

Chalk Talk 2009-2010 School Year

Shawnee Stosich
District 55 Correspondent



Chalk Talk Articles

Blackfoot School District #55 Welcomes in the 2009-2010 School Year	2
Freshmen Fly Solo on First Day of School	4



Directions News Letters

Directions News Letter for October 2009	5
Directions News Letter for November 2009	10
Directions News Letter for December 2009	16
Directions News Letter for May 2010.....	22

Blackfoot School District #55 Welcomes in the
2009-2010 School Year
Shawnee Stosich, District #55 Public/Media Relations

As days get shorter and fields are ripe for harvest, Blackfoot School District looks forward to welcoming students back into the new school year. The first day back for **Elementary** and **Secondary Schools** is set for August 26. **Blackfoot High School (BHS) Freshmen** begin classes on Aug. 26. **All other BHS students** begin classes on Aug. 27. **Independence Alternative High School** will begin classes on August 18. To assist young students with the transition to busing and school, **Irving Kindergarten** will begin with their rotating morning and afternoon schedules as follows:

Aug. 26, 31 – Teachers will hold orientation by appointment with student and parent(s)

Aug. 27, 28 and Sept. 9, 10 - Morning Session Students will attend school, 8:20 to 11:15 a.m.

Sept. 1, 2, 8, 11 - Afternoon Session Students will attend school, 11:55 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.

Sept. 3, 4 – Both Morning and Afternoon Sessions will attend school

Sept. 14– School will resume with the normal schedule for Morning and Afternoon Sessions

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Secondary/Elementary School Principals and Secretaries returned to their buildings on Aug. 6. ALL students new to the Blackfoot School District must bring a birth certificate and proof of immunizations to registration. Kindergarten students who pre-registered last spring have complied with this requirement. Student supply information is available at the schools.

BLACKFOOT HIGH SCHOOL Students need to attend during their scheduled time in order to pay fees, receive a locker and have their picture taken. Times are:

SENIORS – Aug. 18, 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

JUNIORS – Aug 18, 1 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

SOPHOMORES – Aug. 19, 9 a.m. to 11:45 p.m.

FRESHMEN – Aug 19, 1 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Students will receive their schedule upon completion of registration and paying their fees.

MOUNTAIN VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL Student registration is on Aug. 19, eighth graders from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and seventh graders from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Students will sit for individual pictures and receive locker assignments. Fees are also expected to be paid during registration times.

BLACKFOOT SIXTH GRADE SCHOOL Students register Aug. 17, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sixth graders will meet their homeroom teachers as well as receive their class schedules and locker assignments.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

IRVING KINDERGARTEN Pre-registration was held last spring; however, parents/guardians should register their students to verify addresses for preparation of bus routes. Kindergarten registration is scheduled for Aug. 13, 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.

ALL OTHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS grades 1-5 and **FORT HALL ELEMENTARY**, grades K-5, will hold registration on Aug. 12. Times are as follows:

FORT HALL (237-2207) – 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

GROVELAND (785-8829) – 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

RIDGE CREST (785-8894) – 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

DONALD D. STALKER (785-8841) – 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

I.T. STODDARD (785-8832) - 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

WAPELLO (785-8844) – 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For additional information, please contact your school.

FOOD SERVICE

Lunch for grades K-5 is \$1.75 and grades 6-12 is \$2.00. Breakfast will continue to be served, but will no longer be free. Breakfast for grades K-5 is \$1.10 and for grades 6-12 is \$1.25. Free and Reduced lunch and breakfast programs are still available. Please inquire at school registration about these programs. Changes to the districts charging policy will also be available.

TRANSPORTATION

Bus route information, rules and policies will be available at each school on registration day. Blackfoot School District has provided transportation to out of zone students in the past, but due to recent economic conditions, the district will no longer be providing transportation for students outside their school zone.

STUDENT TRANSFER REQUESTS AND INFORMATION

Blackfoot School District has changed its policy on dealing with transfer and out of zone students. **Board Policy 542-Attendance Zone** explains that the district is divided to regulate student population and facilitate the balance of district education programs. Students are required to attend the elementary school within the zone where the parent(s) reside. Official student residence is that of the parent or legal guardian. Because this is a new procedure beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, district established ratios will be followed in 1st grade classes only. It is anticipated that balance of class sizes will occur through a re-zoning committee review that will take place during the 2009-2010 school year. The ratios will then apply for all grades beginning with the 2010-2011 school year. Students are strongly encouraged to stay within their designated zone; however transfer requests will still be reviewed and must be requested at the school where parents reside. Honored requests will be notified prior to the first day of school. If multiple parents request transfers, the following procedure will be used:

Priority 1 – Student’s parent is a district employee;

Priority 2 – Lottery selection.

In the event new students move into the elementary school zone during the school year which would affect ratios, students may be required to return to the elementary school in which the parents reside.

OTHER INFORMATION

On August 28 the school district will hold a substitute teacher workshop beginning at 10 a.m. at the district office. Applicants should bring U.S. employment eligibility documentation and their high school diploma or college transcripts. Eligibility documentation must be (1) a driver’s license accompanied with a social security card or birth certificate OR (2) a passport.

If parents/guardians have further questions, they may contact the district office at 785-8800 or the school their child attends. We look forward to working with your children.

Freshmen Fly Solo on First Day of School

Shawnee Stosich, Blackfoot School District Public/Media Relations

On August 26th, freshmen at Blackfoot High School will be starting their first day a little differently than others have in the past. A new program is being implemented this year that allows freshmen to start their first day of studies unaccompanied by upper classmen. The hope is to allow them to become more comfortable with their schedules, locations at the school and the staff.

“I see it as a real positive program for the incoming Freshmen,” said Blaine McNelly, Blackfoot High School Principal, “We feel it will be a much smoother transition from middle school to high school.”

Parents and students tend to agree. “They’re nervous anyway, so this makes it less stressful for them.” says Roseann Horak who is sending her tenth child to high school this year. “It will make it easier to get to classes and see where our lockers are. It’s not as overwhelming.” commented Horak’s daughter Abby.

The agenda for the day includes an assembly where administrators welcome the students and introduce individual departments and staff; dividing into Advisory Committee’s Encouraging Students (A.C.E.S.) that provides student support from staff members the four years that they are in high school; counseling and career center information; and classroom introductions. BHS campus is closed on that day and a sack lunch will be provided for all the students.

“We want them to have a good, fresh start without being intimidated by all the other kids.” said Vicki Johnson, counselor at the high school. This will be the first class graduating under the new high school requirements laid out by the Idaho State Department of Education. This program, along with the A.C.E.S., will be added support in helping students be aware of, and meet, those requirements.



Photo Caption: Cameron Baker and Kassidy Peterson help Freshman Katie Stephenson get her locker for the school year.

News from Blackfoot School District #55

From: Blackfoot School District #55 <stoss@d55.k12.id.us>

To: <bfsd@d55.k12.id.us>

Date: Wednesday - October 14, 2009 11:50 AM

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Directions: Blackfoot School District #55

Issue 1 Volume 1

October 2009

In This Issue

H1N1 Prevention
 Helping Your Child Succeed
 New Math Curriculum
 It's NOT okay to be "bad at math"
 Career Center at BHS

H1N1 Prevention

This year the health and safety of every student has been focused on the H1N1 virus and prevention of it.

The following is recommended for prevention:

- Wash hands often (use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.)
- Have child stay home and not go to childcare or school when sick.
- Cough or sneeze into a sleeve/elbow, not into hands when a tissue is not handy.
- Cover the nose and mouth when sneezing, coughing or blowing one's nose.
- Promptly dispose of used tissues.
- Do not share food, utensils or beverages with others.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- Always follow doctor's instructions and take medicine as prescribed.

Please check with your health care provider or the Southeastern District Health Department at www.sdhdidaho.org if you have any questions. The CDC also has a 24 hr phone bank that can be accessed at (800) CDC-INFO.



as New Math Curriculum for K-12

MathConnects presents

Math will be the area of study to watch this year as the district adjusts and embraces it's new district wide curriculum.

The MathConnects curriculum, published by Macmillan/McGraw-Hill, provides online tutoring and help for students and parents, as well as technology support for teachers. Parents have the option of going online when helping students to learn new concepts. "If students are learning about factors the program will say, 'here's what a factor is' and then gives three examples," says Christine Silzly, Irving Kindergarten Principal.

The Blackfoot Administrative Team and the Math Curriculum Committee of parents, teachers and administrators spent months researching and examining state-reviewed curricula that were closely matched to the new standards. The district selected two programs that were scientifically Research-Based. Teachers in 6 elementary and 1 middle school classrooms piloted these new programs.

For parents, changes will be noticeable as children bring work home. In the past, some parents have complained that math curriculum had become "fuzzy" and asked for more of what they considered traditional math. Teaching "spiraled," meaning students would be taught a concept for a short period before moving on, and

You can stay up to date with current conditions by visiting www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/

Dr. Scott Crane,
Superintendent of Schools

For more information on school lunches, reports, school information, district news and how to contact your child's teacher visit our website at:

www.d55.k12.id.us

Helping Your Child Succeed!



Back to School Nights were held in August and September of this year.

The best and most important thing parents can do to help their children in school is take an interest in how your child learns and what their strengths are. Here are some tips for helping your child do his/her best

- Observe and learn with your child.
- Foster natural talents by encouraging children to pursue what they enjoy.
- Let your child know you EXPECT them to do their best, and they will.
- Encourage natural curiosity, this develops science skills.
- Read with your child everyday!! Take turns between Mom and Dad, they love to hear both of your voices.

For more information on *Helping your Child Series* visit the US Department of Education website at www.ed.gov/parents/academic/help

Picture Caption: Christine Silzly, Irving Kindergarten Principal, greets Ethan Murdoch and his family at Back to School Night.

Don't Forget to change your clocks on November 1st

would return to the concept later in the year. The new standards focus more on mastery and memorization.

"The new performance expectations go deeper with the concepts and tend to be more traditional. Parents will see more practice in the books and they will see more time spent on the concepts before the students move on," Silzly said.

MathConnects was built with two goals in mind: success at each grade level and future student success in Algebra I and beyond. This is supported by a recent College Board study, which found that nearly 80 percent of students who successfully complete Algebra I and Geometry by Grade 10 will succeed in college. These findings were consistent for students of every ethnic and socioeconomic background.

Another key piece of any new curriculum will be how technology is used. Technology tools being utilized in the classroom are examples such as "clickers" that help students interact with math problems via a whiteboard or wall, and projection. CDs sent home with students allow parents to access information to help with homework. Access to the website helps students both in the classroom and at home.

In addition to hands-on conceptual development opportunities, Math Connects helps students become independent problem solvers through strategy lessons, investigation lessons (they choose the strategy that works best for them), cross-curricular problem solving lessons (like solving math problems in music), and real-world problem solving readers that extend these skills and strategies through applications in science and social studies.

For more information, talk with your students teacher and be sure to visit **MathConnects website at:**

www.macmillanmh.com/math/mathconnects

Picture Caption: Mrs. Hunt at I.T. Stoddard Elementary, helps her first grade student, Caden, learn the difference between horizontal and vertical math problems.

It's NOT okay to be "bad at math" **Tom Harrington, BHS Assistant Principal**

In our school and community I frequently hear adults say, "I'm not good at math." The disclaimer is somehow acceptable. Several in the group commonly agree with a smile and it's forgotten. By the same token, I have never heard anyone say, "I'm not good at reading." That would indicate an uneducated person. It's not socially acceptable.

My youngest daughter is a junior at Boise State University. She always liked school and has always done very well. She was a debater in high school and college. Therefore, her public relations and speaking skills are excellent. During high school, she elected to take only the required number of math credits to graduate. I see the same trend at the high school today. Just a couple of months ago my daughter transferred from a job she had for five years and began working at a banking institution. Reviewing her transcript her manager recommended that she take five additional math classes before she graduates in 2010.

Those five classes, two of which will be statistics, were not prescribed in her original coursework plan. Now she regrets not having taken those math classes that would have certainly better prepared her for her future career.

High school graduation requirements for the class of 2013 will increase from the current four math credits to six. Additionally, two of those math credits must be taken during the student's

for Daylight Savings!!

Community Education Classes

Anyone wanting to return to the halls of Blackfoot High School for classes will get their chance beginning in October. Blackfoot High School will be holding a series of community education courses open to the public. Some of the courses include; Spanish I (Beginning), Spanish II (Intermediate), Portraits - Drawing the Human Head, Theater Appreciation and Hunter's Education. Each class has individual fees, supplies and start time for the course.

Anyone interested in attending the courses, or instructors interested in holding classes at the High School, can contact Donna Cox at 785-8812.

Donald D. Stalker Playground Equipment



Stalker Elementary has been working hard to provide more playground equipment for their students. Many donations have been made and they are almost at their goal! Any additional donations are appreciated to help them install the equipment as soon as they can. For more information on how to help this cause, please contact Donald D. Stalker Elementary Principal, Hal Siizly at 785-8841.

Picture Caption: Students enjoy making Maracas at Back to School Night at Donald D. Stalker Elementary.

Quick Links

US Dept. of Education
www.ed.gov
Blackfoot School District
www.d55.k12.id.us
Related Topics
More About Us

senior year.

High school is a time for exploration. Students should try many different fields to discover what he/she most enjoys. A diploma is the key to open many doors. By taking the path of "least resistance;" that is, meeting only the minimum requirements for graduation (including math), a student is greatly limiting what he/she can do in the future.

As a parent, you can encourage your student to "Get the most out of education." A predetermined time for homework as well as encouragement to always give his/her best are ingredients that will produce dividends in the future.



Blackfoot High School Career

Center

"The sky is the limit!" exclaims Vicky Johnson, counselor at Blackfoot High School, as she begins to share all the exciting opportunities about the schools new Career Center.

The career center was constructed over the summer and has been a working project for the past year. With the career center, students are able to plan for their futures by building portfolios, learning what classes best help their future career interests, and giving them the tools they need to be better prepared for continuing their education and certifications. "We don't want any student to leave here not knowing what they will do. Every kid should have a direction," shares Johnson.

Prior to school, during lunch and after school, students are free to come in and browse many of the options available to them. Some of those options include scholarship websites; Financial Aid information; drug and alcohol awareness; resume and college essay prep and preparation for the ACT and SAT tests. In addition to online and computer opportunities there will be career development classes and presentations by local businesses to give students a better "feel" for what is involved in the industry represented. They will have featured topics on the second Friday of every month that discuss coping skills, stress, eating disorders and other lessons. There will be featured movies on Tuesdays that motivate and encourage students to excel.

The career center also allows students to take advantage of the Idaho Digital Learning Academy or better known as IDLA. The IDLA provides supplemental information access to dual credits and credit recovery. "More kids are utilizing the IDLA," says Johnson, "We learn something new everyday."

The Career Center will be holding an open house on October 20th from 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm. It will be open to the general public and all are welcome to attend.

To learn more about IDLA you can visit their website at IDLA.blackboard.com

Picture Caption: Blackfoot High School Students take advantage of the opportunities in the Career Center.

National Forensic League Honors Local Chapter

The Blackfoot High speech and debate program has earned significant recognition by the National Forensic League by achieving 300 degrees or more last year which placed them in the top 1% of NFL chapters nationwide.

It's no small task, and the Blackfoot debate team has been turning heads for a while now. They are in their 40th year participating at Nationals, more than any other school in Idaho. Their top debater last year, Hunter Phillips, along with his partner Joseph Harper, made it to 24th place in the nation and was competing primarily against private schools. Phillips was ranked 69th in the Nation out of 93,000 plus debaters.

"Debate teaches critical thinking skills," claims Cherie Clawson, speech and debate teacher at Blackfoot High School. "We focus on giving as many students as possible the benefits of debate and speech competition. Competition motivates us to do our best."

The best is definitely being achieved. Clawson received the Idaho Speech Teacher of the

Year award and currently serves as the Idaho Speech Teacher President. She also received a nomination for the IHSAA Coach of the Year, which Clawson considered a "great honor to be nominated by your peers."

Congratulations Blackfoot High School debaters and an extended congratulations to Cherie Clawson for her efforts in and out of the classroom!!

October/November Upcoming Events

Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 20 from 4 pm to 7:30 pm - Blackfoot High School

November 4 from 4 pm to 7:30 pm - Kindergarten and All Elementary Schools

November 5 from 4 pm to 7:30 pm - Kindergarten and All Elementary Schools

Please watch for appointment times and dates sent home with students

No School Dates

October 16 - No School - Inservice

November 6 - No School - Inservice

Donald D. Stalker Elementary

October 21 @ 7 pm in the School Library - Family Reading Night

October 30 - Halloween Activities after Lunch

November 5 - Picture Retakes

November 5 @ 8:30 am 3rd - 5th grade Hall of Fame Assembly

November 5 @ 10 am 1st - 2nd grade Hall of Fame Assembly

Groveland Elementary

October 30 from 6 pm to 8 pm - PTA Halloween Carnival - open to the public

October 29 - Picture Retakes

November 11 - Veterans Assembly

Ridge Crest Elementary

October 22 - Celebration Award Assembly and kick off for walk-a-thon

November 14 - Student of the Month Assembly

November - PTA Science Family Night

I.T. Stoddard Elementary

October 30 - Halloween PTO activities and class parties

November 4 - Picture Retakes

November 11 - Veterans Assembly

Fort Hall Elementary

October 20 - Picture Day

October 21 - Progress Reports

November 11 @ 10 am National Schools Assembly for Veterans Day

Wapello Elementary

October 14 - Picture Retakes

October 15 - Christmas Wreath Fundraiser Begins

October 21 from 6 pm to 8 pm - Title I After School Parent Program/Dinner

November 5 @ 8:30 am - Hall of Fame Assembly

Catch the Trade Winds; Simplicity, Consistency, Quality, Victory

Blackfoot School District appreciates the opportunity to work with your children every day. It is our pleasure to be a part of their future, and for that, we thank you.

Contact Info

Public/Media Relations

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News from Blackfoot School District #55

From: Blackfoot School District #55 <stoss@d55.k12.id.us>

To: <bfsd@d55.k12.id.us>

Date: Monday - November 16, 2009 1:46 PM



Directions: Blackfoot School District #55

Volume 1 Issue 2

November 2009

In This Issue

- Uniform/ Dress Code
- BHS Hosts Argentina
- American Education Week
- Veteran's Day
- AYP
- BHS Makes the Grade
- mimio's in Education
- Making Waves at Lunch
- Safety Procedures

UNIFORM/DRESS CODE SURVEY



The District Uniform/Dress Code Committee has been working diligently to decide the proper direction the district would like to go when it comes to dress code and uniforms at our public schools. The committee, headed by Jake Jacobson, shared they would like as much input from parents, students and the community before coming to their final decision. To make this possible, a survey will be available online at the district website. The technology center and computers at the schools in the district are available for use to those who do not have access to a

AYP and ISATs

Shawnee Stosich, Public/Media Relations
Reference to ISAT's by Susan Maturra

AYP, NCLB, ISAT with all the terminology that surrounds education today, we thought we would clarify a few of those terms. Adequate Yearly Progress, or better known as AYP is the measure of performance the federal government has instituted to determine how well a school is performing. The AYP of a school is determined by how well students perform on the Idaho Standard Achievement Test system, also known as ISATS. The ISAT is a computer test designed by Michigan-based company, Data Recognition Corporation. Students in grades 3-8 and grade 10 must complete three sections of the test: math, reading, and language arts. Additionally, students in grades 5, 7, and 10 are tested in science. Each part of the test contains 55-60 multiple-choice questions taken over the Internet. Much attention has focused on two key ways test results are used: (1) to determine if schools are making "adequate yearly progress," and (2) to assure 10th-graders have adequate math, reading, and language skills to receive a high school diploma. All graduates must pass the ISAT before they can receive a diploma. How does the ISAT establish "adequate yearly progress?" The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) requires schools make adequate progress every year. ISAT scores reflect AYP for each school and each school is held to standards that they must meet. AYP is based on state test results, but our students learn much more than what's measured on a single test on one day.

