

NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL—Mrs. Judy Cox

Dear Parents,
I hope you had a relaxing holiday! This is one of my favorite times of the school year. The students are comfortable and eager to get back into the swing of things. This is a huge educational learning time for students. In these next few months, the academic growth of students is amazing. Please continue to encourage your child to read at home and be on top of their work.



Also, during these long winter months, students don't get enough physical activity. The cold temperatures usually mean more indoor recess days. Please encourage your child to go outside, participate in physical games, and be active. This will help keep students alert and motivated.

Finally, "Big Red" is no longer with us. The unsafe playground structure was demolished during the Winter break. The new structure should be ready for kids by Jan. 12th, weather permitting. The students are very eager and excited!!!

WINTER WEATHER

Winter is here and so is the cold weather. Lunch recess is about 20 minutes and we expect all students to go outdoors when the weather allows. Please dress your children ready for the cold weather. If children forget or lose their hats and mittens we have plenty here to help out!!

HOLIDAY CONCERT



On December 8th, our 5th graders performed a wonderful holiday concert for our students and their parents. Some of the songs included Bubble Rap, Jingle Bells,

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Important Dates to Remember

- Jan. 3**—Students return to school
- Jan. 11** Coffee Club Meeting @ 8:30 AM
- Jan. 20:** End of Marking Period 2
- Jan. 30**—V and O assembly
- Jan. 31**—Family Math night
- Jan. 31**—College day (wear your favorite college colors)
- Feb. 6**—NO SCHOOL Staff Development
- Feb. 17 and 20** —NO SCHOOL Mid Winter Break

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students and Friends of Bay City Public Schools,

Happy New Year to all! January marks a very special month in the calendar year of our school district because it is the month that we traditionally recognize the efforts and service of our School Board members, who serve strictly on a voluntary basis to guide our district to the best it can be. Please take a moment to consider all the time these individuals generously give to support our schools, staff and students. These are our Board members – so if you have the opportunity to give them a shout-out of thanks, please do so!

Marie McFarland, School Board President, serving since 1997
Pauline Helmling, School Board Vice President, serving since 2000
Chuck Hewitt, School Board Secretary, serving since 2006
Pat O'Shea, School Board Treasurer, serving since 2005
Ben Gibson, Trustee, serving since 2002
Mike Wilcox, Trustee, serving since 2011
John Billette, Trustee, elected to serve beginning January 2012

In the words of our "Camelot" president, John F. Kennedy, *"Our progress as a nation can be no swifter than our progress in education."*

I'm happy to report that this month we are adding a second preschool classroom at Linsday. We now have programs at Kolb, Linsday, MacGregor, McAlear-Sawden and Washington Elementary.

In closing, I want to stress how important it is for you to be involved in your child's education. Please take time to read with your child and help with homework when needed. Stay in contact with your child's teachers and get involved in our parent organizations at school or volunteer. These things are so important in helping us partner with you for your child's success.

Sincerely,

Douglas L. Newcombe
Superintendent

Resources available which may be of assistance to your children:

Opportunity Connection Website: offers a variety of learning opportunities for students, teachers, and businesses. You may visit their website at www.opportunityconnection.net.

Imagination Library: This is a FREE book a month program for ANY child (age birth to 5) living in Bay or Arenac Counties. Visit www.imaginationlibrary.com

NURSE'S NEWS—NURSE Monica



With the weather turning colder, we are indoors more. With being indoors comes the spread of more colds and flu. Please continue with encouraging your children to use good hygiene and to cough into their sleeves or a tissue when possible. Frequent hand washing is a must!! Let's all do our part to

Quote of the month: **Don't worry that children never listen to you; worry that they are always watching you."** Robert Fulghum

Finding Time for Family – Children rely on their families for love, guidance, and most of all, a sense of belonging. Without these things, it's hard to do well in school or in life. Activities like the following will show your child she/he have family support.

Eat Meals Together – Extend your time together by having your kids set the table and do dishes together. Turn off the television during meals so conversations can take place.

Take Trips – Go sledding, skating, to a concert, library, or sporting event.

Play Together – Choose games that everyone can enjoy, such as charades, board games or 20 questions. Let your children pick what to play.

Plan Family Nights – Decide together what to do, or take turns choosing. You might order or make a pizza, bake a cookie, or see a movie. Sometimes invite another family to join you.

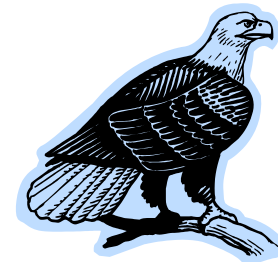
Do Something Silly – Some of the best family memories are the funniest ones. You might make breakfast for dinner, dress in the craziest outfits you can find.

