

Update – TAG! You’re It!

Dear Parents & Guardians,

WOW! I don’t know why it’s such a surprise each year, but we made it once again. This school year has been incredible. We have overcome challenges. We have found ways to come together rather than split apart. We have accomplished things never before seen in an Idaho public school system, more on that later. Our students have learned and grown academically over this school year, and we have the data to show that. However, more importantly our kids learned to work together, despite their differences, to achieve great things.

As we look back on this school year, our hearts are warmed. We are so proud of our kids and what they did these past nine (9) months. We have witnessed countless acts of service, not only those large media covered acts of service, but those soft, often unnoticed, every day acts by our students to make our community the great place that it is. We have celebrated achievements by our students ranging from academic excellence to athletic prowess to fine arts expression to personal growth. It is impossible to list every detail that gives us pride in our students, but please know the list is long and we would gladly put our student body up against any other for the best there is. Thank you for supporting us this past school year. We cannot tell you enough how important that is to us as educators. We are not perfect, but we truly love your kids, each and every one of them.

Well, now it’s your turn for the next three (3) months. We will very much miss our students. We hope and pray for their safety over the summer break. While we will use the summer break to recharge, we eagerly await their return in August. Please enjoy this time with your children, and we hope you have a great summer.

Great things are happening in the Blackfoot School District. Mountain View Middle School received a state grant for \$100,000 to update their weight room facility. If that’s not good enough, please know the Blackfoot School District has been awarded a \$3,326,440 from the Economic Development Administration within the U.S. Department of Commerce to **elevate** the Blackfoot Technical Education Center. This is unheard of for school districts to receive this type of an award. In fact, we were told the Department of Commerce rarely awards grants to school districts. The fact we had incredible community support and tremendous partnerships with local businesses is what set us apart. Like we have said, there is no better place than Blackfoot, people on the outside just don’t get it. We are SO EXCITED for the opportunities this will provide our students and community members. As with all federal grants, we are sure there will be hoops to jump through, but we will do whatever it takes for our kids. We hope to have more exciting details when we return for the 2022-23 school year, so stay tuned. Remember, Blackfoot Strong and Pride in 55! Have a great summer!

God Bless!

Brian Kress  
Superintendent of Schools  
Blackfoot School District #55