



Commitment to
Excellence

THE COMMUNICATOR

A Quarterly Publication of Blissfield Community Schools



Commitment to
Excellence

From the Superintendent



While the first signs of spring are finally beginning to appear, the excessive number of school delays and cancellations that occurred during the winter months require our school calendar to be extended five additional days. Therefore, our students' last day will now be Friday, June 17. High School graduation ceremonies will remain on Friday, June 3 as originally scheduled.

Parents are encouraged to pick-up their child's 3rd quarter report card and MEAP testing results while attending Parent-Teacher Conferences on Thursday, April 21. Conference sessions will be held district-wide from 8:00-11:00am, 12:30-3:30pm, and 5:00-8:00pm. There will be no school for students on Thursday, April 21 and Friday, April 22, 2011.

Road construction on US223 is scheduled to begin May 1st. Since traffic will be reduced to one lane during this time, student bus schedules may need to be altered. The District Transportation Department will notify parents in advance of modified bus pick-up or drop-off times if their child's routing is affected. Parents who transport their children to and from school may also wish to plan accordingly.

In February, Governor Snyder proposed a \$470 cut in per-pupil funding for the 2011-12 school year allowing these dollars to be reallocated to community colleges and universities. An increase in the retirement rate was also proposed raising the current 20.66 percentage rate to 24.5 percent. These estimates result in a reduction of over \$700 in per-pupil funding. When combined with an anticipated decline in student enrollment, this equates to a projected reduction of \$1,053,248 in district funding for the coming school year. Considering nearly \$900,000 in budget cuts occurred this year through support staff restructuring and consolidating services, this reduction is now expected to exceed \$1.9 million from the district operating budget within a two-year period.

Registered voters are reminded to participate in the School Board Election being held Tuesday, May 3 from 7:00am - 8:00pm at the Blissfield Fire Hall. Five candidates including Robert Beckey, David Brewer, Linda Hamann (incumbent), Chad Horky (incumbent), and Kori Nieman will vie for two four-year seats during this election.

On behalf of the students, staff and administration, thank you for your continued support of Blissfield Community Schools.

Sincerely,
Scott D. Moellenberndt

BMS Band Rocks Competition



Blissfield Middle School 7th and 8th Grade Band competed at Adrian High School on Saturday March 19, 2011 in the District Band Festival. Blissfield went on to achieve the highest rankings of all 1's in every category. Job well done, Mr. Hollandsworth and band!

Blissfield Community Schools District Calendar of Upcoming Events

Apr 21	No School for Students K-12 Parent/Teacher Conferences
Apr 22	No School for Students - Good Friday
Apr 25	Board of Education Meeting
Apr 29	State Band Festival ES Royal Walk
Apr 30	High School Prom
May 3	School Board Election
May 6	Progress Reports Distributed
May 9	Kdg & 1st Grade Music Program
May 10	3rd & 4th Grade Music Program
May 10	MS Payback for Education
May 11	MS Solar Cookout
May 11	Lenawee Fine Arts Festival
May 12	5th Grade Fine Arts Night
May 13	3rd Grade Grandparent's Day
May 13	MS Hoops for Heart
May 16	Board of Education Meeting
May 16-20	ES Victorsville Week
May 18	7-12 Grade Band Collage
May 18	Choir and Recorder Concert
May 24	HS Fine Arts Festival
May 25-27	8th Grade Camp
May 27	Purple and Gold Day
May 30	No School - Memorial Day
June 1	Academic Awards Night
June 2	Baccalaureate Senior Breakfast
June 3	8th Grade Celebration High School Graduation
June 7	MS Fine Arts Night
June 16	Half Day Student Exams
June 17	Half Day Student Exams/Last Day
June 20	Board of Education Meeting
July 18	Board of Education Meeting

Attention Parents

Do not miss your chance to give your graduating senior a special and lasting memory in the yearbook. Order forms for "SENIOR ADS" are now available at Blissfield High School or by contacting Gary Sullivan at 486-2148 ext. 1014 or by email at: gsullivan@blissfieldschools.us. Any student interested in ordering a yearbook can contact Mr. Sullivan or purchase one online at www.jostens.com.