Ridge Crest Elementary and Groveland

Element



ary Receive

State Awards

By Shawnee Stosich
Reference to articles from the AP

Idaho State Board of Education names four Distinguished Schools of the year based on student advancements on the ISATs. Groveland Elementary won the award in two categories. Ridge Crest Elementary was awarded in one.

computer otherwise. A final decision will be made by March of 2010.

To take the Uniform/Dress Code Survey, please visit the District Website at www.d55.k12.id.us

Click on 'District News' then click on the 'Dress Code/School Uniform Survey' link
You can also follow the link below:

[Dress Code/School Uniform Survey](#)

Picture Caption: 6th Grade students at BSGS show off their style.

Blackfoot High School Hosts Argentina Principal



Blackfoot High School Students had the opportunity of welcoming Argentina Principal Luisa Diaz through an exchange program known as the Fulbright Principal Exchange Program.

"I came here in order to learn more about schools; not only schools, but their culture too. We understand how schools function through the culture as well." shares Diaz, " I am looking for activities happening in the schools, not only teaching but how classes are organized, everything I can gain."

Diaz is a secondary principal in the Provencia Cordoba. She was raised for a time in the provencia as a girl and came from a family who valued education.

"My mom felt it was very important to get an education. She was very proud that my sister and I finished our education. It is highly respected there." says Diaz.

That is not always the case with other families in her native land. Many students are faced with the choice of continuing education or working in the fields to provide income for their families. Jobs have not

"The schools demonstrated not just Additional Yearly Progress," said State Board of Education Member Emma Atchley, "but Astonishing Yearly Progress." Groveland Elementary and Ridge Crest Elementary each received Distinguished School Awards. Groveland was recognized for two distinguished awards for its increase in the Hispanic subgroups in math and an increase in math for the free and reduced lunch group. Groveland is the first school in eastern Idaho to receive multiple Distinguished School Awards, said Mark Browning, Chief Communications officer for the Idaho State Board of Education. Ridge Crest received the Distinguished School Award for its increase in ISAT Hispanic reading.

"There are only four named (Distinguished Awards) in the entire state of Idaho and two went to Groveland," Troy J Thayne, Groveland Principal said. "One other went to Ridge Crest Elementary that is amazing. To have three of the four in the entire state come from the Blackfoot School District is incredibly impressive."

"We are extremely proud of our students and teachers," shares Ridge Crest principal Colin Folsom. "It is great to be able to be recognized by the state."

We are very proud of both these schools and extend our congratulations to their current success and continued success at their schools.

Picture Caption: BHS Cheerleaders and Football Players congratulate Ridge Crest Elementary Students for a job well done during their celebration assembly.

Blackfoot High School Makes Grade

Tom Harrington, Assistant Principal BHS

The data are in. The continued commitment by teachers and administrators paid off. Two years ago Blackfoot High School (BHS) missed "Proficient or Above Proficient" rating in 10 of the 23 subsets on the ISATs (Idaho Scholastic Aptitude Test). Last year the school missed that mark in only two categories (LEP Reading and LEP Math). This year; only one (1) (LEP Math).

Because of the growth, BHS is almost out of "Jail." If a school shows AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) for two consecutive years the school is out of "AYP Jail". That is great news for all teachers and staff.

"It has always been the focus of Blackfoot High School to provide a quality education for all of our students," said school officials. "When the No Child Left Behind legislation became law as well as high stakes standardized testing, we immediately made steps to focus on areas of weakness."

Review of ISAT testing data produced another acronym, DDDM (Data Driven Decision Making). With area specific ratings, teachers could pin-point weaknesses and focus on those areas. The teachers don't have to guess what hinders a student's learning.

Before school started this fall the entire district, grades K-12, spent two entire days doing "Data Recognition." From that review of testing data teachers were able to generate goals in reading and math, as well as to rewrite all final exams. Tests were checked against the state curriculum standards to be sure the material being taught in every subject agrees with what is expected, and has been learned.

"We need to celebrate making AYP this year. The hard work of our excellent teachers paid off," said Blaine McInelly, BHS principal.



mimio Technology Adds to

Education

Shawnee Stosich, Public/Media Relations

always been readily available outside of agriculture, but Diaz feels education is the key to change that and provide opportunities for the future generations to work in machinery and other industries making their way into Argentina.

"I came to see how to engage parents to be involved," says Diaz, "It is not the same for their children now a days. With machinery, there is the need for education to secure job opportunities."

In June of 2010 Principal Blaine McInelly will have the opportunity to visit Diaz's school in Cordoba. "She has a lot to share with us too" shares McInelly. "We have really enjoyed having her, she is very pleasant and compassionate."

Diaz shared these last words about her experience here:

"I am very glad to be here. Thanks to all the staff here and the students. They are very kind and have shown me many things. I would also like to thank Mr. McInelly and his wife for hosting me and being so kind. I feel as if they are my own family."

Picture Caption: Luisa Diaz poses for a picture with Blaine McInelly at BHS.

**NEA's American Education Week
Nov. 15 - Nov. 21**



NEA's American Education Week (AEW) spotlights the importance of providing every child in America with a quality public education from kindergarten through college, and the need for everyone to do his or her part in making public schools great.

Our annual tagline, Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility, reflects the Association's calling upon America to provide students with quality public schools so that they can grow, prosper, and achieve in the 21st century. In 2009, the 88th annual American Education Week

"The students think it's magic!" claims Elisa Miskin, Groveland's 3rd grade teacher and technology director. "They love it!"

Mrs. Miskin is referring to the use of a mimio in her reading and mathematics lessons. The mimio is a technological device that allows teachers to turn their whiteboards into interactive computer screens. Everything that is on their computer is now accessible on their whiteboard. With the use of a mimio pen or the mimio pad, information can be recorded from the board and stored to be utilized later. The screen that appears on the whiteboard is the same page or worksheet that appears in the students workbooks and text books. Many text book companies provide interactive websites for teachers to use in their classrooms, the mimio helps that interaction to be realized and adds to the overall educational experience.

"This is such an interactive world, students almost need something like this to stay involved in the lesson" shares Miskin. The students view in their textbooks what is displayed on the whiteboard, they have visual cues as to where they should be and can easily follow along.

Groveland is the first elementary school to use the mimio in the classroom. When the current principal, Troy J. Thayne, learned of the opportunity, he jumped at the chance and obtained one of three available to the district at the time. He felt it should be utilized in the classroom and it has been in Miskin's class for about a month. Each teacher at Groveland was provided a projector this year thanks to the efforts of past principal Christine Silzly. With these projectors and the mimio capability the possibilities are endless for what can be done in the classroom. "Students love technology," says Thayne, "the mimio's allow us to access the adaptations we've made to the fullest. All around, technology is a better method of delivery."

Every school in the district has an opportunity to obtain a mimio for their school use through a grant from the district. The school is asked to demonstrate how it is used in the classroom for teaching and in leadership capacities. The district is hoping to add more mimio's for future use.

To learn more you can visit www.mimio.com

Picture Caption: Groveland Elementary 3rd Grade Teacher, Elisa Miskin, reads along with her class using the interactive whiteboard that mimio provides.



BSGS

Lunchroom Making Waves

Shawnee Stosich, Public/Media Relations

The cooks and lunchroom workers at BSGS have added a little fun to the everyday lunch scene. They've turned a surf board into a serving table, turned the salad bar into a tikki hut, put waves on the wall and play music for the students during lunch. The idea came to the cooks when Wendy Allen decided she had to do something with her old surfboard or get rid of it. Sharon O'Brien, Head Cook, took a page out of Stoddard's cooks' book and expanded on their lead of decorating the kitchen/cafeteria at their school. Now 6th graders get to enjoy their only break of the day with music and scenery that allows them to relax and enjoy their lunch.

"Lunch is the time for socializing," shares BSGS principal Brandon Farris, "these students are use to recess throughout the day in elementary school. At our school, 45 minutes at lunch is all they get. Our food service personell are excellent and have done such a great job, they've gone the extra mile. They really make it fun!"

O'Brien doesn't mind the additional noise. "We have a lot of fun with the kids, we only have them one year so we try to have as much fun as possible." she shares.

Thank you BSGS lunch staff for making your students meals memorable while they are at your school!

will take place November 15-21. Each day during the week spotlights a different aspect of school life. To Learn More Visit: www.nea.org/aew

Picture Caption: I.T. Stoddard Students prepare for a math lesson

Veterans Day Celebrations



From Boot Camps supplied by the National Guard at Groveland Elementary to Band Performances at BHS playing our countries patriotic tunes, schools honored our country's heroes on Veterans Day, November 11, 2009. Take the time to share with your child the appreciation you have for the freedoms we all share in this great country and the men and women who have made that possible.

Picture Caption: Many students favorite class in Boot Camp at Groveland Elementary was marching. Sgt. Roy Breshears taught the students to stand at attention, salute, march and, if they didn't listen, to do push-ups.

