



# THE BLISSFIELD COMMUNICATOR

Winter 2007 Issue

A Publication of Blissfield Community Schools

## From your Blissfield School Board

A few years ago, the school board became cognizant that the Master Plan for the school district needed to be updated. Part of the reasoning was to ensure and plan for placement of buildings, fields, and athletics and to better assess immediate and future needs of the District.

In the summer of 2006, Hobbs and Black Architectural Services was commissioned to complete an analysis (evaluation) of our schools' buildings. Their charge was to determine the conditions and future needs of the District. The study concluded that each of the buildings had specific basic needs with the high school needs being the most critical because of age. It was pointed out repeatedly, that our buildings and equipment had been maintained well over the years, but usage, age and exposure for over 50 years was taking its toll on the high school which is about at the end of its life cycle.

The basic needs of the buildings range from roof replacement at the elementary and high school, electrical upgrades in the elementary, boiler replacement in the high school and replacement of the steam and water pipes as well as heat and air flow work at the middle school.

Costs are being sought for the needs by contractors and our Facility Supervisor. Hobbs and Black will do the feasibility and cost analysis for major repairs or eventual replacement of the high school building. All of the work will be coordinated by the Building and Ground Committee under the direction and leadership of the entire Board of Education.

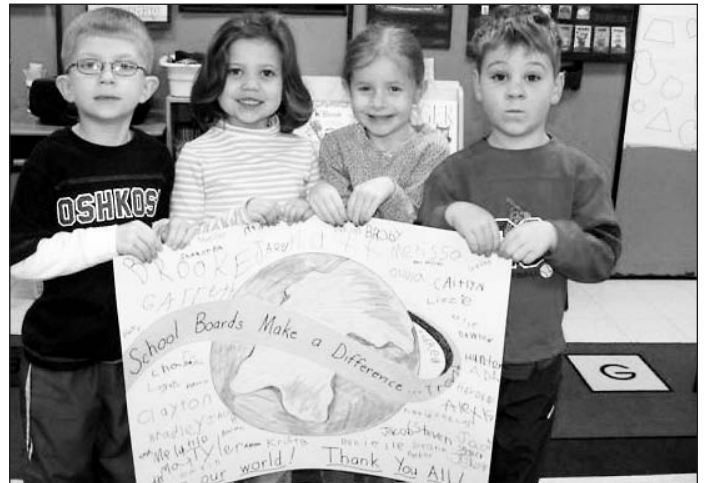
In conclusion, the Blissfield Board of Education is attempting to be pro-active now and in the future. The Board would like to plan ahead for the protection of the Districts' assets and resources for our students and community and not operate by crisis management.

## Emergency Closings & Delays

If the school must be closed or the opening delayed because of 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 – CBS 11 Television



## Thank You, School Board Members

The month of January marked the annual observance of School Board Recognition Month, a good time to salute the work of school board members and celebrate public education. The locally elected trustees in Blissfield Community Schools help children think, work, solve problems and more. Their decisions and actions affect the present and future lives of our community's children. As citizen leaders, individual school board members face complex and demanding challenges which include establishing a vision for the education program, designing a structure to achieve that vision, ensuring schools are accountable to the community and strongly advocating continuous improvement in student learning. As the individual members pull together as a team, they strive toward a common goal of helping students to achieve. Board members contribute hundreds of hours each year leading their districts with not only monthly meetings, but also seminars and training sessions to keep abreast of the latest trends in educational learning. The month of January is traditionally designated to show appreciation to the men and women who lead our school district, but any time of the year is an appropriate time to join with others throughout our district to salute these individuals who provide grassroots governance of our public schools. Thank you, School Board members, we appreciate your hard work and your dedication to Blissfield Community Schools! Our board members and their elected positions are:

### Board of Education Members

President – Norris Klump	Trustee – Audricka Jacob
Vice President – Larry Bausman	Trustee – JoDee Friess
Secretary – Matthew Schroeder	Trustee – Noel Eisenmann
Treasurer – Linda Hamann	

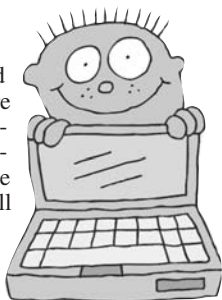
## PLANNING FOR AFTER PROM 2007

*Set Sale for Port Royale* will take place April 22 from 12:30-5:00 a.m. All Blissfield Juniors and Seniors and their guests are invited to the After Prom party. Invitations and permissions slips will be sent out in March. All parents, family, friends, or members of the community who are interested in supporting this event to keep our students safe on their Prom night, are asked to call Connie Graf at 486-2633. The committee is accepting financial donations and prizes.



## ALSC announces exceptional websites for children

Are you wondering where your child should be looking for information on the internet? Here is an excellent start to searching that is safe, reliable, and authoritative in the scope of educational materials for children from preschool to age 14. Go to the website listed below, and you will see a great deal of offerings to help your child with his or her learning. The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association in Chicago, is pleased to announce that new websites have been added to Great Websites for Kids ([www.ala.org/greatsites](http://www.ala.org/greatsites)), its web resource containing hundreds of links to commendable websites for children. Great Websites for Kids (GWS) features links to valuable websites of interest to children, organized by subject headings such as animals, literature and languages, sciences, the arts, and history and biography. The Great Websites for Kids Committee maintains and updates the site. "Each year, GWS Committee members review close to 500 websites for children ages birth to 14, in search of sites that are outstanding in content and conception," said Maren Ostergard, co-chair of the GWS Committee and an early literacy/outreach librarian at King County (Wa.) Library System. "To make the cut and appear on the Great Web Sites for Kids, a site must be especially commendable quality, and reflect and encourage young people's interests in exemplary ways." In this age of online searching, it is an excellent idea to have this site bookmarked and readily available to you and your children.



## Professional Development book talk

The Blissfield Community Schools School Improvement Team is sponsoring a book talk based on the book, **Gung Ho!** All staff in the district were encouraged to read the book, which is a management tool that outlines foolproof ways to increase productivity by fostering excellent morale in the workplace and classroom. Through the inspirational story of two business leaders, the secret of Gung Ho is revealed, a revolutionary technique to boost enthusiasm and performance and usher in astonishing results for any organization. Teachers and staff are meeting during five after-school sessions to discuss the content of the book and to make correlations in their settings. Professional development credit is also being offered to those who attend the sessions.

## Receipts for Education

Parents are asked to keep collecting register receipts from Borchardt's to help earn funds for valuable and important educational equipment. Please send receipts to school with your child or drop them off at any school office. We appreciate your support, but please hurry, because this incredible program ends on March 31, 2007!



## Invitation from the Athletic Boosters

The Blissfield Athletic Boosters are pleased to announce that their webpage is up and running and is located on the school webpage, [www.blissfield.k12.mi.us](http://www.blissfield.k12.mi.us). Please check out the webpage to learn about the wonderful things that the Athletic Boosters are doing. We are a group of parents, grandparents, friends and fans of ALL Blissfield Athletic programs at BOTH the middle and the high school. Just recently, we purchased new wall mats for both the middle and high school gymnasiums. The mats were very much needed as the old ones were hard and worn out. The new mats look fantastic! Athletic Boosters meet the third



Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Blissfield High School Library. Anyone is welcome to attend to find out more about our group!

## Blissfield Athletic Hall of Fame

The Blissfield Athletic Department, along with the Blissfield Athletic Boosters, is gearing up for the 3rd annual Blissfield Athletic Hall of Fame Induction. The purpose of the Hall of Fame is to recognize former great athletes and coaches who once roamed the halls of Blissfield High School.

The Hall of Fame selection committee is asking for your help in nominating past Blissfield High School athletes and coaches you feel worthy of this honor. The basic requirements for nominations for past athletes are simple: they must have graduated between the years of 1900-1997. Past coaches must be retired from coaching at Blissfield and must have coached at least 15 years for Blissfield High School. Nomination forms may be picked up in the High School Athletic Office or you may access the nomination form online at [www.blissfield.k12.mi.us](http://www.blissfield.k12.mi.us)

When you get the Blissfield School's webpage, click on the Athletic Booster link to find the form. Nominations for the class of 2007 will be accepted until March 1. Nominations received after March 1 will be placed on the nomination list for future induction classes.

