage of the medication, and the time and dates medication should be taken. All medication is stored and given to the child in the office. No medication, including aspirin, will be given to any student without the necessary forms. Michigan law requires that new forms be filled out each school year. If you have any questions, please contact the office of the school your child attends.

Drug and Weapons Free Schools

In accordance with Federal Law, the Board of Education prohibits the use, possession, concealment, or distribution of drugs and weapons on school grounds, in school, school-approved vehicles, or at any school-related event. Compliance with this policy is mandatory for anyone on school premises. Students who violate this policy will be subjected to disciplinary action, in accordance with due process and as specified in the student handbooks, up to and including expulsion from school. When required by Michigan law, Blissfield Community Schools will also notify law enforcement officials.

Food Services Meal Prices

Prices for meals are as follows:

Breakfast - Grades K-12	\$1.50
8 oz. Milk Sold Separately	\$.50
Elementary Lunch	\$2.10
Middle and High School Lunch	\$2.50
Middle and High School Bar Lunch	\$2.75
Adult Lunch	\$3.50

If you have further questions, please contact Food Service Director, Melissa Ward at 517-486-2148 ext. 222.

Notification of Asbestos Re-Inspection

The Environmental Protection Agency requires us to perform re-inspection of asbestos materials every three years. The buildings of the Blissfield Community Schools were inspected and a three-year management plan was compiled on July 21, 2010. At that time, a six-month inspection was also completed. We currently have no change in our ACM and we will continue to manage them in place. The results of the re-inspection are on file in the school's administrative office.

Special Education Act

Public Act 198 of 1971, the mandatory Special Education Act, establishes the right to handicapped person(s) from birth through the age of 25, to equal opportunity within the public schools. **THIS MEANS THAT HANDICAPPED CHILDREN DO NOT NEED TO WAIT UNTIL THEY ARE SCHOOL AGE TO BENEFIT FROM SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES.** It is important that help be obtained for the handicapped at the earliest possible age. In the State of Michigan, this help is free and is available through your public schools. A team of educational specialists evaluates the child to determine the type and degree of disability and the best kind of program placement. This evaluation often includes a medical specialist. Pre-primary Special Education services are available for:

Emotionally Impaired - Mentally Impaired - Physically and Otherwise Health Impaired (POHI) - Hearing Impaired - Visually Impaired - Speech and Language Impaired - Specific Learning Disabled

If you know a preschool child who may benefit from these services contact:

Mrs. Dee Crane
Elementary School Principal
Blissfield Community Schools
640 S. Lane Street
Blissfield, MI 49228
517-486-2811

Grievance Procedures...

for: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act Of 1973 Section 1

Any person believing that the Blissfield Community School district or any part of the school organization has inadequately applied the principals and/or regulations of (10) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, (23) Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972, and (3) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, he/she may bring forward a complaint, which shall be referred to as a grievance, to the local Civil Rights Coordinator at the following address:

Mr. Mark Willson
K-12 Student Services Director
Blissfield Community Schools
630 South Lane Street
Blissfield, MI 49228
517-486-2148

Athletic Tickets

Ticket prices for athletic events this year are as follows:

All Varsity sports - \$5
All Junior Varsity sports - \$4
All Middle school athletic events - \$3

Season sports passes are available in the high school athletic office. Senior citizens 62 years and older are admitted free to all athletic contests.

Notice of Nondiscrimination Policy

It is the policy of Blissfield Community Schools that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during any program or activity or in employment.

Any questions concerning Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, should be directed to:

Mr. Mark Willson
K-12 Student Services Director
Blissfield Community Schools
630 South Lane Street
Blissfield, MI 49228
517-486-2148

Inquiries related to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap, should be directed to:

Mr. Jerry Johnson
High School Principal
Blissfield Community Schools
630 S. Lane Street
Blissfield, MI 49228
517-486-2148

Public Facilities and School Building Act

On December 23, 2002 Public Act 628 of 2002 was signed into law. This law amends the School Building Act, Public Act 306 of 1937 by requiring the inspection of **all** school construction projects, including outbuildings such as storage buildings, bus garages, and athletic facilities, and that the buildings are in compliance with the Stillie-DeRossen-Hale Single State Construction Code Act and the Fire Prevention Code, Public Act 207 of 1941. School projects which are being constructed, remodeled, or reconstructed are subject to inspections and plan review by the Michigan Bureau of Construction Codes and Fire Safety.

Therefore, **all projects involving buildings and grounds must first be fully approved before any work is done.** This includes, but is not limited, to the following: new construction, alterations of existing buildings on grounds, moving soil, locating fields, etc. Each specific request must be submitted in writing to the Director of Facilities and Maintenance on a Buildings/Grounds Alteration Request Form. The request must be accompanied by permits, applications, specifications, and any other information important to the project.

Coaches, club sponsors, class mentors, department heads, educational staff, outside organizations, and service groups need to fill out the Buildings/Grounds Alteration Request Form. These forms may be picked up at the office of the Facilities and Maintenance Supervisor located in the High School, 630 S. Lane Street, Blissfield, MI 49228. Completed forms must be submitted to Mr. Thomas Kasefang, Facilities Director.

Bus Route Information

Student bus information for those residing within the Village limits including their bus number, anticipated pickup time, and bus stop location will be posted in the Blissfield Advance on Wednesday, August 25th. Students living beyond the Village limits have individualized bus stops established directly outside their home address. If you have questions regarding your child's bus transportation, please contact the following individuals:

Tom Kasefang, Operations Director
Julie Blochowski, Transportation Assistant
Blissfield Community Schools
630 S. Lane Street, Blissfield, MI 49228
Phone: 486-3803 Fax: 486-4749
Hours: 6:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Pest Management Program Advisory to All Parents

As part of the Blissfield Community Schools district pest management program, it is our goal to reduce pesticides as much as possible. While it may be necessary to apply a pesticide, our program **does not** rely on routine pesticide application. You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application being made to the school buildings and grounds during the school year. In certain emergencies, (example: bee nests) pesticides may be applied without prior notice; however, you will be notified following any such application. You will receive advance notice of the application of a pesticide, other than bait or gel at your child's school. This advance notice of the application will be given 48 hours before the application. Blissfield Community Schools will post this notice at all entrances and the common areas located adjacent to the building office and on our school web page. Parents are also entitled to receive this notice by first-class United States mail postmarked at least 3 days before the application. If you would like to be notified by mail please fill out the form below and return it to:

Mr. Tom Kasefang
Operations Director
Blissfield Community Schools
630 S. Lane Street, Blissfield, MI 49228
Phone: 486-2148 ext. 219 Fax: 486-5701
Hours: 7:15 - 3:30 p.m.

Application of Pesticide Notification:

Student _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Telephone: _____

Board of Education Meetings

August 23, 2010
September 20, 2010
October 18, 2010
November 15, 2010
December 20, 2010
January 17, 2011
February 21, 2011
March 21, 2011
April 18, 2011
May 16, 2011
June 20, 2011
July 18, 2011

School Board Meetings will be held the third Monday of each month in the high school cafeteria.

Board of Education Members

Noel Eisenmann	President
Chad Horky	Vice President
Brian McEwan	Secretary
Linda Hamann	Treasurer
Scott Abbott	Trustee
JoDee Friess	Trustee
Vicki Lombard	Trustee