

NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL—Mrs. Judy Cox

Dear Parents,
I hope you had a relaxing holiday! We now move into a huge educational learning time for students. In these next few months, students will gain and grasp their grade level concepts and will demonstrate many new skills. 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. Please encourage your child to go outside, participate in physical games, and be active. This will help keep students alert and motivated. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Finally, please read the information regarding bullying on page 3. When we speak with students, we explain these things as bullying. Sometimes students don't think what they are doing is harmful. Please speak with your child about these things so the student knows we are all using the same ideas and concepts.

WINTER WEATHER

As you know, we are now into very cold weather. During lunch, we always want to have the students go outside to play. Since we only stay inside when the chill factor is 10 degrees or less, please make sure your child has proper clothing that is warm.

HOLIDAY CONCERT



Thank you, Mrs. Moore, for our 5th grade Holiday Concert. Everyone enjoyed the festive atmosphere!



MILK PRICES

There seems to be miscommunication about the price of milk. Please be aware that

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Important Dates to Remember

- Jan. 3**—Students return to school
- Jan. 5**—V & O Assembly @ 1:45 PM
- Jan. 12** Coffee Club Meeting @ 8:30 AM
- Jan. 17:** NO School—PD Day for Staff.
- Feb. 1**—Parent Conferences: 3:30 to 6:30 PM
- Feb. 3**—Parent Conferences: 3:30 to 6:30 PM
- Feb. 7**—NO SCHOOL Staff Development
- Feb. 18**—NO SCHOOL Mid Winter Break

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

I hope you enjoyed a wonderful holiday break!

MANY Congratulations!

Shelly Ouellette, our Director of Personnel and Employee Relations, was honored in December as the Michigan Association of School Personnel Administrators (MASPA) **Administrator of the Year!** This award is significant as it comes from her peers – sort of the “Oscar” of School Personnel in Michigan. Way to go, Shelly!

Julie Robinson was recently selected as the interim principal at Mackensen Elementary. Julie was a first grade teacher at McAlear-Sawden Elementary. She is a 1994 Central High School graduate and received her bachelors, masters, and education specialist degrees from SVSU. Best wishes to Jamie Cain, former Mackensen Principal, as he begins his superintendency with the Marysville School District!

The Bay City Central Tennis Team made the all Academic Team Fall 2010!

The Girls Varsity Volleyball team at Bay City Western was recognized as Academic All-State for the third year in a row!

The Bay City Western High School Boys Cross Country team was recognized as Academic All-State with their cumulative GPA of 3.81!

Our Food Service Department was recently notified we were awarded a grant from the United Dairy Industry of Michigan in cooperation with Michigan Dairy Farmers to help increase breakfast participation. The goal is to improve student access to high-quality, nutritious foods at school.

- Handy Middle School received \$3000.00 and will explore the possibility of starting a universal breakfast program there;
 - Central High School received \$2500.00 for equipment to place a point of service for breakfast in another location outside of the cafeteria; and
- Kolb Elementary received \$2700.00 for equipment to expand choices served at breakfast and possibly offer warm breakfast options.

Election Change

Our Board of Education acted on an agenda item at our December board meeting with final approval to change the 2011 school election from May to November with an annual election every November. This move will save money each year averaging out to \$60,000 every two years. The reason to hold elections every year rather than every other year is twofold: board member terms will stay at four years rather than moving to six-year terms and the number of seats up for re-election every year will remain at two rather than increase to three or four.

If you have comments or questions, please feel free to email (newcombed@bcschools.net) or call me at 671-8165.

NURSE'S NEWS—NURSE KLOC



Now that we are indoors more, a viral illness called Norovirus has been quickly spreading. This virus is causing abrupt nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. This virus is spread by personal contact or food/water contamination. Be sure to encourage frequent hand washing, avoid sharing food and utensils, and keep children home for 48 hours after the vomiting/diarrhea has stopped. Clean toilets, surfaces, and toys in one

give up smoking, get organized, or make some sort of change in their life. Ultimately, they are talking about resolutions. A resolution is a promise to yourself or a commitment. It gives each of us something to work toward just like a personal goal. One way to keep your resolution or personal promise is to write it down in a journal.

Think About It—Talk About It.....

What one thing will you do to make you a better person or the world a better place? Why do you want to do it? How will you make it happen? How will you get around problems that stand in the way? Who can help you to reach your goal? What are some other ways to make and keep your promises? Is it important for kids to make resolutions? Why or why not? How does making a resolution and keeping it affect our future?

This is a wonderful teaching opportunity that you and your child can do together. What a great way to share with your child!

WHAT IS BULLYING?

A lot of young people have a good idea of what bullying is because they see it every day! Bullying happens when someone hurts or scares another person on purpose and the person being bullied has a hard time defending himself or herself. Usually, bullying happens over and over.

- Punching, shoving, and other acts that hurt people physically
- Spreading bad rumors about people
- Keeping certain people out of a "group"
- Teasing people in a mean way
- Getting certain people to "gang up" on others

Bullying also can happen online or electronically. Cyberbullying is when children or teens bully each other using the Internet, mobile phones or other cyber technology. This can include:

- Sending mean text, email, or instant messages
- Posting nasty pictures or messages about others in blogs or on Web sites
- Using someone else's user name to spread rumors or lies about someone

Although, these things happen to students, most of the time it is not meant to be in an intentional and mean way. This is why it is important to discuss and teach



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

Favorite TV Show: I don't watch a lot of tv shows, but I do watch a lot of movies with my kids. We all like to watch Scooby Doo.

Hobbies: I love to work in my yard. Planting flowers makes me happy. Cutting the grass while listening to my iPod is one of my favorite things to do in the warm weather.

Pets: I have a dog and 3 fish. The fish are much better behaved than the dog. :)

Quote: Life is Good!

Something about you that others may not know: My favorite season is Winter. I love snow. It is an amazing and beautiful season!



COFFEE CLUB

Our next Coffee Club meeting is Wednesday, January 12, at 8:30 AM. The curriculum focus will be on our new computer lab and our computer instructional programs. We hope you can join us!

STUDENT COUNCIL



The Washington Student Council has been active. In December, fundraising was held by Student Council members organizing a hat day. And collection jars in all classrooms for Toys for Tots. In January we will begin collecting mugs and candy for our "Mugs of Love" project.. If you have any coffee mugs you are not using, please send them to school. Donations of wrapped soft candy to fill the mugs are appreciated, too. Thank you for your help.



Above, Ms. Leisentritt's class celebrating on "Hat Day", a fundraiser for Toys for Tots.

SCHOOL DELAY AND CLOSING INFORMATION



Winter is here! