



Commitment to
Excellence

THE COMMUNICATOR

A Quarterly Publication of Blissfield Community Schools



Commitment to
Excellence

From the Superintendent



As the first nine-week marking period comes to an end and students enrolled in grades 3-9 conclude their fall MEAP testing, we are provided a wonderful opportunity to reflect on many of our schools achievements, while also notifying you of a few of our upcoming district events. Furthermore, please join us in welcoming the newest members of our teaching and administrative staff who are highlighted within this publication.

At Blissfield Community Schools we are proud of our longstanding traditions and the "Commitment to Excellence" that exists throughout our district. Since 1928, Blissfield Schools have been accredited by the North Central Association. Currently, our schools are one of just 84 Michigan school districts to achieve AdvancED District Accreditation. As each of our schools are dedicated to continuous improvement, we thank the nearly 1500 students, staff, parents and community members who completed school surveys this fall. The data provided from these surveys will help determine our District School Improvement and Strategic Planning Goals during the 2013-2018 school years.

Beginning January 7, 2013, Blissfield Schools will offer pre-school classes through the Great Start Readiness Program. Qualified students who are four years old before December 1, 2012 are eligible to enroll. This full-day program will be held Monday through Thursday each week, with breakfast, lunch and bus transportation being provided. Student applications and enrollment criteria are available through Blissfield Elementary School.

During the fall season our athletes, coaches and marching band members once again served as outstanding representatives of our school and community. Congratulations to Coach Estes and the Varsity Football team as they qualified for the MHSAA state playoffs for the eighth time during the past ten seasons. Kudos to our Lady Royals Volleyball team upon being crowned Lenawee County Champions, and to Varsity Boys Soccer Coach, Jacob Frantz who was selected the 2012 Lenawee County "Coach of the Year". Also, special recognition is extended to the Marching Royals as they continue to receive all Division I Ratings during their Band Festivals and to our performing arts students and directors for the showmanship they demonstrate during their plays and concerts.

Parents are reminded that Parent-Teacher Conferences being held throughout the day on Thursday, November 15th. Three conference sessions are scheduled (8:00-11:00am,

12:30-3:30pm and 5:00-8:00pm) with hopes of accommodating most parent schedules. Please note there will be no school for students on Thursday, November 15 and Friday, November 16 and also during Thanksgiving Recess, November 22-23.

Lastly, we would like to thank the Blissfield Foundation for Educational Excellence (BFEE) and Blissfield Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) for their continued assistance and financial support, as well as the many parents and community members who entrust our outstanding professional and support staff at Blissfield Community Schools to promote their child's educational growth and personal development.

Sincerely,

Scott D. Moellenberndt

Blissfield Community Schools District Calendar of Upcoming Events

Nov 11 - 17	American Education Week
Nov 15	Parent/Teacher Conferences No School for Students
Nov 16	No School - Vacation Day
Nov 17	Middle School Solo & Ensemble
Nov 19	Board of Education Meeting
Nov 22 - 23	Thanksgiving Recess
Dec 9	Progress Reports Distributed
Dec 11	Second/Third Grade Music Concert
Dec 12	HS Band and Choir Concert
Dec 17	Board of Education Meeting
Dec 19	MS Band and Choir Concert
Dec 24	Winter Recess Begins
Jan 7	School Resumes
Jan 21	No School for Students
Jan 21	Board of Education Meeting
Jan 24 - 25	1/2 Day Student Exams 1/2 Day Records Day
Jan 28	Second Semester Begins
Feb 1	Report Cards Distributed
Feb 1	AAA Perfect Attendance Luncheon
Feb 9	HS District Solo & Ensemble
Feb 13	Winter Student Count Day
Feb 18	Professional Development Day No School for Students
Feb 18	Board of Education Meeting
Feb 21	HS Band Prefestival Concert
Mar 1	Progress Reports Distributed
Mar 5 - 7	MME Testing

BCS Welcomes New Staff



Blissfield Community Schools is excited to welcome several new staff members this fall. Mrs. Kim Gray joins the Blissfield Middle School Language Arts department. Mrs. Gray graduated from CMU with a BS in Education in 1993. She previously taught 6th-8th grade science and language arts and coached volleyball at Maltby Middle School in Brighton before she and her family moved to Blissfield. After remaining home with her three daughters for ten years, she is very excited to be back teaching and coaching again!

Ms. Kim Krueger is our new Elementary music teacher. Ms. Krueger's passion for music led her to Adrian College, where she studied voice and piano. After completing a semester of student teaching in Whiteford, she graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education last December.



Mr. Michael Reinhardt joins Blissfield Community Schools as our new Director of Operations. Mr. Reinhardt was previously the Transportation and Maintenance Coordinator at Monroe Intermediate School District where he spent 23 years. His education includes degrees from Monroe Community College, Clemson University, and the University of Toledo.



Mr. Michael Valasek returns to Blissfield Elementary as our new Assistant Principal. A graduate of Adrian College and University of Michigan Flint, Mr. Valasek was a student teacher in Blissfield Schools prior to teaching at Byron Area Schools. Most recently he served as the Assistant Principal at Durand High School. Mr. Valasek and his family recently relocated to the Onsted area.



Please join us in welcoming all of our new staff members to Blissfield Community Schools.

Homecoming 2012

This year Homecoming week began on October 1st with Pajama Monday. The remainder of the spirit days were College Day, Class Color Day, Under the Sea Day (which was the theme for the class floats), and finally, Royal Day. On Friday there was also a Pep assembly with dodgeball tournaments, the tug-of-war, and a cake eating contest for the court. After school the floats were judged before the town parade. The sophomore class won the float building competition with their slogan "You sink, we swim 'cuz royals always win." However, the senior class won spirit week with their dominance in the tug of war and firsts or close seconds in the other categories. During halftime of the game, Jordan Willson and Ana Schmidt were announced King and Queen. Saturday was the formal dance at the Legion hall with almost 300 students in attendance. The BHS Student Council feels that Homecoming was very successful this year, and would like to thank all of those who helped to make it possible.



Homecoming week in school celebrations culminated with the homecoming pep rally. A favorite event at the rally, the tug of war was won by the Senior class. The homecoming court got involved with a cake eating contest supervised by Student Council Advisor, Mr. Jones.

Blissfield Elementary Students Practice Democracy



Blissfield Elementary students once again predicted the winner of the presidential election. On Tuesday, November 6th, Kindergarten through fifth grade students took part in a mock presidential election and selected Barack Obama with 52 percent of the vote to return to the White House for four more years. "We learned the importance voting plays and our role in being a good American citizen," said Mrs. Reinhardt, whose 5th grade class served as election monitors.

On Election Day, Ashley Griffith receives a ballot from Ashlynn Reed in preparation for voting.

Halloween Choir Spooktakular



Children and adults alike enjoyed a Halloween treat as the Blissfield Department of Fine Arts presentation of their the 2nd annual Choir Spooktakular on Saturday, October 27th. The afternoon-long event began with a concert by the BHS Concert Choir, Ladies' Ensemble, Mens' Ensemble and "Underground Choir". The concert featured spooky tunes from *Phantom of the Opera*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *Wicked*, and *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. After the matinee performance, a fall carnival was held in the High School Gym, complete with a Cake Walk, Face Painting Booth, and Pumpkin Decorating. There were prizes and treats for all participants. The Musical Theatre class also presented their "Eerie Infirmary;" a Haunted Hospital with a Zombie Nursery, Blood Bank and more. Mr. Stranges high school art students also provided an eerie artwork display. The evening concluded with an encore performance by the choirs. This fun-filled afternoon was directed and produced by our Vocal Music and Musical Theatre Director, Mrs. Linn assisted by choreographer Brandi Archer of Expression Through Dance. Mrs. Linn wishes to thank all the parent and student volunteers who made this fundraiser so successful. Profits from the Spooktakular this year will be used to help fund the choir and band students trip to Florida, as well as other Fine Arts Department needs.

Blissfield Technology Updates

The teaching computer lab at Blissfield Elementary School was renovated over the summer and relocated to its new home in the fifth grade wing. The lab was outfitted with thirty-one new Windows 7 computers along with new wood grained computer tables. Each of our schools were also equipped with a new district wide wireless network. This new network provides consistent access and increased speeds.



Mr. Koppelman's fifth grade class enjoy the new computer lab and all its amenities during Mr. Emery's computer class.