Scheduling

BHS student requests have been completed for next year. We will be using the electronic scheduler to assign class periods to student requests. Students can expect to get their classes at the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year. Thanks to the staff, students and families for putting in the time to select courses that will best meet students' needs.

Michigan Merit Exam (MME)

The Michigan Merit Exam (MME) took place on March 1st, 2nd, & 3rd for all eligible juniors and seniors. The Michigan Merit Examination (MME) assesses students in grade 11 and eligible students in grade 12 based on Michigan high school standards. It is administered each March, and consists of three components:

- ACT Plus Writing® college entrance examination
- WorkKeys® job skills assessments in reading, mathematics, and "locating information"
- Michigan-developed assessments in mathematics, science, and social studies

Students can expect to get the results from the ACT portion of the exam 4-6 weeks after its completion.

PLAN and EXPLORE

The EXPLORE and PLAN (Pre-ACT) tests have been given to all 9th and 10th grade students. These tests are part of the ACT program and will help students identify academic strengths as well as areas needing improvement prior to taking the Michigan Merit Exam in the 11th grade.

PSAT

PSAT (pre-Scholastic Aptitude Test and National Merit Scholar Qualifying Test) will be given to eleventh grade students in the fall of 2011. This is not a mandatory test, but students are encouraged to take the test if they plan to take the SAT test for college entrance. In addition, the PSAT is the initial opportunity for students to participate in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. Students will be given information for the PSAT in their US History classes in early May. Test materials must be ordered prior to the close of the 2010-2011 school year so we must have sign up before dismissal for summer break. If parents have any questions or concerns, or would like to sign their students up now, you may call the counseling office at 486-2148 x 203

US223 Road Construction - Delays Expected

Please be aware US223 will be under construction beginning May 1st through the conclusion of the school year. As a result, school bus routing or student pick-up/drop-off times may be adjusted as traffic will be reduced to one lane from High to Jefferson Street and continuing east of Blissfield to the Monroe County line. Should you have further questions in this regard please contact the Michigan Department of Transportation or the Blissfield Transportation Department at 486-3803.

Fifth Graders Visit Storer Camp

Wow, what a great three days of 5th Grade Outdoor Education! Weather, classes and experiences were fantastic! Our 5th Graders had a wonderful time at YMCA Storer Camp near Napoleon, Michigan March 14th through the 16th. The fifth graders experienced an extension of the classroom by covering material in our science and social studies curriculum. Our student and school received many complements about their behavior and their flexibility in facing new situations.

Our high school cabin leaders did an outstanding job and worked extremely well with our 5th graders! We once again had several staff members comment on the involvement and maturity of our cabin leaders.

Storer Camp staff was excellent. They were prepared and were able to give new material to support our curriculum. The Horse Ride was a highlight as students had a ride in the arena. The students focused on becoming comfortable with their horses. They played "Simon Says" on horseback and walked around barrels.

Our fifth graders kept journals of their three day experience. The journals are positive communications with parents of what took place at camp. The kids, teachers, and parents have all expressed the excitement of Outdoor Education Program. A positive experience for 5th graders and our high school cabin leaders!



Learning about pioneer tools Brinn Hackathorn looks on as Brandon Jenks saws with Jose Arellano. High school cabin leaders Patrick Jensen and Devin Moore supervised the work.

We thought we had a large snake in the BELL. It took a group of Jacob Pastor, Karah Bayer, Kelsey Noel, and Makayla Nofzinger to hold up this huge snake!

Toledo Mudhens Trip

The BLISS program at BHS has arranged a group trip to see the Toledo Mudhens play on Friday, May 9th at 7 p.m. All freshmen and their mentors are invited to attend. Information and permission slips are available through the CCC and must be returned by Wednesday, April 20th along with \$8 to cover the cost of the ticket.

Graduation

Graduation will be Friday, June 3rd at 7:00pm in the High School Gymnasium. All are invited to attend this memorable night as we celebrate the success of this year's 2011 graduates.