Relax – Some parents find that right after school is a great time to spend with their children. The kids are ready to plop down and talk about their day. Talk about family news, goals, concerns, and successes.

SHINING EAGLE

The Shining Eagle is a special award presented to two students on Friday mornings. We give each of these students a "Shining Eagle" shirt. They are welcome to wear it every Friday!

Christian Hilyard, Mahaliegh Castellano, Caden Burns, Brooklyn Galsper, Haley VanBlaricum & Matthew Inskeep



BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL

Congratulations to the following students that are participating in the Bay City Public School Elementary sports program:

Andrew Brown, Caden Burns, Sergio Casas, Jordan Martindale, Christian Novak, Trenton Smith, Diego Wittkopp, Nicholas Duso, Austin Johnson, Anthony Males, Tyler Nadeau, Alexander Martindale, Scott Rembish, Brice Rule, Natalie Kuehlewind, Lauryn LaMontagne, Krista Tremble, Anabelle Gutierrez, and Kiarra Jones

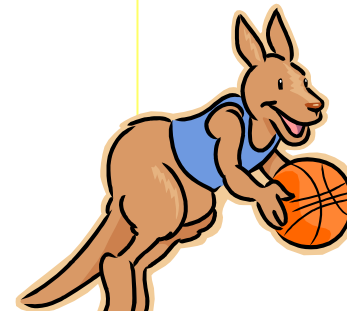
SCHEDULE

BOYS

Dec 10, 11:00 Western
Jan 7, 10:00 Central
Jan 14, 10:00 Handy
Jan 21, 9:00 Handy
Jan 28, 11:00 Handy

GIRLS

Dec 10, 9:00 Handy
Jan 7, 9:00 Handy
Jan 14, 1:00 Handy
Jan 21, 10:00 Western
Jan 28, 9:00 Central





Below are just some of the products that have the Boxtops on the wrapper. As you know, many cereal boxes have the labels, too.



SNACKS

Butter Crunchy Granola Bar

- Cascadian Farm® Fiber Right™ Dark Chocolate Almond Chewy Granola Bar
- Cascadian Farm® Flax Right™ Harvest Spice Crunchy Granola Bar

Cascadian Farm® Sweet & Salty Bars

Cheerios® Snack Mix

Chex Mix® Bars

Chex Mix® Snack Mix

- 100 Calorie Chex Mix® Snack Mix

- Chex Mix® Select Snack Mix

Curves™ Snack Bars

Dunkaroos® Snacks

Fruit-Flavored Shapes:

- Batman™ Fruit Flavored Shapes
- Care Bears™ Fruit Flavored Shapes
- Create A Bug™ Fruit Flavored Shapes
- Create A Dino™ Fruit Flavored Shapes
- My Little Pony™ Fruit Flavored Shapes
- Polly Pocket™ Fruit Flavored Shapes
- Fairytale Princess® Fruit Flavored Shapes
- Scooby-Doo™ Fruit Flavored Shapes
- Shark Bites Fruit Flavored Snacks
- Spider-Man® Fruit Flavored Shapes
- Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles™ Fruit
- Tonka™ Fruit Flavored Shapes
- Transformers Fruit Shapes

Fruit Flavored Snacks:

- Betty Crocker® Fruit Gushers®
- Betty Crocker® Fruit by the Foot®
- Betty Crocker® Fruit Flavored Snack Variety
- Betty Crocker® Fruit Roll-Ups®
- Fruit by the Foot® Crazy Feet
- Fruit Roll-Ups® Crazy Pix™
- Fruit Roll-Ups® Fruit Stickerz™
- Fruit by the Foot® Mini Feet
- Fruit Roll-Ups® Mini Rolls

Granola Bars

- Nature Valley® Nut Clusters
- Nature Valley® Roasted Nut Crunch Bars
- Nature Valley® Sweet & Salty Nut Granola

REFRIGERATED & DAIRY

Cookies and Bars:

- Pillsbury® Brownie Batter
- Pillsbury® Create 'n Bake® Cookies
- Pillsbury® Ready To Bake!™ Cookies
- Pillsbury® Simply Bake® Bars

Breads and Rolls:

- Pillsbury® Crescent Rolls
- Pillsbury® Crescent Rounds
- Pillsbury® Flaky Twists
- Pillsbury® Grands!® Biscuits
- Pillsbury® Grands!® Sweet Rolls
- Pillsbury® Pizza Crust
- Pillsbury® Sweet Rolls