Quick Links

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Picture Caption: Students hangin' loose in front of the surfboard and tikki hut are as follows: Back Row - Lindsey Higginon, Sarah Cannon, Sheldon Honena, Ralyn Piper, Tyus Hanson. Middle Row - Brayden Pieper, Emily Robinson. Front Row - Nicholas Gallardo, Taylor Pearson

Safety Procedures - Reminder to Parents

Infrequently, we are forced by emergency situations to close a particular school or to close all of the schools in the district. Sometimes a closure will occur before the school children are to report to school for the day. On other occasions, the closure will occur after school has started. Closures may occur due to a civil defense alert, a natural disaster, severe weather, a problem related to the school physical facility or many other reasons. Should there be a need for a school (or all schools) to close, we will follow these procedures so parents will be notified as soon as possible. (Obviously, a personal contact cannot be made with each child's parents.)

1. The public will be notified by radio, television, or the Blackfoot School District Mobile Alert System (Txtwire). If the emergency involves civil defense problems, police mobile broadcast, and civil defense procedures will be used.
2. Students who ordinarily walk to school will be dismissed and will be expected to proceed directly home. However, parents may give their children specific instructions to go to another location, as family situations may dictate.
3. Bus students will be transported to their regular route drop-off point. As is usual at the close of a regular school day, it will be the responsibility of the parents to get their children from these bus stops. If parents are not available, they should provide their children with specific instructions about how to proceed from the bus stop.
4. For the safety of their children, parents need to review with them the procedures they are to follow should school close early, including where to go if the parents are not home. Children need specific instructions such as where to find the house key, what to do when arriving home if no one else is there, and what to do at home should there be a real or simulated emergency conducted by civil defense people. Parents may call the school if there are questions or problems. The principal or the office staff will be available when practical.

School Activities on School Closure Days

When school is closed or students are released early due to weather-related conditions, district activities are automatically cancelled for that particular day. This includes all home and away activities. This also applies to all organizations scheduled to use the building on that day, i.e., Jazz Basketball, public meetings, etc. The district is at risk if school is closed early or cancelled and we continue to have practices, games, and other activities. We need to insure the safety and well-being of the students and employees.





Donald D. Stalker Students Break Ground and Enjoy the Big New Toy

Students, staff and parents from Donald D. Stalker Elementary broke ground for their new playground equipment in October. The school P.T.A. has been working toward the project for the past four years. Early Monday Morning that hard work paid off as the students waited to take their turn playing on the "Big Toy" that was finished being installed November 16th.

A big thank you to Wal-Mart, Donald D. Stalker P.T.A. and Nonpariel for your generous donations and thank you to the following businesses and individuals for their time and donations toward completion of the project: Bonnie Hepworth, Bob Simms, Charlie Kotter, Black Diamond Paving and the Maintenance Department at Blackfoot School District.

They are within \$3,000 of their costs and donations are still being accepted. Thank you to all the parents and students who worked hard during the plastic bag drive and to all those who have made donations toward the "Big Toy".

Upper Picture: left to right; Nathan Stosich, Shaun Stosich, Braeden Stosich, Maggie Hepworth, Shauntel Marotz, Grace Hepworth, Debra May, Pam Linneman, Jordan Linneman, Linda Percy, Jill Bigler, Emma Hepworth, Anna Hepworth, Bonnie Hepworth, Nephi Bigler, Sheila Evans, Landon Evans, Lacie Evans.

Lower Picture: Mrs. Plewa's 2nd grade class along with Jill Bigler and principal Hal Silzly stand for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to introduce the "Big Toy" to D.D. Stalker students.

November/December Calendar and Upcoming Events

No School and Early Release Dates

November 25, 26, 27 - Thanksgiving Break
December 22 - 2 hr Early Release
December 23 - 31 - Christmas Break

Blackfoot High School

November 16 - Choir Concert at the BPAC
November 20 - End of 1st Trimester
November 30 - Service Project Kick Off
December 14 - Band Concert at the BPAC
December 22 - Holiday Assembly

Mountain View Middle School

November 20 - "Stomp Out Drugs" lunch activity
December 2 - 7pm Band Concert at BPAC
December 15 - 7pm Choir Concert at the BPAC (w/BSGS)
December 18 - Christmas Dance and Activity

Blackfoot Sixth Grade School

December 15 - 7pm Choir Concert at the BPAC (w/MVMS)
December - Coins for Turkeys Drive

Independence Alternative High School

November 24 - End of Block 5

December 7 - Start of Block 6
 December 21 - 3pm New Student Orientation and Registration

Irving Kindergarten Center

November 16 - Picture Retakes
 November 16 - 5pm to 6pm Family Bear Night
 December 16 - 10 am & 1:30 pm Christmas program for select teachers
 December 22 - No School for Kindergarten

Donald D. Stalker Elementary

November 30 - Canned food drive begins
 December 8 - 7pm Christmas Program at the BPAC
 December 11 - Reflections Entries due for PTA Reflection Program

Fort Hall Elementary

November 24 - 2pm Student Recognition Assembly topic 'Caring'
 December 3 - 1:30pm "The Great American Smoke Out" Assembly with Professional Cowboy Wiley Petersen
 December - Tree Decorating to share with the community
 December 21 - 12:15pm Christmas Program

Groveland Elementary

December 9 - 7pm Christmas Program at the BPAC
 December 17 - 9:30am 1st and 2nd grade BHS drama presentation

I.T. Stoddard Elementary

December 4 - Hall of Fame Assembly
 December 10 - 1pm and 7pm Christmas Program at the BPAC
 December 18 - 1pm Craft Fair all afternoon

Ridge Crest Elementary

November 16 - Reflections Entries due for PTA Reflection Program
 November 19 - 6:30pm PTA Science Night
 November 20 - 9am First Grade Thanksgiving Program
 December 16 - 2nd/3rd Grade Christmas Program at the BPAC

Wapello Elementary

November 18 - Picture Retake Day
 November 23 - Wreaths delivered
 December 7 - 7pm Christmas Program

Catch the Trade Winds; Simplicity, Consistency, Quality, Victory

Blackfoot School District appreciates the opportunity to work with your children every day. It is our pleasure to be a part of their future and for that, we thank you.

Contact Info

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News from Blackfoot School District #55

From: Blackfoot School District #55 <stoss@d55.k12.id.us>

To: <bfsd@d55.k12.id.us>

Date: Tuesday - December 15, 2009 5:10 AM



Directions: Blackfoot School District #55

Volume 1 Issue 3

December 2009

In This Issue

Broncos Take State
Migrant and ELL Program
Indoor Walking Program
Science Night at Ridge Crest
Holiday Music
Student Charity
World Champion pays a Visit
Native American Youth
Symposium

BRONCOS TAKE STATE!



The District would like to extend our congratulations to the new state champions for 4A football!!! Our very own Blackfoot High School Football team. Coaches, Staff and team mates had an incredible season with 11 total wins to 1 loss. Winning the State Championship game against the Sandpoint team in Moscow with a score of 29 to 23. We are so proud of you boys!! Thank you for such an exciting year!!

*Picture Caption:
Broncos are proudly holding their 4A State Trophy after the championship game.
Picture by Cassidy Miles*

Holiday Music Delights



Shawnee Stosich, Public/Media Relations

Christmas Music will fill the Blackfoot Performing Arts Center throughout the weeks of December. To add to the musical soiree was the Mountain View Middle School Concert, Percussion and Varsity bands on December 2nd. With favorites such as 'Do You Hear What I Hear' and 'Variations on a French Carol' the music both entertained and engaged the audience throughout the evening. What a great way to start the season!

The musical performances will continue on Monday evening, December 14 with the Blackfoot High School band performing at the BPAC and again on December 15th with the Mountain View Middle School and Blackfoot Sixth Grade School Choir combined concert also at the BPAC.

The Blackfoot Performing Arts Center is a great place for our community to come and enjoy every season of the year with great selections in school programs, plays, concerts and educational gatherings as well as support in artistic excellence and inspiring programs. To learn more about what is available at the BPAC please visit their website at:

www.blackfootpac.com

Picture Caption: The Concert Band trombone players are left to right Ramon Rivas, Kaden Brown, Hayden Acor, Jake Lauristen, Treyton Olney, and Spencer Harrah.

Charity Given by Students

Migrant and ELL Program Parent Advisory Meeting to be held

On Thursday, December 17th at 6 pm a Migrant and ELL program Parent Advisory Meeting with a Christmas Theme will be held at Ridge Crest Elementary School in the Cafeteria.

ELL classes are also being offered by Mrs. Virginia Townsend on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, at 6pm, also at Ridge Crest Elementary. For more information you are welcome to contact Christina Holguine at 785-8835 or Virginia Townsend at 785-8894

Reminder for Emergency Closures

A decision to close the schools in District #55 will be made after the following procedures are followed:

- 1) The decision to hold or cancel school as a result of bad weather will be made by 6:00 am
 - a) The announcement to close schools will be given to the following radio/TV stations by 6:00 am
 - I) KLCE FM (97.3)
 - II) KID AM (590)
 - III) KWIK AM (1240)
 - IV) KUPI AM (980)
 - V) KZBQ FM (93.7)
 - VI) KIDK (3)
 - VII) KIFI (8)
 - VIII) KPVI (6)
- 2) The decision process will involve the input from several road and service contractors across the county.

****Please Note** the ttxtwire will no longer be used in notifications for emergency school closures.**

In other words, no texts or phone messages via cell phones or otherwise will be sent to participants for that program. The district has abandoned the use of this system due to costs. For more information please visit our website below at:

www.d55.k12.id.us



Shawnee Stosich, Public/Media Relations

Some would say that the best part about the Christmas Holiday is in the giving and sharing with those around us. Students within the Blackfoot School District take that spirit to heart by donating to charity and people in their community.