Kindergarten off to a Great Start

Students in the class of 2025 are off to a great start and are adapting to the daily routine of school quite well. Once classroom rules and procedures were established, students took off learning their curriculum. Daily work in language arts and handwriting consists of working with letters, words, journals, and stories. The students have enjoyed many techniques in learning the alphabet and the written word. Mathematics work means a lot of hands-on learning with math manipulatives and student-based activities. There is always another way to work with pattern blocks! In science, the students have been visiting their five senses with things like feely boxes, musical instruments, smelling jars, and a taste test. Since social studies revolves around the students themselves, each classroom has gotten to know every student through our "Me Bag" and show and tell. Student of the Week activities are also underway as each student is highlighted for the week, while learning to be a leader. Special activities have included a visit by our local fire department during fire prevention week, and a fall field trip to the Toledo Zoo. We have had fun with color days, vegetable soup preparation, and wearing pajamas to make pancakes. There are still lots more things to discover and many more activities to come as our kindergarten kiddos are well on their way to discovering how much fun learning can be!



Mrs. Linda Mueller's Kindergarten classes enjoyed a visit from the Blissfield Fire Department and the Safety Pup mascot as part of Fire Safety and Prevention Week.



The Blissfield Kindergarten teachers, Mrs. Seidl, Mrs. Griffith, Mrs. L. Mueller, and Mrs. D. Mueller show off their royal pride during their trip to the zoo.

Marching Royals Have a Banner Year!

Beginning in July, the 55-member Blissfield High School Marching Royals embarked on a journey through a memorable season. Donning brand new uniforms and fielding the largest band in recent memory, the Marching Royals 2012 show, Shades of Green, evolved into a wonderful visual and musical production, earning the band top honors at every stop. The band's stops this fall included competitions in Gibraltar and Jenison, where the Royals took First Place, as well as a non-competitive showcase of county bands at Adrian College. Most recently, the band performed at the MSBOA Marching Band Festival, earning straight one ratings. Congratulations on a wonderful season!



Young Bands Off to a Great Start

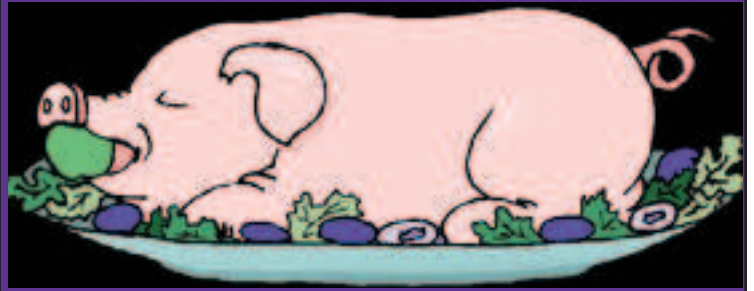
The bands at Blissfield Middle and Elementary School are in full swing. Highlights include the combined 100-member plus combined bands of the MS and HS at the Homecoming festivities and the largest 5th Grade Beginning Band in recent memory, with over 55 students, beginning band in late October. Coupled with the nearly 20 students that will be performing at Middle School Solo and Ensemble in November, the year is shaping up to be a great one for the young musicians in the Blissfield Schools!

NCAA Clearinghouse

All students interested in participating in Division I or Division II college athletics should align their classes according to the guidelines set up by the NCAA and register with the NCAA clearinghouse as early as spring of their Junior year. Please see Mr. Johnson, our NCAA Liaison, if you have further questions.

The Blissfield Community Schools Department of Fine Arts
Proudly Presents...

A Madrigal Dinner: The Jester's Test



Saturday, December 1st, 2012 in the BHS Cafetorium
3:00pm : Entertainment and High Tea: \$5 per person
7:00pm : Entertainment and Full Dinner: \$16 Per Person

Entertainment of traditional carols and madrigals as well as theatrical performance will be provided by students of the Blissfield High School Choir and Thespian Society. Profits will help students pay for our trip to Florida to sing at Epcot Center.

Menus:

High Tea: An assortment of Cakes and Pastries served with Tea and Punch

Full Dinner: Buffet of Roast Pork Loin, Fried Chicken, Vegetarian Alfredo Pasta, Potatoes Au Gratin, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Rolls, and Dessert

All seats must be reserved in advance. Call 486-4420, extension 226 between November 14th and November 21st, or see any Blissfield High School Choir Student.

What's Your Function?

In Mrs. Atkinson's 8th grade math class students are learning about linear and quadratic functions. To reduce confusion and make learning easier students made function machines to help understand how functions in Algebra work. As an input number is placed into the machine and it is set at the appropriate function then gurgle...gurgle..the output value is determined. Some of the contraptions were very sophisticated with working buttons and lights that illuminated.