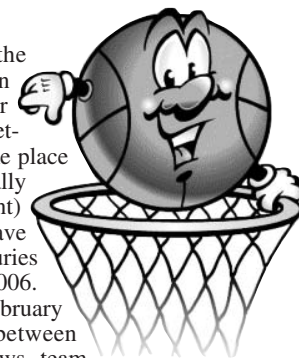
## Blissfield Community Schools Fundraiser

The BHS gymnasium will be the scene of excitement and enthusiasm on Saturday, February 24, as a major fundraiser takes place. A benefit basketball game and fish bowl raffle will take place with the proceeds to be split equally between Ben Hoagland (A BHS student) and Lance Murry. Both individuals have incurred major expenses due to injuries suffered as the result of accidents in 2006.

Special events to take place on February 24 include a basketball game between Blissfield staff and Channel 13 news team members, a fish bowl raffle with prizes donated by area merchants, a pie in the face raffle with chances to throw a pie at Mark Willson, middle school principal, or Paul Palka, superintendent of schools.

The contact person for the fundraiser is Mike Noel. For questions, you may contact him by email at [mnoel@blissfield.k12.mi.us](mailto:mnoel@blissfield.k12.mi.us) or you may call him at (517)486-2148, ext 1012.

Come out and join the fun during this special evening while we help and care for others.



# BLISSFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CALENDAR

Feb. 2-20.....	K-2 Candy Bar Fundraise
Feb. 8.....	PTO Meeting 6 p.m.
Feb. 16.....	Mid-Winter Break — No School
Feb. 19.....	Teacher In-Service — No School
Feb. 21.....	School Improvements/Staff Develop; K-5 dismisses at 11 a.m.; no p.m. kindergarten
Feb. 26.....	5th Grade Camp parent meeting 6 p.m.
Mar. 1-30.....	March is Reading Month activities
Mar. 5-9.....	Elementary Book Fair
Mar. 8.....	PTO Meeting 6 p.m.
Mar. 13.....	5th Grade visits Franciscan Center at Lourdes College
Mar. 14.....	Visiting author spends day with K-5
Mar. 19-21.....	5th Grade at Camp Storer
Mar. 21.....	Kindergarten Round-Up; 8:30-10:30 a.m. & 4-6 p.m.
Mar. 23.....	End of 3rd Marking Period; 47days
Mar. 28-30.....	K-5 Parent/Teacher Conf; class times altered
Apr. 1-8.....	Spring Vacation — No School
Apr. 9.....	School resumes at regular time
Apr. 12.....	PTO Meeting 6 p.m.
Apr. 12-13.....	5th Grade visits Stubnitz Environmental Ctr.
Apr. 20.....	3rd Grade visits Sauder Village
Apr. 27.....	School Improvements/Staff Development; K-5 dismisses at 11a.m.; p.m. kindergarten meets in the a.m., no a.m. kindergarten
Apr. 30.....	Beginning of Victorsville School Experience for 3rd Grade

## Mrs. Mueller's kindergarteners take the world by storm!

Mrs. Mueller's kindergarten students are off to a great start in 2007. We began the year by thanking our school board for all they do for us. We made a poster and signed it for all to see. We are finished with our alphabet and will be moving pretty quickly on to independent writing in our personal journals. We are making a word dictionary for our journals so that we can be even more independent writers. We have the basics of math "down pat" and have moved on to writing, adding, and subtracting numbers as well as playing math games such as dominoes, war, twister, and bingo. Science is half way done with mastery in our first two units - the five senses and attributes. We are now working with living and non-living things and plan to take several trips to the B.E.L.L. for some hands-on work. We are also doing some planting in the classroom. All of Mrs. Mueller's students continue to grow into responsible, respectful, and safe students both in and out of the classroom. For social studies, we are going to take on two service-learning projects in the spring. We will be making valentine cards for the patients at the Ann Arbor Veterans' Hospital, and we will make Easter cards for the patients at the nursing home in Adrian. We have been very busy in Mrs. Mueller's classroom. She is so very proud of us and the progress that we have made. Pretty soon we will be moving on to 1st grade - but only when Mrs. Mueller is ready for us to leave her! (See photo on front page).