Grease

The students of the Blissfield High School Drama Club and Thespian Society, Troupe 6353, presented that "Nifty Fifties" musical, Grease on March 24th - 26th. Each performance began with a full house and ended with a standing ovation. Director Wanice Linn said, "Of all the high school musicals I have directed, this has been my favorite. Largely due to the fabulous cast and crew and an amazing group of parent and community volunteers, this has been by far our most successful show in audience satisfaction, student experience, and box office totals." Much credit also goes to choreographer, Brandi Archer, owner and director of Expression Through Dance Studio in downtown Blissfield. "Brandi's choreography was the jewelry on our show...she truly made it sparkle," said Linn.



Zookeepers

Our Blissfield Environmental Life Lab (BELL) has a great bunch of fifth grade zookeepers this year. Each fifth grade teacher has an assigned day that they send in 6 – 8 students from their room to help Ms. Barks, the lab technician, with the animals. Every student then will rotate each month, throughout the year to feed and water the animals. Students also may choose to help clean cages and handle the animals.

Most of our animals can be handled due to the continuous love and gentle touch our students give them daily. The animals that most students choose to handle are the snakes, bearded dragons, and turtles. Sometimes we have some students that have the courage to hold the Chilean rose hair tarantulas or Madagascar hissing cockroaches.

Every year 6 – 8 adult volunteers commit to working in the BELL weekly, helping the zookeepers to insure everything runs smoothly. Blissfield Elementary is truly blessed with their assistance.



How do you like our new jewelry? Melanie Horton, Nicole Latour, and Brandon Jenks show off the BELL Lab's friendly corn snakes.

Voices for Change

The Blissfield Middle School Voices for Change group went to the annual Youth Summit, in Adrian on Tuesday, March 22, 2011. They participated in many leadership and facilitator training activities, learned lots of team building activities, and many many new friends from other school around the county. Voices for Change (VFC) is a program through Lenawee Communities and Schools. The process is designed to empower students and to help them learn the skills they need to be effective leaders and to make positive changes in their schools and communities. We are looking forward to next year and the many projects we have planned!



Pictured from left to right: Marley Griffith, Tabitha Swiczkowski, Madison Griffith, Sydney Papenhagen, Emma Essen, Jordan LaFountain, Brock Miller. Not pictured: Jessica Riley and leader Ms. Crane.

Solar Cookout For Seventh Graders

The seventh grade students will be participating in their annual solar cookout on Wednesday, May 11th. The cookout is the culmination of a Science project which includes researching plans for building a solar cooker, constructing it, and experimenting through trial and error. Student will also complete a questionnaire to provide information about the whole process. Interviews will take place during the cooking to provide further opportunity for the students to demonstrate their knowledge of the process. The project is a fun way to help develop many things like planning, cooperation, meeting deadlines, and creativity. It is always a fun day.

Top Ten Students Honored



Courtney Elizabeth Bausman is the daughter of Larry and Cheryl Bausman. She is planning on attending Central Michigan University to study Dietetics. She received High Academic Honors, the Rotary Youth Award, and the Promedica Fields of Green Scholarship. Courtney was involved with the International Thespian Society, Drama Club, National Honors Society and

was a Bliss Mentor Leader. Her favorite memories while at BHS are participating in the musicals "Once Upon a Mattress," "Cinderella," and "Grease."

Bryce Denecker is the son of Maurice and Jean Denecker. He has been accepted into the College of Engineering at the University of Michigan. His academic distinctions include Academic Excellence Award and Lenawee County Athletic Association Scholar Athlete Award. He participated in National Honors Society, Physics Club, JV and Varsity Football, JV and Varsity Basketball, and the St. Peter's Church Youth Group. His favorite memories of BHS are spending time with his friends, and playing after school basketball with Mr. Noel and Mr. Pooley. His favorite classes include Mr. Noel's Calculus and AP Physics and Ms. Yepez's Senior English.