Mallory Yates, Miranda Wood, Gwen Wheeler, Alanna Woodring and Steven Slomski show off their function machines.

Counseling and Career Center News

Vo-Tech Meeting for Sophomores - Mrs. Kim Dusseau, a Career Prep Representative from the LISD, met with BHS Sophomores on Friday, Oct 25th to discuss the opportunities at the Tech Center and answer questions from sophomore students about the 2012-2013 program. At this meeting, students selected three programs to observe during their visit to the Tech Center on Wednesday, December 5th.

Senior Information

Senior Exit Interviews—Most Seniors began their transition/exit interview process at the end of their junior year and into the summer of 2012. Seniors who did not sign up to meet with Mr. Willson then will be meeting with Mrs. Keinath throughout the fall and winter to discuss their graduation status, the college application process, and the pursuit of scholarships and financial aid. Parents, please ask your senior about their exit interview, and please call the CCC if you need more information 486-2148 x203.

College Applications—Students are encouraged to apply to college ASAP. All applications to four year schools should be completed no later than December, 2012. Many colleges have an on-line application process that saves time and often is less costly than paper applications.

Scholarships—New this year to the CCC and to parents and students of Blissfield High School is the electronic notification system for all scholarships. Information about scholarships will be scanned and e-mailed to parents, students, and then posted on the web page. To participate in this process please send your e-mail address to jnofzinger@blissfieldschools.us.

Teacher or Counselor Recommendation Letters—If students need recommendations for colleges or scholarships please allow two weeks for administrators or faculty to complete them. Also, when requesting a recommendation, please complete a "Student Biography" form (available in the CCC) as a reference of your academic and extracurricular activities history.

ACT/SAT—Registration packets are available for the ACT and SAT tests. Students who were juniors in the State of Michigan in Spring, 2012 should already have taken the ACT. Students may obtain forms for retaking the test in the CCC. Remember, due to a change in State of Michigan legislation, students are allowed only one free ACT test at Blissfield High School.

Michigan Competitive Scholarship—Eligibility for the Michigan Competitive Scholarship Program is determined in part by the student achieving a qualifying score on the ACT. Therefore, it is critical that seniors who have not taken the ACT be advised to do so, no later than the December 8, 2012 test date.

Lenawee County Education Foundation Scholarships—Christine Scott, from the Lenawee County Education Foundation and LISD, will be visiting BHS on Thursday, December 13th during VIP (1 -2pm) to talk about the Lenawee County Education Foundation Scholarship process, and how students can sign up electronically to apply for Lenawee County Foundation Scholarships.

Heritage Day

October 25th was an unusual day for the elementary students as they went back in time and toured the hallways to talk with interesting people and observe their crafts. Over forty demonstrations were provided throughout the six hallways. Most visitors were from the Lenawee county area, with a few from the Detroit area. These talented men and woman engaged our students with their old fashion talents like churning butter, making apple cider on an old fashioned press, and making flour tortillas by hand. One demonstration allowed students to shell their own corn from the cob. Students watched carving wood into beautiful pieces of art, making wool into clothing, and folding paper into origami toys. Music could be heard throughout as an accordion, hammered dulcimer, and a mountain dulcimer were played. Outdoors students visited a civil war encampment with a blacksmith, two young gentlemen dressed as World War II soldiers and a portable bakery. The bakery included a skillet frying little balls of rye bread over an open fire. Students were excited to experience Heritage Days which occur every other year.



Mr. Berry and Mr. Sheldon help Kieran Finnegan shell his cob of corn. Sam Loar shucks his cob while eagerly awaiting his turn.



Savannah Martolock makes butter as Mrs. Lewis' class looks on. Mrs. Goetz, Mrs. Salisbury, and Mr. Puszczewicz guided students through this tasty work.

High School Drama

November 8-10 high school students presented The Brothers' Grimm Spectaculathon by Don Zolidis, a fast-moving romp through many of your favorite fairy-tale adventures as originally written. Do you know how Rapunzel got her long hair? How the Frog-Prince became a frog? Why everyone called her Cinderella? Did you know that the devil had a grandmother? These answers and more were revealed on the High School stage. Joining them onstage were fairy-tales about witches, devils, princesses, talking fish, and even some dwarves with a tall housekeeper.



Olivia Miller as Cinderella and Holly Meszaros as the devil's grandmother perform.



Frog Prince Cordell Smith tries to earn a kiss from Princess Hannah Cairo.