## March is Reading month... coming soon!

March is fast approaching and so is March is Reading Month at the Elementary School. Many things are in the planning stages, but to date, there are a couple of activities that are "for sure." On March 2nd, the elementary students and staff will be kicking off the month with a special assembly, "Just Rock and Roll into Reading Month." Scholastic Book Fair will be set up in the library during the week of March 5 - 9. All children will have the opportunity to visit the Book Fair during their scheduled library time and parents and community members are welcome during regular school hours. On March 14, the elementary children will welcome an author, Pam Flowers. Pam is the author of *Alone Across the Arctic* and *Big Enough Anna*. Her books are about her 2500 mile, solo, trans-arctic dog sled expedition. Books will be available for purchase prior to the author's visit. More information will be coming home soon. March promises to be a busy, but fun month, at the elementary school - READING.

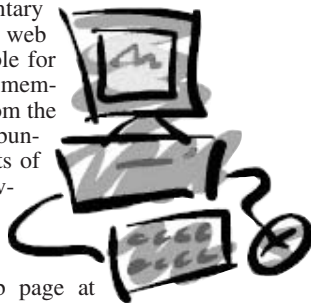


## Puppets help to promote careers

Aidan Cox, a first grader in Mrs. Benko's class, is shown here with a friendly health care puppet. The puppet was part of a lesson promoting careers in the health field which was presented by county high school VoTech students.

## Counseling webpage coming soon!

Coming soon to Blissfield Elementary School—A counseling web page. The web page will be an educational tool available for students, parents, teachers, community members, or anyone else who may benefit from the resources provided. There will be an abundance of information in regards to Assets of the Week, tips for parents, guidance activities for students, educational resources, and links to many useful documents. The web page will be available as a link through the Blissfield Elementary web page at <http://www.blissfield.k12.mi.us>. Look for this tool to be implemented and available in March.



## Golden Retriever makes a difference

"Wilson" Boyd recently visited Mrs. Benko's first grade class with his pal, Jack Willson. "Wilson" delighted the students with his gentle nature and wonderful tricks! He was one of several animal "guests" who provided the class with the opportunity to observe the characteristics of different animal groups. Pictured is Wilson making friends with the students.



# BLISSFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL

## MIDDLE SCHOOL CALENDAR

Feb. 6.....	Gung Ho! Book Talk - Prof. development 3:15
Feb. 13.....	English-Social Studies Night
Feb. 16.....	No School — Mid-Winter Break
Feb. 19.....	In-service — No school for students
Feb. 20.....	Gung Ho! Book Talk - Prof. development 3:15
Feb. 20-23.....	Middle School Book Fair
Feb. 21.....	Parent-Teacher Conf. 12-3 p.m.; 5-8 p.m.
Feb. 28.....	Steering Committee Mtg. 3:00 p.m.
Mar. 6.....	Gung Ho! Book Talk - Prof. development 3:15
Mar. 14.....	Steering Committee Mtg. 3:00 p.m.
Mar. 22.....	8th Grade visits Vo-Tech
Mar. 22-24.....	Middle School Play — American Idle Thurs. & Fri. 7 p.m.; Sat. 3 p.m.
Mar. 31-Apr. 8...	Spring Break
April 9.....	Classes resume

## BMS reproductive health curriculum parent review meeting

All parents with students attending Blissfield Middle School will have an opportunity to preview the reproductive health and HIV/AIDS curriculum for grades six, seven, and eight on Wednesday, February 21, 2007. The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m. in Room 328 immediately following parent-teacher conferences. Materials will be available to view, and staff will be available to answer any questions. The sixth grade curriculum will be presented through both the science and physical education departments. The seventh and eighth grade materials will be delivered primarily through the science department. If you are unable to attend this meeting but would like to preview the materials, please call the middle school and make arrangements for a preview time. Parents of sixth and seventh graders may contact Mrs. Babbitt at 486-4420, ext 247. Parents of eighth graders may contact Mr. Geha at 486-4420, ext 4305.