Joel Clark is the son of Ken and Becky Clark. He is planning on attending either the University of Michigan or Michigan State University to pursue a Chemical Engineering degree. He was the English 11 student of the year and was on the principal's list. After school he was active in soccer, National Honors Society, Boy Scouts, Physics Club, fencing, tennis and aquatics. Favorite

memories are working on the school play and musical, and taking German and French.

Dalton Brian Goetz is the son of Brian and Margaret Goetz. He plans to attend Western Michigan University to pursue a Business degree. His honors include All-State Academic Wrestling, MVP of the football and wrestling teams, all league academic, and an AthLead Scholarship. He participated in Football, Wrestling, Track, Baseball, Student Council, and 4-H. His favorite memories are playing sports alongside his friends, making new friends through extracurricular activities, and being a 5th grade camp counselor.



Danielle Elizabeth Davis is the daughter of Nancy and Dan Davis. She plans on attending the University of Michigan to pursue a degree in Psychology. Her academic distinctions include Principal's List, Scholar Athlete Award, Academic Excellence, and the Top Speaker Award in Debate. She has participated in National Honor's Society, several plays, Thespian Society, JV Basketball, Soccer, Physics Club, Peer Tutoring, Forensics, Debate and was a Link Crew Leader. Her favorite

memories include AP Chemistry, Homecoming games and dances, Forensics Competitions, Plays, and junior year basketball.



Caitlyn Nicole Meszaros is the daughter of Joe and Lisa Meszaros. She will be attending Adrian College to pursue a degree in Psychology. Her honors include Academic Excellence Award, Scholar Athlete Award, All League 2nd Team for Varsity Soccer, 1st Team All County for Varsity Soccer, Outstanding Academic Performance Award in Geometry, Spanish 2, and Government, Michigan Competitive Scholarship,

Adrian College Presidential Scholarship, and Adrian Academic Day Scholarship. Caitlyn was involved with National Honor Society, Physics Club, Mentor Program, Peer Tutoring, Freshman and JV Volleyball, and Varsity Soccer. Her favorite memories of BHS are the pep assemblies, and homecoming dances. She was honored to be voted Cominghome queen this year. Her favorite classes included Mrs. Denkins' Algebra class and Mr. Coscarelli's Physical Education class.

This year, Blissfield High School is honored to present the top ten academic students. Students are listed alphabetically.

Makenzy Speiser is the daughter of Ann Croft and Jed Speiser. She will be attending The Ohio State University to pursue a Doctorate of Pharmacy. She received the Provost Scholarship, National Buckeye Scholarship, Promedica Fields of Green Scholarship, and the Michigan Competitive Scholarship. Her distinctions at BHS are Academic Award, Academic Excellence Award, and All County Soccer. She participated in Varsity Soccer, National Honor Society, Link Crew, Physics Club, Peer Tutoring, Debate, and Adrian Club Soccer. She also worked at Highland Meadows Golf Club, Refereed recreation soccer and attended First Presbyterian Church. Her favorite memories are AP Chemistry class, football games, being four year iron man champs, bus rides after soccer games, and going to Garfield's after Forensics meets.



She participated in Varsity Soccer, National Honor Society, Link Crew, Physics Club, Peer Tutoring, Debate, and Adrian Club Soccer. She also worked at Highland Meadows Golf Club, Refereed recreation soccer and attended First Presbyterian Church. Her favorite memories are AP Chemistry class, football games, being four year iron man champs, bus rides after soccer games, and going to Garfield's after Forensics meets.

Emily Jean Wolfe is the daughter of Amy and Gary Wolfe. She plans on attending either the University of Michigan or Princeton to pursue a degree in Chemistry with a pre-med focus and minor in Cultural Studies. Her academic distinctions are the Principal's List, Michigan Competitive Scholarship, and the Brazeway Sons and Daughters Scholarship.. She has participated in National Honor Society, International Thespian Society, BLISS Mentor Leader, all four musicals and plays, four years of cross country, JV Softball, Physics Club, and Peer Tutoring. Her favorite memories are football games, especially going to states freshman year, AP Chemistry, spirit weeks, and all of the people.