Young Engineers

For the first time, this year Blissfield Middle School is offering a high school credit for a Project Lead the Way course entitled Introduction to Engineering and Design. During class students use Autodesk Inventor to create and look at the world of Engineering. While discussing the design process and how important it is to think differently students are also fortunate to attend the "JUST BUILD IT" Career Expo held at Eastern Michigan University, where they were gained insight into career possibilities. The expo featured live demonstrations and hands-on activities presented by engineers, architects, and skilled tradesmen. There were also exhibits by construction firms, colleges, and universities.



Project Lead the Way students are excited upon returning with knowledge about construction careers gained during their field trip.

Hall of Fame Induction

On Saturday September 22, the Blissfield Hall of Fame Induction Dinner was held to induct the Class of 2012. Master of Ceremonies, Gary Brink, presented the newest group to be named Hall of Famers. This year's honorees were: Brian Papenhagen – from the class of 1967, Mark Sutton – from the class of 1978, Sherry Siering – from the class of 1981, Scott Abbott – from the class of 1995, Kilee Goetz – from the class of 1999, and the 1992 Baseball Team. Congratulations to all of our 2012 inductees.



Top: Individual honorees were: Brian Papenhagen, Mark Sutton, Sherry Siering, Scott Abbott, Kilee Goetz. Bottom: Representatives of the 1992 State Champion Baseball team.

Financial Aid Information

Ms. Lindsay Baumgartner, from JCC, will be making a financial aid presentation for the students and parents of Blissfield High School. The meeting, which will take place in January 2013, will focus on how to fill out the FAFSA along with meeting its deadlines, as well as some useful strategies on how parents can maximize their financial aid package for college bound students.

Mrs. Walter Teaches in Spain



Blissfield Schools welcomes Mrs. Walter back after a year teaching in Spain. Mrs. Walter left for Madrid, Spain last September for nine months with her husband. She taught in two different public schools. After school, she taught seven private English lessons, each week. Mrs. Walter worked with children from the age of five up through adulthood.

Fight Like a Girl

On September 18th the Blissfield Volleyball teams sponsored "Fight Like A Girl" fundraiser to generate funds to provide cancer treatments for first grade student Katie Goodman and Mila Novak, daughter of Middle School teacher Mike Novak. The hallway was decorated with pink tables, balloons, and flowers. Pink cupcakes, beads, bracelets, hair bands, and tattoos were available for sale. Raffle baskets and a 50/50 drawing were also held during the event. The 50/50 drawing provided everyone a laugh as Katie's dad, Mr. Goodman, won the drawing and opted to have the items divided between the two families.

Over \$500.00 was raised during the event. Cancer survivors were honored with flowers, and fun was had by all! A huge thank you goes to Shelby Simpson, co-owner of Whipped Cupcake Bar and Bakery for donating 100 cupcakes, and the group of ladies who helped organize this event.



The Varsity Girls' Volleyball team honors 1st grader Katie Goodman's fight with pink flowers.

Yearbooks Make a Great Christmas Present!

High School Yearbook orders are being accepted on-line at Jostens.com. After January 1, 2013, the price will increase from \$48 to \$50.

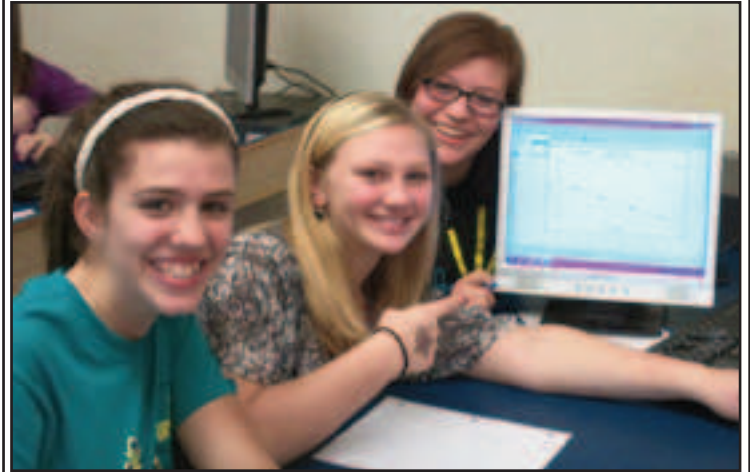
High School Student Council Officers



The high school student council officers for 2012-2013 are: Brittany Essen, Secretary, Tori Betz, Treasurer, Anna Schmidt, President, and Emily Loar, Vice President.