Students at Fort Hall Elementary decorate Christmas Trees to give to the elderly and infirmed in the community. "Some would not have any Christmas in their homes if it weren't for the trees our students decorate." shares Fort Hall Principal, Garth Hansen. "It has been rewarding to participate in this for the last three years. This is our community and it is a way to help us connect with the people in it, that is very important to us."

Donald D. Stalker Elementary is contributing by collecting cans of food for local distribution. This is the second year Stalker has participated in this charitable event, shares PTA President Pam Lienneman and event organizer. Last year they collected over 600 cans of food, this year it has been over 980. Mrs. Polatis' third grade students collected the most with 175 cans of food. Way to go!

I.T. Stoddard Elementary also collects canned food items to be donated to South Eastern Idaho Community Action Agency or better known as SEICAA. All donations will be accepted from Monday, December 14 through Friday, December 18.

The Blackfoot Sixth Grade School does its fair share in contributing as well with their student council service project titled 'Coins for the Holidays'. The coin drive encourages students to bring in their spare change to purchase turkeys for distribution in the community. Over the last 15 years the BSGS has contributed over 1500 turkeys to the community!

This year BSGS students have already met their goal of 120 turkeys and over \$1400 in spare change tallied thus far. After the monies are in, the student council goes to the local markets to purchase the turkeys. Kesler's Market has already ordered in 120 turkeys for this purpose and they help out by giving a generous discount. The coin drive started on December 1st and goes through this Friday, December 18th.

Blackfoot High School holds two major fundraisers for the holiday season. The first is a food drive where they collect canned goods and non-perishables to be donated to the Woman's Crisis Center.

"I think the food drive is one of the most important things our students and council do in the course of the entire year," shares BHS Student Body President Hunter Phillips. "It has been great to see the students become really involved. (This) week we have some big shipments of food coming in. It will be exciting to see where it goes from here."

The second fundraiser at the high school collects money for the Bingham Children's Community Christmas program. In the assembly held on Monday, December 7, students were encouraged to donate upwards of \$300 to start off the charitable event. The \$300 amount was reached and Mr. Brian Kress, assistant principal, and Mr. Wes Jensen, teacher, agreed to shave their heads as an initiative. Phillips shared that he hopes to raise over \$5000 by this Friday, over \$1100 was donated in the first four days.

It takes a village to raise a child and together our students are making a difference for all of our community. Thank you to all who make that possible!

Picture Caption: Mishalya LaDue, Wade Racehorse, Ezira Edmo and Nevaeh Sanchez of Mrs. Jessica K Hansen's kindergarten class, show the decorations they helped make for the Christmas tree.

Indoor Walking Program to Start in January

If you are questioning how to stay warm and healthy this winter, Brint Jefferis, Blackfoot School District Physical Education Instructor, is providing one option for all ages. Starting January 5th Mr. Jefferis will provide his Indoor Walking Program on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings beginning at 4:30 pm and lasting until 5:30 pm. The location is Stoddard Elementary School at 460 York Drive. Adults and students alike are welcome to attend, but he is asking that you adhere to a few rules:

1. Any one is welcome, but students must be accompanied by an adult
2. Absolutely No Running
3. Students and children must stay with the parents (adults) while in the building.

The program is completely free and will run for seven weeks.



INL Science Night Held at Ridge Crest Elementary

Excerptions from article by: Katie Harris, Morning News

With over 300 parents and students in attendance, the science night at Ridge Crest Elementary was sure to impress all who attended.

The INL provided the scientists and equipment to share with the school.

Students had five presentations they could choose to participate in - Atom's Electron Shells/Theromostats, Concepts of Static Charge, Sensations of the Tongue, Motorized Nutcracker and Arcade Contraption, and SOAR, Safety Observations Achieve Results.

"The INL employees have



A Joy to All

Shawnee Stosich, Public/Media Relations

Students at Wapello Elementary kicked off the week long events of Christmas and Holiday Programs for the elementary schools at the BPAC on December 7th. With catchy little tunes such as 'Christmas on Candy Cane Lane' and 'Jolly Old Saint Nicholas', and old favorites from 'It's Beginning to Look Like Christmas' and 'For Unto Us a Child is Born', students wowed and amused parents, families and friends that filled the seats. Dressed as red and green candy canes, reindeer, elves and even Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus, the night was pure enjoyment and a success!

On Tuesday evening Donald D. Stalker Elementary shared their Christmas delights with the audience that filled the BPAC. Singing favorites such as 'Rocking Around the Christmas Tree' in sunglasses, the 'Christmas song' with sweet melodies and a boisterous 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas' to end the evening putting smiles on the faces of all who attended.

Groveland Elementary held their annual Christmas program on Wednesday evening titled, "Groveland gets Grinchy". All students took their parts to heart and dressed up as Dr. Suess' little Who's from Whoville and they were even visited by the Grinch himself, or was it herself?? Singing Grinchy favorites such as 'You're a mean one, Mr. Grinch!' and 'Where are you Christmas' the night was packed with fun and surprises for all to enjoy!

I.T. Stoddard students had the privelage of sharing their Christmas Program twice with parents, family and friends on Thursday, December 10th. With the groovey tune of 'Do You Know Blitzen' kids hammed it up with sun glasses and moves for their audience. The 2nd graders impressed with the playing of chimes to the song 'When Christmas Comes to Town' from the Polar Express. Then drummers were able to play along with 'The Little Drummer Boy'. Overall the students had a great time and the audience had a enjoyed watching them perform.

If you didn't get the opportunity to catch one of these festive Christmas/Holiday Programs, you still have your chance. December 15, Mrs. Earley and Mrs. Bingham's Kindergarten students will put on a play for parents and family at 10 am for morning students and 1:30 pm for afternoon students. On December 16, at 7pm, Ridge Crest Elementary will be at the BPAC with their 2nd and 3rd grade students sharing their Holiday Spirit. Also on December 16th Mrs. Crane and Ms. Law's kindergarten students will put on a Christmas play at 10 am for morning students and 1:30 pm for afternoon students at Irving Kindergarten Center. On December 21, students at Fort Hall Elementary will hold their Christmas program in the gymnasium of their school at 12:15pm.

Picture Caption: First through Third Grade Students at Wapello Elementary sing "Christmas on Candy Cane Lane" for a full house at the BPAC last Monday evening.



Rider Pays a Visit to Fort Hall Elementary Students

Shawnee Stosich, Public/Media Relations

Fort Hall Elementary students had the privilege of being visited by a World Champion Bull

Christmas Programs:

World Champion Bull

been amazing at jumping on board with our idea and making that idea happen," said Dawnette Bullock, event organizer.

The theme for Ridge Crest this year is "Above and Beyond." Adding a science night is one way they are putting this idea into action. "The idea of a science night really embodies my goal for students and staff to reach higher goals," said Nancy Wells, Ridge Crests' PTA President, "With all of the requirements and testing for No Child Left Behind, there are not as many opportunities for science and art in the classroom. Our hope is that by doing a science night now and an art night later in the year, it can help to fill that void."

Picture Caption: Students lined up for a hands-on experiment with kinetic energy as they learned how thermometers work.

Quick Links

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Rider on Wednesday afternoon, and there was no bull about the message he was delivering. Wiley Petersen, born and raised in Fort Hall, Idaho, talked to the students about working hard in school, staying healthy, taking care of their bodies and making their dreams a reality.

Petersen tours with the Professional Bull Riders (PBR) Tour and has won titles such as the 2007 World Finals Champion in addition to remaining in the Top 10 nationally for four years. He is proud to say that he was the first professional bull rider who agreed to exchange his tobacco sponsor patch for one embracing a positive health-related message. He hopes that more cowboys do the same. In 2007 Petersen agreed to join the "Project Filter - Idaho Fights Tobacco" team.

"We are grateful that Mr. Petersen could come to our school. He is a nationally known athlete that our students can identify with and look up to as a role model for staying tobacco free," shares Garth Hansen, Fort Hall Elementary Principal.

Petersen shared with the students that "Education is the most important thing that we have. Staying away from drug, tobacco, and alcohol use not only improves our life and health, but will help us make our dreams come true."

Petersen's rodeo career began when he was just 10 years old. "I was bucked off a lot, got hurt a lot, but I kept trying and when I finally accomplished my goal, it felt great," he shares.

He kept riding and winning through his high school years and eventually received a college scholarship to Idaho State University. Wiley began his professional career ten years ago. "And just because I've made it to the professional level doesn't mean that I will stay there unless I work hard and dedicate myself everyday," says Petersen.

Petersen encouraged the students to not only stay away from drugs and alcohol, but to stay healthy by eating right and exercising. "I work out and lift weights everyday. I run and eat healthy foods, I don't sit on the couch and watch television all day, I stay active and work hard to keep accomplishing my goals!"

Petersen resides in Fort Hall with his wife, Amy, and two children.

To learn more about 'Project Filter' visit www.projectfilter.org additional information is available at tobaccofreekids.org

Picture Caption: Wiley Petersen autographs pictures for the students at Fort Hall Elementary. Pictured in the background are NiDea Martin and Antonia Osborne.



Native American Youth

Symposium

Shawnee Stosich, Public/Media Relations

On November 17, Blackfoot High School hosted the second annual Native American Symposium in the Blackfoot Performing Arts Center. The symposium consisted of students from three schools, Blackfoot, Sho-Ban, and Highland High Schools presenting issues that they felt affected Native American youth in their communities and schools today. Some of the topics discussed were test scores, drug and alcohol use, teen pregnancy and educating others on Native American cultures.

The Idaho National Laboratory sponsored the event and judges were in attendance to score the presentations given. The INL gave \$500 scholarships to Blackfoot High School and Sho-Ban High School for excellent presentations given by their students.

INL has been instrumental in providing opportunities in education for community involvement through their Community Education Programs. The scholarships given are intended to promote community education and allow the students to talk about their culture. Public Relations Director Danielle Miller shared, "It is obvious that the (Native American) students want to go out into the communities and talk about their lives and culture. It is great that this INL program allows them to do so."

BHS Principal Blaine McInelley and Blackfoot School District Superintendent, Dr. Scott Crane, were very supportive in bringing this symposium to the school, shares Merle Smith, Native American Education teacher. There are 115 Native Americans at BHS and over 550 students district wide. "Partly, the symposium was intended to help us identify problems in relation to the ISAT scores and other issues that effect our Native American students." says Smith "We also are one of the only schools to offer Native American studies to all students, and I think that is pretty neat."

In the future, the facilitators of the symposium are hoping to expand it to other schools and extend the time to two days instead of one. They would also like the opportunity to open the invitation to Freshmen and Sophomores, as of now, only Juniors and Seniors have been in attendance.

Overall, the symposium is one more resource that teachers can pull from to educate and support their students. "I will be a better educator and teacher because of this," says Smith.

Picture Caption: Students from Blackfoot High School on the left and students from Sho-Ban High school on the right proudly display the \$500 checks awarded to them from INL for their speeches concerning issues that affect Native American Students today.

December/January Calendar and Upcoming Events

No School and Early Release Dates

December 22 - 2 hr Early Release
 December 23 - 31 - Christmas Break
 January 4 - School Resumes

Blackfoot High School

December 14 - Band Concert at the BPAC
 December 22 - Holiday Assembly

Mountain View Middle School

December 15 - 7 pm Choir Concert at the BPAC (w/BSGS)
 December 18 - Christmas Dance and Activity
 January 6 - 9 am Geography Bee Finals in School Library

Blackfoot Sixth Grade School

December 15 - 7 pm Choir Concert at the BPAC (w/MVMS)
 December 18 - Coins for Turkeys Drive deadline

Independence Alternative High School

December 21 - 3 pm New Student Orientation and Registration

Irving Kindergarten Center

December 15 - 10 am & 1:30 pm Christmas program for Earley & Bingham classes
 December 16 - 10 am & 1:30 pm Christmas program for Crane & Law classes
 December 22 - No School for Kindergarten

Fort Hall Elementary

December - Tree Decorating to share with the community
 December 21 - 12:15 pm Christmas Program

Groveland Elementary

December 17 - 9:30 am 1st and 2nd grade BHS drama presentation

I.T. Stoddard Elementary

December 18 - 1 pm Craft Fair all afternoon
 December 18 - Canned Food Drive deadline

Ridge Crest Elementary

December 16 - 2nd/3rd Grade Christmas Program at the BPAC

Catch the Trade Winds; Simplicity, Consistency, Quality, Victory

Blackfoot School District appreciates the opportunity to work with your children every day. It is our pleasure to be a part of their future and for that, we thank you.

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Issue 8 Volume 1

May 2010

In This Issue - Retirees

Mark Schofield
Linda Wisner
Carol Robertson
Anne Patton
Jake Jacobson
Linda Percy
Kerry Phelps
Cheryl Baldwin
Linda Jensen
LaRue Hong
Carma Stanley
Faye Price
Garnalee Harrington

Mark Schofield Recaps his Years with the District



When you walk into our school buildings across the district things are noticed right away. The banners of information, the signs of support and student recognitions in the form of awards and artwork. One thing that may be overlooked however, is just how much effort is put in to keep our schools clean. That is where Mark Schofield has dedicated his career as a custodian for the past 34 years.

Schofield started with the school district at Blackfoot High School and worked in that building for 10 years. He then was transferred to Stoddard Elementary. "One motto that I have always had is to try and treat others the way you would like to be treated. Chris Gardner shared that with me and that is what I have always tried to do." That type of attitude found Schofield being a leader among his colleagues. In 1996 the custodians district wide felt that there was a need for their own supervisor rather than to be placed under the maintenance department. A plea was presented to Superintendent Steven Norton at the time and it was agreed that a custodian supervisor was a needed position. Schofield was the man for the job. He



Jacobson Recalls Highlights in his Career

When Jake Jacobson started his career as a Computer Science teacher 22 years ago it was with three computers and a lot of hope for a bright future for students at Blackfoot High School.

Within his first year of teaching, a computer lab complete with 25 IBM units, was installed. "We pulled cables, drilled holes through thick cement walls and ran networking lines. I was fortunate to have so many good kids to help with the project." Jacobson recalls.

It wasn't too far into his career before Jacobson's responsibilities extended to Athletic Director for the district. "I really enjoyed being Athletic Director. There was always a lot of traveling, but the by product of that was watching our students be successful!" shares Jacobson. His position lasted eleven years and included the 2004-2005 school year where all but two teams that could qualify for state went to state. "I was at state tournaments all year long," Jacobson said, "I had the opportunity to really get to know the kids, it was great!" Jacobson also recalls working closely with Chuck Reay and the baseball team upgrading the baseball fields. "You gain some really close friends along the way, Chuck was one of those. I have some great colleagues and I'm walking away with some good friendships."

Jacobson has been in administration for the past seven years. The two most recent being at Mountain View Middle School. He stated the staff at MVMS has been excellent. "They brought me in and made me feel like I've been a part of this school forever." Jacobson said.

When asked what he'll miss most he said it would be the little things, "the morning announcements, the 8th grade dance, the anxiety for the ISATs. But most of all I will miss the kids." he shares, "You hope that you have made a difference. It's been a fun ride!"

It has been a fun ride Jake. Thank you for all that you have contributed to our district over the years! We will miss you and wish you all the best!

served in this capacity for the next 12 years of his career.

The last two years, Schofield has been at Donald D. Stalker Elementary as their head custodian. "One thing I wanted to do before retiring was go back and be a custodian in the school," shares Schofield, "The kids always remember who cleaned their rooms, but no one will remember who delivered the toilet paper to the school." He also shared that the experience he has had to work with the students and staff has been great. "It's a lot of fun to be around them!"

Schofield plans on spending more time with his family and grandchildren in retirement as well as do some fly fishing and tying of flies for the adventure. "My time has been devoted to the school, so I'm looking forward to spending more time with my family." Schofield said.

Thank you Mark for being devoted to our school district and for your many years of service. We wish you well in all your upcoming adventures!

Wiser Has Been a Staple to the District



For the past 10 years Stoddard Elementary students and parents have had a veteran of the district available to greet them every day. Linda Wiser has worked in the Blackfoot School District for 32 years.

Wiser started in 1978 at the Blackfoot Junior High School on Shilling Street and was there when they transitioned to Mountain View Middle School in the late 80's. She was instrumental in helping form the schedule for year-round school at MVMS. In 2000 Wiser came to Stoddard Elementary where she will be retiring this year. "The thing I've learned is you have to be a multi-tasker, especially at the elementary level," she shares, "There is never 5 minutes without an interruption, so I've learned

Picture Caption: Students at BSGS show off their style!

Percy Uses Heart to Teach Her Students

For 39 years Linda Percy has shared her love for children and teaching throughout Eastern Idaho. Thirty-three of those years have been in the halls of Donald D. Stalker Elementary in her second grade classroom.

"It's always a new day when you're teaching this age, there never is a dull moment." shares Percy. "It is true what they say, you believe half of what comes home and I'll believe half of what the kids say in class. They're not afraid to ask questions! I feel fortunate that they have felt comfortable enough with me to ask!"

Through her career, Percy has watched students grow up in the district. Former students have written letters or come back to share where their journey has taken them. "It's rewarding to see your students turn into good, successful people in life." she recalls, "I believe in order to be successful you have to feel love, self-esteem is the top priority."

One of Percy's favorite poems is the 'Star Polisher'. "That is what we do," she exclaims, "we take children from all walks of life and try to promote them the best we can. If they like who they are, that's what is most important! If you don't believe in yourself, the academics are a real struggle." Anyone who has had a child in Percy's classroom or been a student themselves knows just how close that saying is to her heart and how much she truly believes in that philosophy.

"I'm taking away love and great pride!" shares Percy when asked what her years of teaching have given her. As tears welled in her eyes she also added, "Overall it's been so rewarding! I have loved every minute of it, and the hugs. I love the hugs!!"

We have loved having you too Linda! We want to thank you for the many ways you have touched the lives of those around you! We wish you all the luck in the journey that lies ahead!

The Star Polisher
A Poem by Leah Becks

"I have a great job in the universe of occupations. What do I do? I am a 'Star Polisher.' It's a very important job. If you want to know how important, just go out at night and look at the stars twinkling and sparkling.

You see, I'm a teacher. The stars are the children in my class. My job is to take them in whatever shape they come - and shine and buff them, then send them out to take their places as bright little twinkling beacons in the sky.

They come into my room in all shapes and sizes. Sometimes they're bent, tarnished, dirty, crinkly and broken. Some stars are cuddly, soft and sweet. Some stars are prickly and thorny.

As I buff, polish, train and teach my little stars, I tell them that the world cannot do without them. I tell them they can do anything they set their minds to do. I tell them they can be the brightest, shiniest stars in the sky and the world will be a better place because of them.

Each night as I look at the sky, I'm reminded of my very important job and awesome responsibility. I go and get my soft buffing cloth and my bottle of polish in preparation for tomorrow and for my class of little stars!"

Blackfoot Students have Benefited from Phelps



When one walks into the Automotive Department

to just be calm and deal with it." And deal with it she does. While interviewing Wiser there was a band-aid moment from the playground, a delivery of treats, children being picked up for appointments and plenty of phone calls to keep it exciting. "People are dealing with all kinds of situations in their lives, what I try to be is empathetic and understanding with all of them."

Ryan Wilson, principal at Stoddard Elementary shared that "We are going to miss Linda at Stoddard. We will miss her energy and enthusiasm, she makes Stoddard such a wonderful place for everyone."

When asked what her retirement plans are, Wiser replied, "My plan is to have no plan for at least a year, just to see what its like to not race here and there." But don't let that fool you, Wiser has many short term goals and projects she is looking forward to completing. She will be enjoying the opportunity to ride motorcycles with her husband more and travel cross country on some road trips. She is also looking forward to spending more time with her grandchildren and children.

Thank you, Linda, for always wearing a smile to greet us throughout your many years of service to our school district. We wish you all the best in whats to come!"

The Blackfoot School District would like to invite you to attend a recognition ceremony in honor of the Blackfoot School District retirees on Monday, May 24 from 3 pm to 4:30 pm at the Blackfoot Performing Arts Center

**For more information visit:
www.d55.k12.id.us**

Ricks Has Been a Great

at Blackfoot High School they are greeted with an aura of hard work and a wall of accomplishments that proves it. Kerry Phelps has been at the helm of that hard work for the past 33 years. He started as the instructor for the World of Work program that provided individualized access to students and their abilities in 1977. The program included auto mechanics, welding, and wood working. After one year as an instructor in the multi-district program he became the full time auto mechanic instructor at Blackfoot High School and has continued in that position the last 32 years.

"We have some really good kids in Blackfoot." Phelps recalls. So good in fact that they have been awarded 12 first place spots in the Ford AAA competition and 10 first place rankings in the Skills USA Automotive competition. Most recently Phelps had two students who won first place in the Ford Automotive competition and won a Ford Mustang for the department. Phelps isn't one for bragging but did share that, "a great sense of pride comes with the accomplishments of your students. You can only do as well as the raw material that is given. We really do have a bright future with these students and some promising kids." His colleague, Cleon Chapman added, "(Phelps) brings out the best in them. Sometimes they don't even know they have it in them, and he helps bring it to the surface!"

Some of those students have come back to share with Phelps their bright futures. Four of his former students have gone on to be Automotive Instructors, three at the college level and one at the high school level. This is also the first year he has had the opportunity to teach a grandson of a former student.

When asked what Phelps is going to do with retirement he laughingly replied, "Whatever I want to do." But mostly he is looking forward to spending more time on some of his hobbies which include building hot rods, riding motorcycles, skiing, snowboarding, traveling and fishing. "And maybe some house work, too," he added.

Phelps, who has been a service manager at an auto shop among other high pace jobs, shared that surprisingly this has been one of his most stressful, most mentally draining jobs he's had, but overall the most rewarding. "There's a lot of energy that goes into keeping the kids focused and engaged and to keep the plan on a time schedule. You know you're making a difference when you see the moment the light comes on, its a rewarding feeling to know they finally get it!"

We have been rewarded with your many years of service to our district Phelps! We appreciate the contribution you have made not only to our High School but to our community as well. Thank you for all you have done, and we wish you a happy, and well deserved retirement!

Picture Caption: Kerry Phelps stands in front of the many trophies that students have one in competitions across the years.

Baldwin Holds a Special Place in Education

It's probably safe to say that children across the community have been influenced by Cheryl Baldwin at one time or another during their educational experience. Baldwin has been teaching with the district since 1974 and was one of the first Special Education teachers in the district.

Twenty-three of those teaching years have been at Irving Kindergarten focusing on Reading Recovery programs and in the resource classroom. Working with children and watching them develop has been some of Baldwin's highlights throughout her career. "Being able to see that bright light that goes on has been the best thing," shares Baldwin, "That is what kept me going! When it happens, you feel so good for them."

Baldwin has been an active member in the Blackfoot Education Association (BEA) and was a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Chapter. She received her teaching degree through Utah State University in Special Education. "Coming to Blackfoot was a big



Resource for Students



Pat Rick's has been helping students of Blackfoot High School hone their research and study skills for the past 20 years. "I like how the library works," Rick's shares, "I like the interaction, the facts you get to deal with and how it relates to all different types of subjects." In the beginning of her career, she worked half days at Irving Kindergarten and Stalker Elementary. All together her experience has spanned over 29 years.

When asked how she sees libraries in the future, she responded, "I see libraries evolving. I hope we never lose sight of how to do things ourselves. Our thinking, reading, and searching skills outside of pushing a button." Advice she would give to her former and future students would be "to know and understand what you are capable of doing and what you want to do, but it is up to you. Our successes or failures cannot be pinned on anyone else, it is up to you!"

Rick's is looking forward to having more interaction with her family in retirement. She also looks forward to, "being able to go where I want when I want freedom," she shares.

Overall Rick's is walking away with her relationships with the students and staff. "Sometimes you scold, sometimes you love," but all add to the relationship in the end.

Thank you, Pat, for your many years of helping students learn some important skills to help with their education years. We wish you all the best in the years to come!

Ridge Crest will miss Robertson's Contribution



There are not many secretaries who get to leave an impression on students the

life choice for me." Baldwin recalls. She was born in Pennsylvania and her husband was from California. "We've been here for 36 years, it's been a great career!"

Baldwin shares that working in education has allowed her to learn a lot of the whys in life. "In education and with the people you work with, everything is mental tasks. Being around that promotes life-long learning." She adds, "We all have the same goals, we want kids to succeed so they can have the best of what life has to offer."

She would like to thank Linda Dunbar who was a big promoter of her while she was at Irving. "She would ask us to extend our lives as best we could because we worked with young children. She encouraged us to promote our lessons based on life experiences and she allowed us to do that as a basis for teaching. Young children are always curious and you want to spark that interest in them." Baldwin shares, "When you see that in a child, you feel very excited!"

Retirement will be a new season for Baldwin, she is looking forward to traveling with her husband, visiting family, concentrating on her home, exercising more consistently and continuing her education. "This has been a good career. It's habit, good teacher habits, and I now I want to have the time to see the seasons change until it's time to go onto another."

Thank you Cheryl for the many ways you have touched the young minds in our district and community! We hope for many exciting seasons in your future!



Jensen, A True Supporter of Education

Linda Jensen has been an influence in education for 28 years in the Blackfoot School District. She has had the opportunity to teach at three schools and in a variety of grades, but her last 14 years has been focused on fourth graders at Stoddard Elementary.

"I've been in the right place," says Jensen, "and it's been a good place to be." Jensen used her life experiences to add to her students education. "I enjoy teaching Idaho History" she shares, "I've traveled all over the state and have been able to use those experiences in my classroom." She added that teaching music and recorders has been a highlight as well.

Jensen has been involved in the community through 4-H and by being a member of both the Idaho Education Association (IEA) and the Blackfoot Education Association (BEA). "I consider myself a public school advocate. Something I hope to continue in my retirement."

Jensen recalls how enjoyable her relationship with student teachers has been throughout her career. She has had nine student teachers in her classroom and has helped mentor many more. Jensen has a Master's Degree in Education with an emphasis on Curriculum and Administration. "I've learned a lot! I love to continue my education, it's a hobby, as well as part of my career." she shares. Jensen considers Lucille McDaniel a wonderful mentor and appreciated the encouragement she gave her while at Donald D. Stalker Elementary.

When one has been a part of the district for over 25 years they watch the students they've taught grow up, and it's been rewarding for Jensen. "I receive wedding announcements, graduation announcements and more than once I have had former students see me and start singing the Idaho County song while staring at my forehead." She also adds that, "I use to know the parents and now I know the grandparents. Things just go around!"

Jensen hopes to continue her learning and take the opportunity to promote public education. "We need to appreciate what we have and make sure it continues for our country and for future generations."

We want to thank you Linda for your contributions to education in and out of the classroom! We appreciate the many years you have dedicated to our district and wish you all the best for the adventures to come!

Hong Reflects on Her Relationships

"I have been a part of the Stalker



way Carol Robertson has. Students at Ridge Crest Elementary have been enjoying Robertson and her talents for the past 13 years.

"Over the years when Carol sings it has been a real bright spot for our school. Not only her talent has touched us but her wonderful personality and work ethic is unbelievable. She truly is the hub of what we do, the heart and soul of our school. She will be greatly missed." shares Colin Folsom, Ridge Crest Principal.

Robertson started with the district 19 years ago with the alternative high school, back then known as Second Chance High School located at the fairgrounds. It wasn't long after her year with the secondary school she moved to Elmwood Elementary just in time to realize the old part was condemned and needed rebuilding. That is when Ridge Crest Elementary was put into motion.

Within a year the students and Robertson were moving into the newest building in the district and she has been there ever since.

"There is a real spirit in this district." shares Robertson, "I have loved working for the Blackfoot School District. Even with changes in staff I have always loved the people I work with." She shares that when you are in the schools, especially in her position as secretary, you get a real insight as to what truly goes on to keep a school functioning. "I have gained a deep respect for anyone who works in a school setting.

Especially for the teachers, administrators and secretaries." she said.

"The job is so much more than you think it is," shares Robertson, "It's challenging. I enjoy a challenge and the diversity that has come with it."

Robertson won't be slowing down too much in her retirement. She has some goals she is looking forward to. "I love music," she says, "As long as I have the voice to share it, I would like to write inspirational songs and do firesides." She is also looking forward to spending more time with her husband, putting together her family history and taking guitar lessons. "It will be a new lifestyle," she exclaims, "like going from one room to another."

We wish you all the best on your new endeavors and want to thank you, Carol, for your time with the school district and all that you have done for those you have associated with!!

**Pattons Love For
Children Shared
through Compassion**

Family for 34 years" shares LaRue Hong, fourth grade teacher at Donald D. Stalker Elementary. "Stalker has been a big part of my life!"

Hong started her relationship with the school by being involved in their Summer Library program, Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and substitute teaching. Eventually, Hong would start teaching by being in the classroom full time and has been doing that for the past 27 years. "Teaching keeps you young," she states, "You teach and you learn. It has given me a lot of love, a lot of friends, and a lot of great relationships with children."