Melissa Sue Wiles is the daughter of Wendy Pooley and Roberto Valdez. She plans on attending either University of Michigan or Ohio State University to study Psychology pre-med with a minor in Spanish. Her academic distinctions are Junior Rotarian, DAR Good Citizen, National Hispanic Scholar, Student of the Year in Spanish, Math, AP Chemistry, English, Biology, and Social Studies. Her scholarship awards include the Promedica Fields of Green Scholarship, Michigan Competitive Scholarship, Morrill Scholars Excellence Scholarship, Maximus Scholarship, and the National Buckeye Scholarship. She was President of National Honors Society and participated in Forensics, Speech Competitions, Church Youth Group, Link Crew, and Physics Club. Her favorite memories are Iron Man Volleyball games during Cominghome, football games, being a 5th grade camp cabin leader, and running track.



Her scholarship awards include the Promedica Fields of Green Scholarship, Michigan Competitive Scholarship, Morrill Scholars Excellence Scholarship, Maximus Scholarship, and the National Buckeye Scholarship. She was President of National Honors Society and participated in Forensics, Speech Competitions, Church Youth Group, Link Crew, and Physics Club. Her favorite memories are Iron Man Volleyball games during Cominghome, football games, being a 5th grade camp cabin leader, and running track.



Lauren Elizabeth Yates is the daughter of Melvin and Amy Yates. She plans on attending either Ohio Northern University or the University of Toledo to pursue a Doctorate of Pharmacy. Her academic awards include the LCAA Senior Scholar Athlete Award, Chemistry Student of the Year, Principal's List, Academic Excellence, LCAA Scholar Athlete, LCAA Sportsmanship in Cross Country, LCAA 1st team, MVP, and Captain of Cross Country, Cheer and Track teams. She has been awarded the Promedica Fields

of Green Scholarship, Strokes for Students Scholarship, and Michigan Competitive Scholarship. She participated in cross country, track and field, competitive cheer, National Honors Society, Physics Club, Debate, Forensics, Mentor Leader, Link Crew, Peer Tutoring, and Junior Rotarians. Her favorite memories include homecoming week, Cedar Point with mentees, football games, going out to eat after Debate & Forensics tournaments, Cross Country team dinners, competitive cheer sleepovers, and cross country state meets, fun times in Calculus and AP Physics.

Academic Honors Night

The Academic Honors Awards presentation will be held the evening of June 1st in the High School Gymnasium. At this time, we will recognize the top ten students of the class of 2011 as well as scholarship recipients. The students will also be recognized for outstanding performance in each curricular area. Parents and family members are invited to celebrate these outstanding academic accomplishments.

Blissfield Elementary's Wax Museum

Tuesday, March 29 was a special day at Blissfield Elementary. Students in kindergarten through fourth grade were surprised by visits from over one hundred famous "celebrities" including famous early Americans, sports heroes from long ago, inventors and scientists, and others. The "celebrities" were portrayed by fifth grade students in a "Wax Museum" format. The wax museum project was started by Mrs. Marcia Hojnacki seven years ago as part of a school improvement strategy to improve writing across the curriculum. Before participating in the "museum," the fifth graders read a biography about their famous person. They do more research, then write a report and speech. Students gather props and costumes to transform themselves into the famous people.



Among the wax museum displays were Austin Hall as Leonardo da Vinci and Noah Todd as Johnny "Appleseed" Chapman.