## American Idle

In March the Middle School will be presenting the play American Idle by Craig Sodaro. Bruno Slacker, a failing clinical psychologist is hoping to resurrect his career with his theory that Americans would live longer if they were simply idle. He creates his own reality show called Idle House where contestants hope to last out the week being idle and winning a share of the 1 million dollar prize. It all sounds easy except for the fact that all the contestants are super overachievers. Come join us for the fun March 22 & 23 at 7pm or March 24 at 3pm. Tickets will be available at the door or through a cast member. \$3 adults, \$2 students, pre-K are free.

## Computer donations

The 7th grade PC Repair class would like to thank all of the individuals who donated their old computers to the school. The class got a kick out of the Gateway 2000 computer which was running Windows 3.1 (for those non-geeks out there, Windows 3.1 was released by Microsoft in 1992 making it older than the students in the class, a rarity in the computer world).

If you missed the opportunity to donate your old dust-collecting computer, you can still do so by dropping it off at the Middle School office or by contacting Scott Ricker at 486-4420 Ext 4310. Thanks again!!!

## 8th Graders prepare to schedule for HS classes

Mrs. Cheryl Bausman, high school counselor, will be visiting the Blissfield Middle School on January 29th to help the eighth grade students begin the preliminary step in scheduling their high school classes. After the initial course requests sheets are filled out, a master schedule will be built. Students will then be escorted to the high school where they will participate in the arena scheduling process. The entire procedure should be completed by the end of April.

## Girls basketball video

The video production class is looking for a tape of the 8th grade girls' basketball game from September 20, 2006. The game was played at Hudson. Anyone with a tape of the game please contact Scott Ricker at 486-4420 Ext 4310. We would like to borrow the tape to make a copy for our archives. The tape will be returned in a day.

## The book fair is coming!

During the week of February 20-23, students, parents, and staff at the middle school will have the opportunity to visit the Scholastic book fair. It will be open daily, beginning Tuesday at noon until Friday at noon. All the students will have the chance to visit the book fair through their Language Arts classes. This year the Book Fair will be taking place during the evening of Parent-Teacher conferences. Come out and support the library and join the fun in encouraging reading in your household!

## BMS displays new mission statement banners

After revising its mission statement, the Middle School has now displayed it within the school on three 15 feet x 3 feet banners and one 12 feet x 2 feet banner. The mission statement which reads, *The Blissfield Middle School is dedicated to creating a respectful environment where individuals learn and succeed by developing character, intellect, wellness, and have a desire for lifelong learning*, will be posted in the foyer, the library, the cafeteria, and the gymnasium.

## Character Development signs to be mounted

In alignment with the character development portion of its mission statement, the Middle School has purchased eighteen 3 feet x 2 feet character development signs. Six signs will be placed in the locker area corridor, six will be placed in the cafeteria, and six will be placed in the library. The signs contain the following character traits and definitions:

**Work Ethic:** A commitment to labor and put forth your best effort until the job is done.

**Responsibility:** The willingness to respond in a reliable and appropriate manner.

**Integrity:** Honesty. The willingness to do the right thing when no one else is watching.

**Respect:** To honor and have consideration for a person or thing.

**Positive Attitude:** The choice to see, think about, and react to situations in the best and wisest way.

**Compassion:** To feel and display empathy and kindness.

## Japanese language & culture enrichment class

Seventh grade social studies teacher Phil McVay has volunteered to teach a Japanese Language and Culture Enrichment Class after school in the Middle School. The course targets students who may be interested in participating in the middle school exchange program with Japan, and will run during the months of January and February.

Japanese language and culture will be emphasized, and the rumor of a sushi bar is not accurate to our knowledge!