BAKING

Desserts:

- Almond Joy® Dessert Bar Mix
- Betty Crocker® Angel Food Cake Mix
- Betty Crocker® Confetti Angel Food Cake Mix
- Betty Crocker Complete Desserts®
- Betty Crocker® Cookie Mix
- Betty Crocker® Frosting
- Betty Crocker® Gluten Free Brownie Mix
- Betty Crocker® Gluten Free Cake Mix
- Betty Crocker® Gluten Free Cookie Mix
- Betty Crocker® Sunkist® Lemon Bars
- Betty Crocker® Supreme Brownie Mix
- Betty Crocker® Variety Dessert Mixes
- Betty Crocker® Warm Delights® Desserts
- Betty Crocker® Warm Delights® Minis
- Reese's® Dessert Bar Mix
- Heath Bar® Dessert Bar Mix

Breads, Muffins and Rolls:

- Betty Crocker® Premium Muffin & Quick Bread Mix
- Betty Crocker® Pancake Mix Boxes

opens their new building located next to City Hall on Washington Avenue December 27th. The new “Y” features more gyms, classes and a new recreational swimming pool with slides and a lazy river. There are a number of opportunities for elementary students with basketball and soccer teams, as well as swimming and karate classes, to name just a few choices. Scholarships are available. For more information contact the Y at 895-8596.



COFFEE CLUB

Our next Coffee Club meeting is Wednesday, January 11, at 8:30 AM. The focus will be reflection from a parenting conference, couponing, along with health and nutrition. We hope you can join us!

STUDENT COUNCIL



The Washington Student Council has been active. In December, the council encouraged our Washington families to donate for a food drive to support Hidden Harvest. In January we will begin collecting candy for our “Mugs of Love” project. Donations of wrapped soft candy to fill the mugs is appreciated. Thank you for your help.

CLOSING INFORMATION



Winter is here! Weather changes quickly in Michigan. With these changes, school closings are possible. On days when it appears school may be closed, please **do not** call the office. Please wait for the phone call from our Superintendent announcing school closings, listen to TV / radio stations for announcements, or check our webpage at www.bcschools.net. As soon as schools are closed, the media and our webpage are updated. The safety of our students is our major concern.

TWO CAN TUESDAY

Every Tuesday is Two-Can Tuesday. The 3rd graders ask each student to donate two returnable cans to help fund their trip in May to Mackinaw Island. **Few Fun Two –Can Facts from the 3d Grade:**

The distance from Washington Elementary to St. Ignace, where we catch the ferry is 187.6 miles. That is equal to about 2,377,267 pop cans laid end to end, or about 990,528 2 liter bottles end to end.

At 8,614 feet, the Mackinac Bridge is the longest suspension bridge with two towers between anchorages in the Western Hemisphere. It would take 20,673 soda cans end to end to make a line of cans that stretched from one end of the bridge to the other.

As of this printing we have collected about 4,500 cans. That is over 1/3 of a mile!

K- Mrs. Keenan 878 cans	1st - Mrs. Neering 369 cans
2nd –Mrs. McCuen 267 cans	3rd– Mrs. Lyons 526 cans

It is very important that parents notify the school office of any changes in address, home, and work phone numbers, etc. When we have emergencies, it is important that we have the correct information to reach a parent as soon as possible.



If you have had any changes on your emergency/profile sheet, please let us know. Please call Tracey at 894-2744 with any changes.



Our goal is to have all of our students in class, learning every day for the entire learning day, 8:20 am-3:19 pm. When it is necessary for a child to miss school for any reason, it is the parent's responsibility to call the school office at 894-2744 to excuse your child. If at all possible it is best for your child's education to schedule doctor and dentist appointments after school or during scheduled vacations.

The Learning Day

8:10—Universal Breakfast

8:20— Student's must be in classrooms ready to learn.

3:19—The end of the learning day.

Remember, no school on Monday, December 19—January 2. School returns on Tuesday, January 3.



If your child is absent for a very short term, they can contact their teachers upon returning to school. For absences more than one day, parents may call the school and request assignments that may be worked on prior to the student returning. Please request your student's homework at least 24 hours in advance only if they will be out for more than one day.

Please complete the bottom portion and have your child return it to their teacher.

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_____ Yes, I received and have read the January Newsletter.

Student _____ Parent (optional) _____

Parent Signature _____ Phone #: _____

Any comments, concerns, suggestions, or congratulations are appreciated!