New Computers for Blissfield Physics Students

With a \$750 grant from the Blissfield Foundation for Educational Excellence, and \$1740 earned through fundraising, the Blissfield Physics Club purchased ten refurbished computers for use in the Blissfield Physics Lab. Students enjoy using the updated technology to perform computer based labs, write lab reports, and print assignments for other coursework.



Alyssa McLaughlin, Helen Pearson, and Aireanna McLaughlin show off their lab results on one of the new computers.

Make a Difference Day

Kindergarten through fifth grade students once again participated in a fundraiser for Make-a-Difference Day. While previous projects have benefitted organizations outside Blissfield, with many families struggling to provide for basic needs this year, it was decided that we would focus on Blissfield Elementary School. Students donated change to help with the increased costs of field trips, with over \$750 being raised to help offset transportation and admission prices. Parents and community members are welcome to help sponsor the field trips offered at each grade level. The students and staff wish to thank those who supported this project.



Fifth Graders Olivia Wood, Alyssa Thomas-McGrorty, and Danielle Stabnau collected, sorted, and counted change.

Blissfield History

Second graders toured Blissfield to learn more about communities as part of their social studies unit. They visited the River Raisin, Pleasant View Cemetery, the site of the first home in Blissfield, and the old sugar factory. Former Blissfield teacher and local historian, Doug Case served as tour guide. Students learned about the first Blissfield settlers, the importance of the river, and the history of local families that helped make Blissfield what it is today.



Mr. Case acts as tour guide for Mrs. Mills' class on their tour of historic Blissfield.

Sixth Grade Class Meetings

Sixth grade students and staff at Blissfield Middle School meet during class meetings at the end of each month. Sixth grade students and their core teachers meet to hear announcements regarding upcoming events. While also sharing their concerns, staff and students celebrate those individuals who have worked diligently, improved their grades, and/or been compassionate and caring members of the sixth grade class.

The following sixth grade students were recognized as Students of the Month for outstanding work in the core classes during September and October. Students include from Mrs. Pickell's Math classes Evan Strahan, Kalli Schwartzwalder, Spencer Horkey, and Emily Molaro. From Social Studies with Mr. McVay, Jacob Hart, Kathryn Johnson, Matthew MacBeth, and Kylie Gruber. Mr. Novak selected RJ Keller, Merissa Stubli, Daniel Jackson, and Sarah Weidmayer for outstanding work in Science. Mr. Grasley's outstanding English students include Matthew Bischoff, Krista Stutzman, Aysha Gammer, and Dallas Barringer.



Kylie Gruber was honored to be selected by Mr. McVay as one of the students of the month for Social Studies. Mrs. Pickell waits to honor her math students.

Honor Society Induction

On Wednesday, October 24, the Blissfield Chapter of the National Honor Society inducted 21 new members during their annual Induction Ceremony. The candlelight ceremony was followed by a dessert reception. Guest speakers Bill and Andy Borchardt spoke on the importance of the four pillars: service, scholarship, leadership, and character. They shared some of the projects the Blissfield Rotary Club has been involved with, and emphasized the positive impact that serving others has had in their lives.

The purpose of the National Honor Society is to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership and to encourage the development of admirable character in the students of Blissfield High School. To be accepted in the NHS, students must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 and demonstrate activity in the four pillars listed above.

Service Projects for this year are already in full swing. The NHS organized Pajama Day to support Pajama Rama, a countywide effort to benefit the Homeless Education programs at Lenawee County Schools. NHS will also sponsor two blood drives this year on December 19, and May 1. Their goal is to collect at least 61 pints at each blood drive. Students who are 16 may now donate blood with parent permission. Students also have plans for another student/faculty basketball game, and will serve dinner at the Daily Bread in Adrian.

This year's inductees were: Kelsie Abbott, Evan Bischoff, Tyler Clark, Claire Denecker, Miles DeNudt, Sara Goetz, Landon Jacobs, Colin Madsen, Brooke Marriott, Kaytlin, Martinez, Robert Powel, Heidi Sell, Melissa Snyder, Charles Southward, Dakota Suiter, Emma Tracy, Connor Vandecaveye, Jordan Willson, Josie Witt, and Brianna Yates.



Olivia Miller, Baily Holdridge, Diane Dickerson, and Brittane Toth are among the Project Leaders and took the opportunity to discuss projects completed by NHS last year, and plans for projects that are underway this year.