## BMS receives 2 more Smart Boards

The cutting edge in technology in the classroom is a smart board. This touch sensitive screen, measuring about 4 feet x 4 feet, is like having the giant computer screen mounted on a classroom wall. Teachers can then access on-line sources and web-sites that the entire class can view and learn from. Modeling writing, solving math problems, using a map, or demonstrating the scientific method are all core subject skills that a smart board assists with. Teachers can even use clips from movies in their lessons when they incorporate video streaming into their methods. The potential of a smart board is enormous, and the BMS feels fortunate to have two more pieces of this technology available for its students.

## 8th Graders visit Vo-Tech

The eighth grade students of BMS will be visiting Vo-Tech on March 22nd. Students can expect to gain first hand knowledge and experience as it relates to the many courses offered at Vo-Tech. Students will have the opportunity to sign up for a Vo-Tech course at the beginning of their junior year in high school, but the experience gained through the March visit could prove helpful when scheduling classes and keeping a focus on achievement at the high school level.

# BLISSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

## *I Married An Angel*

The all school musical is March 15, 16 & 17, at 7:00 p.m. Tickets for adults are \$6 and student tickets are \$3. This is a singing and dancing musical from the 40s era by Rodgers and Hart. It is a frivolous comedy with some great songs and funny situations that will provide laughs for all. Come out and support the students and have some fun at the play.

## *Chemistry Rocks!*



The AP Chemistry class learned about the specific heat of substances by doing a lab involving the heat change of aluminum and water. The students are currently learning about heat changes in chemical reactions. Pictured is Jacques Pruitt working on his experiment.

Mrs. Rupp's Chemistry classes learned about percent composition and empirical formula by doing a lab that involved heating magnesium metal to form magnesium oxide. The students are currently learning about molarity (concentration) of solutions and also molecular and empirical formulas. Pictured are Phil Hartzell and Cody Gubbe.



## HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR

- Feb. 7..... Vo-Tech visit for all sophomores
- Feb. 12..... School Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- Feb. 14..... Count Day
- Feb. 15..... Progress reports go home with students
- Feb. 16..... Mid Winter Break — No school
- Feb. 19..... Inservice for Staff — No school for students
- Feb. 21..... Parent/Teacher Conferences  
12-3 p.m.; 5-8 p.m.
- Feb. 26-Mar. 2.. Coming Home activities
- March 2..... Coming Home Dance
- March 3..... Volleyball Districts at the HS
- March 9..... Honor Society Banquet
- March 11..... LCAA Scholar Athlete Dinner
- March 12..... School Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- March 13-15.... MME Testing (Michigan Merit Exams)
- March 15-16.... High School Musical
- March 19-23.... MEAP retesting for seniors
- March 23..... End of 3rd Quarter
- Mar. 31-Apr. 8.. Spring Break
- April 9..... School Resumes
- April 10..... Thespian Induction
- April 21..... BHS Junior-Senior Prom

## Blissfield students are published!

The following students have been awarded publication in A Celebration of Young Poets Anthology this semester. These submissions were part of a project from Mr. Nick Angel's Writer's Workshop and English 11 classes.



The teachers and the students of BHS should feel honored, as there were thousands of entries for this contest. These students are also up for consideration in further awards, cash prizes, and eligibility for inclusion in the next anthology.

Mr. Angel was also invited to participate as a judge for the next poetry contest in the Spring. The fact that these students' works have been accepted for publication makes a strong statement about the commitment of BHS in supporting the arts. Being published represents talent, hard work, and dedication from both the teachers and students. Congratulations! Pictured are Mr. Angel with his students: Dustin Brown, Krystal Caputo, Paula Edmunds, Katie Edmunds, Mikeal LaBrunda, Rebecca Meadows, Alex Mitchell, Brianna Porter, Charlie Robinson, Jamee Vore, Tyler Wehner and Erin Young.