When reflecting over the way education has changed over the years Hong says, "I'm grateful I had most of my teaching career in the arts and that I was able to teach when it was more creative with learning and not so regimented." She recalls, "I cried actual tears when my first graders had to be tested, now it seems that's all we do." Overall Hong has been able to pursue a lot of passions through teaching, "It's been very exciting times and I will miss that, but I am looking forward to new experiences."

Retirement holds some exciting steps for Hong. She will be getting married this summer and plans on traveling, "everywhere" she shares, "I have a lot more gradchildren now to spend time with and I look forward to that." Hong is also looking forward to learning new things, being of service to others, helping in the classroom and help start a reading program targeted for boys at the local library. She will however miss being in the classroom. "I am going to really miss the kids and teaching. It's like a family here at Stalker. They have been a big support for me!"

You have been a big supporter for education, LaRue, and we wish you all the best in your future chapters. We want to thank you for all you have done to contribute to education!

Stanley's Teaching has Given Students Life Long Skills

For 25 years, Carma Stanley has been bringing home economics into the classroom for Mountain View Middle School Students. She has taught classes in cooking, sewing and teen living. "In these classes students learn life skills that they can apply for the rest of their lives it's definitely something they will use in their futures." Stanley states.

When asked if there was any fun stories to tell from past years, she answered, "There is always something going on, there's never a dull moment." Stanley recalls one time when a student's apron caught on fire, fortunately there was no injuries from the incident, other than the apron strings. "More than once we've had a finger stuck in a sewing needle," Stanley shares, "those are just a few things."

"It's fun to see the kids make something for the first time. Their eyes light up when they get it and you watch them develop confidence over the semester. Most are very proud of their work." Stanley shares. "This school district has been very good at offering elective programs at the middle school level."

Stanley is looking forward to traveling, visiting grandchildren and making lots of quilts with her time in retirement. To sum up her working relationships Stanley says, "We have such a great faculty here at the school, it's just like home."

We'd like to thank you, Carma, for bringing a little bit of your home and skills into the classroom for all these years. Generations have benefited from your successes. Thank you for all your dedication.



Price's Years with the District Are Priceless

Any student who has attended Stalker Elementary





Anne Patton has been involved in education since 1964. She shares that she has met some wonderful people along the way. Patton has been with the Blackfoot School District for 15 years and was one of the first to lay the groundwork for other elementary school counselors to join the district. "Blackfoot School District was one of the first to hire elementary school counselors," she shares. The Idaho legislator voted that counselors shall be part of the school make up, but Blackfoot was one of the first to be proactive and provide the funding for them. Today the school district has four counselors K-6.

Patton says that the counseling process is such a rewarding field, "I've grown along with the children, they have opened my eyes to their world. They have allowed me to be more creative."

She shares that each generation becomes more open. "The problems are multiplying so we have to be able to talk about them. The support system is very important, not only with students, but between other counselors as well."

Most often children will express their concerns naturally through play. Sometimes they invite Patton in, "When they invite you into their play it is very special, you know that they are comfortable opening up to you." When students work through the process and arrive at a resolution Patton knows her work is important. "There is nothing greater than effecting the lives of children," Patton states, "You touch so many more lives in education than other

can direct you to Faye Price's classroom. She has been teaching first grade in the same classroom for the past 16 years. "It's like home to me," shares Price, "I feel I have been lucky to be in first grade. I love first graders, they are so willing to learn and so excited about learning. You see so much growth in that first year! It's a miracle every year."

Throughout the years, Price has been visited by former students or received letters of thanks. "You start by wanting to make a difference in someone's life, you don't always know what that big picture will be," she states. One year on the last day of school she had a former student come into her classroom and ask, "Mrs. Price, do you remember me?" "I hadn't seen this girl in eleven years, but I remembered her," she shares, "She traveled all the way from Boise to let me know she had graduated from high school the day before. All the way from Boise, can you believe it."

Price's former student shared how she remembers being told by Price that 'you can do anything with your life' and that stuck with her and helped her graduate from high school. The student reflected on how Price would always share different scenarios of what comes after 12. "Well, she remembered what comes after 12 in school," shares Price, "and that is college. She was preparing to go to Boise State that following fall. For her to come back and share that with me was so special!"

Price has some big plans for retirement. "I have a daughter who teaches in Hawaii, I look forward to spending time with her there." Price and her husband also own a cabin in Salmon and love to fish during the summer. She looks forward to spending more time with her grandchildren and states she "can't wait to play with them more, it's one of the main reasons I decided to retire." Price also looks forward to quilting and crafts. She has hopes of writing some children books and would love the opportunity to be published. "I know about children books, it's a dream that I would really like to pursue."

Thank you, Mrs. Price, for your influence on the hearts and lives of children who have been through your classroom. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors!

Harrington Shares Her Love for the Arts in Teaching

When one sits across from Garnalee Harrington, you can sense the excitement and enthusiasm she has for teaching her students. Harrington has been teaching for 30 years and has spent 7 of those years teaching 6th graders at Blackfoot Sixth Grade School.



"I have to admit," she states, "I was a little intimidated by 6th graders after teaching fourth grade for so many years. But I soon found out they were just like fourth grade, just in a little bit bigger bodies."

Some of Harrington's favorite subjects have been in the arts and sciences. Currently, she is teaching math and social studies. She has incorporated art into these subjects. "I try to do some art to tie in the history of the culture we are learning about." Harrington shares, "I have always loved the programs and music in education. The kids are not going to remember everything they learned, but they remember the programs and the art work that they did."

For retirement, Harrington is looking forward to "Doing whatever I have the urge to do!" she shares with a grin. "I never had the opportunity to stay home much, I will enjoy the opportunity to read, sew, and be home more often!" She and her husband are also hoping to serve a few missions for their church.

Harrington sums up that it has been a great opportunity to work with children and work in this district. "I have always been supported by the administrators here and they have given me free reign to do what I feel is most beneficial for my students

professions allow."

She has felt that counseling should be viewed as a preventative measure rather than a rehabilitating one. "If emotional issues take up the sponge and consume the child's life, how can we move forward with academics. When they can resolve their issues, it frees them to be able to work."

During retirement Patton is looking forward to having no schedule. "I have had one for 45 years," she shares. She also plans on making more time for her children and grandchildren. "We love history and love to camp, so every summer we take a long camping trip with just the grandchildren visiting historical sites," she shares.

"I feel good about retiring. It is time to pass the gauntlet onto a new generation who has new ideas and vitality that is very important when working with children," states Patton, "As I look back I feel I've done all that I could do with the resources and time I had. It's been a very positive experience."

Thank you, Anne, for improving the mental health and emotional well being of children during your time with the Blackfoot School District. We hope for many happy, relaxing days ahead for you!

Quick Links

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Blackfoot School District
www.d55.k12.id.us

growth and ultimately what is best for them."

Thank you, Mrs. Harrington, for your enthusiasm, influence and memories you have given our students at BSGS! We wish you the best in the upcoming chapters ahead!!

May and End of Year Events

District-wide Dates

May 24 - 3 pm - 4:30 pm Retiree Recognition Blackfoot Performing Arts Center

May 27 - Blackfoot High School Graduation

May 27 - Last Day of School for Irving Kindergarten

May 28 - Last Day of School

Blackfoot High School

May 25 - All fines due for Seniors

May 25 - 9:30 am Graduation Rehearsal at BPAC

May 26 - 7 am Senior Trip

May 27 - 8 am Senior Graduation Breakfast in the Old Gym

May 27 - 7 pm Senior Graduation Ceremony at the BPAC

May 27 - Senior All Night Party

Mountain View Middle School

May 26 - Final Locker Cleanout
 May 26 - Awards Assembly Practice 1:30pm
 May 27 - 8:45 am Awards Assembly
 May 28 - 8:45 am Faculty/Student Basketball Game

Blackfoot Sixth Grade Center

May 26 - Carnival
 May 27 - AR Activity
 May 28 - Last Day of School

Irving Kindergarten Center

May 21 - 10 am & 1:30 pm Bingham/Hall end-of-year program
 May 24 - 9:30 am & 1:30 pm Nillson/St. John end-of-year program
 May 25 - 10:30 am & 2 pm Stewart/Early end-of-year program
 May 26 - 10 am & 2 pm Crane/Law end-of-year program
 May 27 - Field Day and Last Day of Kindergarten

Donald D. Stalker Elementary

May 27 - Hall of Fame Assembly 1-2 grade 12-1, 3-5 grade 1:15 - 2:15

Groveland Elementary

May 24 - School Pride Day, Field Trip for all students
 May 26 - School Carnival 12:30 pm
 May 26 - 6pm Parent's Night Barbecue
 May 28 - 8:30 am Awards Assembly

Ridge Crest Elementary

May 24 - Awards Assembly 8:45 am 1-2 grades, 10 am 3-5 grades
 May 25 - Elections

I.T. Stoddard Elementary

May 24 - Movie
 May 27 - PTA Outdoor Carnival
 May - Field Day

Fort Hall Elementary

May 25 - Pocatello Zoo Animal Activity 2nd grade - 5th grade
 May 25 - Elections 8am to 8 pm
 May 25 - Popcorn and Movie Day, Princess and the Frog
 May 26 - 12 pm RIF (book give away program)
 May 26 - 12:45 pm Stepping Up Ceremony for Kindergarten
 May 27 - Medieval Days am
 May 27 - Recognition and Awards Assembly pm

Wapello Elementary

May 25 - School-wide Field Day
 May 26 - 9 am - 12 pm School-wide Track Meet
 May 27 - 8:30 am Hall of Fame Assembly

Catch the Trade Winds; Simplicity, Consistency, Quality, Victory

Blackfoot School District appreciates the opportunity to work with your children every day. It is our pleasure to be a part of their future, and for that, we thank you.

Contact Info

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