TECH Center Students Honored

The following students were recognized for their excellent work habits during the second trimester of the 2010-11 school year at the LISD TECH-Center. Positive work habits are a key component of LISD TECH-Center curriculum constituting 40% of the students' grades. These students demonstrated responsibility, dependability, and a positive attitude toward work. Excellence in additional work habits included initiative and effort, efficiency, cooperation, safety, and the ability to follow directions.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area</u>
Michael Caspar	Video and Audio Production
Blake Haupricht	Careers in Public Safety
Jessica Martinez	Health Care Careers
Jordan Wold	Building Trades

High School Prom

On Saturday, April 30, Blissfield High School will have their Annual Prom. The Prom will be held at the Dundee Mill with the theme being "Tropical Paradise." It will be a night of fun and dancing for high school students and their dates. Be sure to purchase your tickets early. They will be sold during your lunch period. The price of the tickets is \$45 per couple or \$30 for single.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences for all K-12 students will be held on Thursday, April 21. As a result, there will be no school for students that day. Conferences will occur in all three buildings from 8:00-11:00 a.m., 12:30-3:30 p.m., and 5:00-8:00 p.m. Conferences for students in grades K-4 have been scheduled in fifteen minute appointment slots, and those appointment times have been sent home. Conferences for students in grades 5-12 are open-forum conferences, first come-first served. This allows parents to speak with all the teachers who work with their children. There will also be no school for both students and staff members on Good Friday, April 22.

Career Counseling Center

The Career Counseling Center at BHS is an excellent resource to help you on your way to college or a great career. We have many summer opportunities available for students to take advantage of — from fun camps to career/sports focused seminars. We are also a main resource for scholarships of all types, transcripts, and your college applications.

Having Lunch with a Friend

The Lunch Buddy program is again in full swing with fourteen wonderful adults who are volunteering their time and relational energy to our Blissfield students. There are twelve elementary students in the program and three middle school students who continued with their Big Buddy as they transitioned into the middle school. This program started at Blissfield six years ago and has been a success due to the community members giving up their personal lunch times to eat with one of our Blissfield students instead. This program pairs one student with one adult. This same adult, "Big", then eats lunch once a week with their student, "Little" in a quiet location designated in the school. This lunchtime is used to play games or work on school work in a one on one mentoring situation. The students wait eagerly in the hallway for their Big to pick them up for lunch. Having a special friend enhances the student's school day and helps with their self-esteem. Our volunteers come from the local banks, businesses and retirees. We are blessed with their time and energy given to our Blissfield students.



Lunch buddies Pat Cranor and Natayia Dillard get together once a week to eat lunch, talk, and enjoy each other's company.

Student Loan Program

Blissfield High School Graduates have available a unique student loan program. Criteria to qualify for the 0% A.P.R. loan are as follows:

1. You must be a graduate of Blissfield Community Schools.
2. Continued advances of \$1000 per college semester will continue as long as a minimum grade point average of C or above is maintained.
3. 12 credit hours or more must be maintained to receive continued advances.
4. 0% A.P.R. up to 5 years from the time the loan was taken out.

Other rules may apply and can be discussed with Sue Gniewkowski or Daniel Garno in the Blissfield Community Schools Administrative Office (517) 486-2205.

FFA Members Present Agri-Science Lessons

During the week of March 22, FFA members and Agri-science students presented lessons to the Blissfield Elementary Kindergarten students. The lesson entitled "Here, There and Everywhere, Learning about Michigan Agriculture" focused on the many commodities grown and raised around the state. The kindergartners guessed what was in mystery grab bags, heard a story about Michigan agriculture, sorted, counted and graphed different seeds and then created their own "farm charm" to help them remember all the different components of agriculture in Michigan. The students presenting the lesson found it to be a great experience and look forward to doing it again. The students who presented included Steven Mattek, Cody Speiser, Robert Neyrinck, Jacob Ellison, Andrew Porter and Wesley Mills. A second group of Agri-science students will present a lesson on insects to the first graders in April.



Cody Speiser reads to students in Mrs. Head's Kindergarten class as part of the FFA visit.

Dual Enrollment

Students who are interested in dual enrolling Fall semester, 2011, should plan to attend a meeting in May during VIP in the CCC. The application process must be completed before the end of this school year, as the college courses begin before BHS courses. Please stop into the CCC to sign up for the meeting ahead of time, as space is limited. A specific date and time will be announced in the near future.

Step Right Up and Read!