## Graduation Requirements

The State of Michigan has changed their graduation requirement beginning with the Class of 2011. This will affect all incoming freshmen in addition to any current 9-12 grade students who still need their Science 9 or Social Studies 9 credits. If you have any questions, please call the Counseling Center. The new curriculum will be implemented beginning with the 2007-2008 school year, and is as follows:

- |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| English — 4 credits  | Mathematics — 4 credits    |
| Science — 3 credits  | Social Studies — 3 credits |
| Health/PE — 1 credit | Art — 1 credit             |
- (Beginning with the Class of 2016, 2 credits of world languages)

## FAFSA

### *(Free Application for Federal Student Aid)*

Applications for financial aid are now available in the CCC. Use this form to apply free for federal and state student grants, work-study and loans. All financial aid forms should be received by FAFSA no later than March 1, 2007. The Federal Government is encouraging students to file on-line after January 1, 2007. You will need your 2006 tax information to complete this form.

## Senior Information

Scholarships for seniors are kept on file in the CCC. Information about them is available in the CCC and on Ed-line. Ed-line will be frequently updated, as new scholarships come into the CCC.

Seniors should check the file weekly and also perform computer searches that are available in the CCC. The State of Michigan has a website that is useful in searching for Michigan awards: [www.mi/student-aid.org](http://www.mi/student-aid.org). Lenawee County also has a website that has dozens of scholarships available: <http://scholarships.lisd.k12.mi.us>. Lenawee County's website is specific for Lenawee County students and Blissfield High School students only. This is a very valuable site for our students. You can find a link to their website on Ed-line.

If students need recommendations for colleges or scholarships, please allow 2 weeks for administrators or faculty to complete them. Also, when requesting a recommendation, please fill out a "Student Biography" form (available in the CCC) as a reference of your academic and extracurricular activities history. Registration packets for the ACT and SAT tests are available in the CCC. Most seniors who are planning on attending college should have already taken the tests.

## News from the Bands

The solo and ensemble competition is set for February 10 for the high school band. It is an all day event held at Tecumseh High School and open to the public. Come out and hear the talent of our students. 7th and 8th grade students are working on auditions for the Spring District 8 Honors Band with their recorded auditions due on February 23. All three bands, the 7th grade, 8th grade and the high school band will have a pre-festival concert at the high school cafeteria on March 2, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

# News from the Counseling & Career Center

## Michigan Merit Exam —

Juniors will take the Michigan Merit Exam (MME). They will no longer be taking the MEAP test, as they have done in the past. **The test dates will be March 13-17.** March 13 will be the ACT portion of the MME. This is a college reportable ACT score. March 14 will include Work Keys and Michigan Math. March 15-17 will be the final Michigan components of the MME. Students must take this test their junior year (starting 2006-2007). They will be able to sign up to repeat the test their senior year as well. This will give students the opportunity to take the ACT without having to pay a fee. Attendance during MME testing dates is **extremely important.** Juniors, please make any arrangements to attend school March 13-17. If there are any questions, please contact the BHS Counseling Center.

## MEAP Test —

Even though this test is being phased out, seniors will still have the opportunity to retest the MEAP test in the spring. If they have not earned the Merit Award and would like one more chance, please sign up in the Counseling Center. The CCC has MEAP test scores for the spring 2006 testers (students should have already received a copy). The fall 2006 test scores, for seniors who retested, should be in before the end of February.

## Michigan Promise Scholarship —

The legislature has given final approval to Governor Granholm's new \$4,000 scholarship that will take the place of the Merit Award, beginning with the class of 2007. Those students who achieve a level 1 or 2 on the MEAP or the MME exam will receive up to \$1,000 per academic year for each of their first two years of college enrollment and up to \$2,000 after the completion of two years of postsecondary education with at least a 2.5 GPA.

## PLAN/PSAT —

This year's PLAN/PSAT testing session is completed. Sign up for next year's test will be in the spring. Fall sign-up is not available except for new BHS students. These tests are replacing MEAP for dual enrollment. The PLAN test is available for sophomores and the PSAT test is available to juniors. There is a fee (approximately \$10-\$12) for students who want to test. Look for more information on Ed-line in the spring.