Madison Tracy, Isaiah Rupp, Thomas Jackson, and Anna Schmidt were the student speakers among Blissfield High School's new inductees to the National Honor Society.

Middle School Student Council

Middle School Student Council representatives have been selected and are planning to host many fun-filled activities for the student body throughout the school year. This year's officers include: President, Isabel Cueto, Vice President, Brooke Henning, Secretary, Kelsey Wyman, and Treasurer: Garrett Brenke. This year's representatives are Jared Bangerter, Caitlyn Gray, Alexa Mapstone, Maggie Schmidt, Logan Bauer, Lexi Cantu, Devon Slusher, Brynn Hackathorn, Nick Hoffman, Collin Blevins, Jason Klauda, Michael Jenson, and Jesse Reaster. Student Council faculty advisors are Mrs. Bunde and Mr. Sills.



Constitution Day

The Blissfield Area Lions Club presented pocket sized United States Constitution packets to the fifth grade social studies students at Blissfield Elementary School to celebrate "Constitution In Their Hands" day. Pictured are the students of Mrs. Reinhardt's Social Studies class and representatives from the Blissfield Area Lions Club.



Act it Out

Mr. McVay's Social Studies classes performed small skits to teach their fellow classmates about an idea or event they learned while in Social Studies class.



Austin Crowley, Remington Trout, Spencer Horky, and Evan Strahan teach the class about their assigned climate zone. The students performed Act-it-Outs to engage their fellow classmates to study the characteristics and traits of climate zones.

Backpack Buddy Program

Blissfield Community Schools will once again be providing students an opportunity to participate in the Backpack Buddy Program in an attempt to provide weekend meals. Through partnerships and donations from local businesses, students who participate receive a backpack each Friday containing easy to prepare meals and snacks for consumption during the weekend.

Last year, approximately fifty elementary and twenty middle school students benefited from the nearly 7000 meals provided during the twenty week program. This year an increased number of students have expressed interest in participating. The program begins Friday, November 2nd and will continue through May.

Information letters were recently sent home with each student. If you wish to enroll your child or wish to make a donation to help support the program, please contact Aaron Whitmore at (517)486-4420 ext. 4209 awhitmore@blissfieldschools.us or Brian Sills at (517)486-4420 ext. 4208.

Walk and Roll to School Day

On Wednesday, October 3, 2012, Blissfield students, along with hundreds of others throughout the state began their day with an early morning walk to school.

This is the fifteenth year the Michigan Fitness Foundation, Michigan Department of Community Health, and the Michigan Department of Transportation have sponsored the International Walk to School Day. It is estimated that over 120 Blissfield children, parents, school staff and community members walked to school during a beautiful fall morning.

Thanks to all who participated and helped make this event not only fun, but safe for our students.



Emma Dennison, Kylie Gruber, Camille Betz, and Nikole Schwartzwalder portray subsistence farming in an Act-it-Out to help their fellow classmates to study the characteristics and traits of economic activities.

iPad Savvy

Blissfield students and staff alike have been buzzing about the new iPads being utilized this fall. 130 iPads were purchased for use in all three buildings with funding provided through grants, our PTO, and the special education budget. Blissfield teachers are working collaboratively with their peers from Britton-Deerfield and Sand Creek during professional development activities scheduled throughout the year. Below staff from all three districts are being introduced to iPad usage.



Second and third grade students in Mrs. Porter and Miss Shearer's class really love the new iPads. Students have used iPads to practice spelling, study attributes, write poetry, and use apps that reinforce their Math and Reading skills. One of the new skills being taught was how to use the camera app. With their cameras, second graders went on an attribute hunt through the building to locate things round, white, square, or buoyant. The third graders used the camera outdoors to take fall pictures. Using their photos, they then created a poetry writing. The students extend a huge thanks to all who helped purchase the iPads.



Students in Mr. Sullivan's World History class had the opportunity to use iPads to enhance their learning through the use of TapQuiz Maps to review European countries and the Inspiration app to create a graphic organizer for use as a study aid prior to tests. The students are excited to be using the iPads and look forward to their next opportunity.



Teachers Honored

During our District "Welcome Back" luncheon earlier this fall Mr. Kevin Grasley and Mrs. Donna Bunde were honored for their years of outstanding service to Blissfield Schools. Congratulations to Mr. Grasley, 35 years, and Mrs. Bunde, 25 years, for their continued dedication to our students.



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