March is always an exciting month at Blissfield Elementary as we go all out for reading all month long. This year we adopted the Scholastic reading theme of Step Right Up and Read and turned our school into a "carnival" looking building. Each child's picture was displayed on a popcorn bag, banners were hung directing you to popcorn, refreshments, games and more, and the best place to get called to was the critter cage where you could "win" a new stuffed animal.

Activities during the month included a Family Reading Night in your PJ's, hat day, canned food drive, t-shirt day, and a free carnival for all families sponsored by the PTO.

As always the book fair was a huge success due to the hard work of Mrs. Diana Diebel and her team. Our visiting illustrator this month was Cyd Moore who was fantastic. She delivered hour long presentations to all grade levels and they were both informative and fun.

The best part of all is that our students realize that reading makes each one of us a WINNER!



Karis Weirich, Joslyn Hill, Maddie Tomasek, Travis Mitchell, and A roll out of bed and right into reading at school!

Silly Stories in 2nd Grade

The students in Mrs. Hibdon's second-grade class performed the play, "The Emperor's New Hair" for classmates and parents March 25th and 29th. The Emperor, played by Nic Jensen, was convinced that he had hair that was long and thick and golden and wavy. His two advisors, Twiddle (Scott Jackson) and Twee (Kylie Ryan) convinced him that he had long, fabulous hair. The Imperial hairdresser (Kaitlyn Jacobs) clipped and snipped his imaginary hair. Only a little boy (Christian Fischer) was honest enough to tell him the truth. .he had NO HAIR! This silly story ended happily as the boy joined the Emperor as a trusted advisor to rule his kingdom. Baldness became fashionable!



MICHIGAN'S NEW TEEN DRIVING LAW

Our offices have been inundated with questions about a new law that went into effect March 30, 2011. The new law affects some students' ability to drive to and from games, dances, plays, and many other school and social events. This new law is directed at GDL 2 holders (graduated driver's license 2) who are generally 16 years old but may very well be 17 or 18 years old if they started the program late.

According to the State Police traffic division, this is how the new law works:

A GDL level 2 driver may drive between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. in the state of Michigan ONLY if:

1. Accompanied by his or her parent
2. Accompanied by his or her legal guardian
3. Accompanied by a licensed driver over the age of 21, designated by the driver's parent or legal guardian
4. The GDL level 2 driver is going to or from his or her place of employment

The other portion of the law states that a GDL level 2 driver may only have one passenger in his or her vehicle under the age of 21 unless

1. The youthful passengers are members of the driver's immediate family
2. The GDL level 2 driver is driving to or from a school-sanctioned event

If you have further questions about the law or the graduated licensing system, please go to the following state website:

www.michigan.gov/documents/Michigans_Graduated_Licensing_System_153498_7.pdf

Welcome to America

Andre Williams was interviewed By Emily Clark as their culminating activity of studying Migration to the United States: The Impact on People and Places. Students dressed in country specific costumes and were interviewed by their peers as part of Mr. McVay's Social Studies class.



Winter Scholar Athletes

The students pictured above were recognized by the Board of Education upon achieving Scholar Athlete status for maintaining a minimum 3.5 GPA while participating on a varsity team during the winter season.

Stephanie Salters, Kristin Snyder, Lauren Yates, Dalton Goetz, Ean Sablich, Laura Goetz, Nic Edwards, Bryce Denecker, Grant Mitchell, Jordan Willson, Jennifer Sell, Christian Davis



School Board Election May 3, 2011

Voters in the Blissfield School District will select two members to our School Board for four-year terms during the election on May 3, 2011. Candidates seeking election are Robert Beckey, David Brewer, Linda Hamann, Chad Horky, and Kori Nieman.

Polls are located at Blissfield Fire Hall on US 223 and are open from 7:00am until 8:00pm.

First Grade Learning Fun



Mrs. Shelby Raines, retired Blissfield elementary teacher, visited Mrs. Benko's 1st grade class as "The Cat in the Hat". Mrs. Raines read several Dr. Seuss books to the class and shared facts about cats with them.

First grade students, Caleb Garno and Jazzlyne Phifer, investigate the property of mass using balance scales furnished by the Blissfield Foundation for Educational Excellence.

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