## Scheduling —

Course requests should be complete by the end of January. **Parents are strongly encouraged to participate in the selection of their high school student's courses, as we hold all of our students accountable to take the courses they have signed up for.** Arena scheduling will take place after spring break.

## ACT/SAT Deadlines

ACT TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION
April 14, 2007	March 9, 2007	March 10-23, 2007
June 9, 2007	May 4, 2007	May 5-18, 2007

SAT TEST DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION
March 10, 2007	February 2, 2007	February 14, 2007
May 5, 2007	March 29, 2007	April 11, 2007
June 2, 2007	April 27, 2007	

**As with every test, you should be sure to get a great night's rest and eat a good breakfast. Even if you don't normally do this, please try to make an exception the week of MME testing!**

# Honor Society banquet scheduled

Blissfield High School's annual Honor Society Banquet will be held in the gymnasium on Friday, March 9, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. Letters will be distributed in early February with a deadline for reservations. More information concerning price of the banquet will be included in the letters. Please mark your calendars to attend.

## SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES-NOVEMBER 2006

A regular meeting of Blissfield Community Schools Board of Education was held on Monday evening, November 13, 2006 in the high school library. Six board members were present, one board member was absent. Also in attendance were administrators, staff and members of the public. A motion was made and seconded that the minutes of the October 9, 2006 regular meeting and the special meeting held on October 24, 2006 be accepted as presented. A motion was made and seconded that the November bills be approved for payment as presented.

Student Council President, Brandon Walters updated the Board on Student Council activities coming up. President Klump thanked Brandon for the update.

President Klump introduced Bill Stutzman, President of Ogden Telephone Company. Stutzman presented President Klump with a check for \$5,000 from Ogden Telephone as a gift to Blissfield Schools to be used for technology related expenditures. President Klump thanked Stutzman and acknowledged Ogden Telephone as one of the reasons our community and schools remains strong due to their continued support.

President Klump introduced Charlie Waterhouse and Tom Sexton of United Bank and Trust to present the annual report of the Student Loan Program financial status.

President Klump introduced Brian Nofzinger from Gross, Puckey, Gruel and Roof, P.C. to present the annual Financial Statements and Audit Report. A motion was made and seconded to approve the annual Financial Statements and Auditors' Report as presented.

Laurie Isley presented a proposal for the grading of advance placement courses to be based on a 5.0 scale instead of the current 4.0 scale. Isley further explained that it would be required that some advance placement course completion be achieved in order to be considered for the "top ten" awards in the class. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed grading system and proposed "top ten" criteria as presented.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the volunteer coaches that were presented. Principals, Mark Willson (Middle School), Jerry Johnson (High School) and Dee Crane (Elementary Principal) provided an update to the Board on the highlights of events taking place in each of their respective buildings.

KC Hufford, District Technology Supervisor, highlighted several technology initiatives being worked on throughout the District.

Tom Kasefang, Facilities Director, updated the Board on the status of the football stadium construction as well as other projects around the District.

Cris Rupp, Transportation Director updated the Board on current transportation issues including the construction on Walnut Street and new bus drivers being trained and hired.

President Klump announced that a public workshop on November 29th at 5:00p.m. would take place with Jan Parsons for interviewing Superintendent search companies to replace the retiring Superintendent by the end of the year.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matthew Schroeder, Secretary

The Blissfield Community Schools Communicator is published quarterly by the school system and mailed to school district residents.

The Blissfield School District does not discriminate in any of its educational programs, activities, or employment practices on the basis of race, creed, national origin, sex, age, handicap, or English-speaking ability, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1963.

### ADMINISTRATION

Paul Palka.....Superintendent of Schools  
Jerry Johnson.....High School Principal  
Cris Rupp.....H.S. Administrative Assistant  
Dee Crane.....Elementary School Principal  
Mark Willson.....Middle School Principal

### SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Norris Klump.....President  
Larry Bausman.....Vice-President  
Matthew Schroeder.....Secretary  
Linda Hamann.....Treasurer  
Audricka Jacob.....Trustee  
JoDee Friess.....Trustee  
Noel Eisenmann.....Trustee

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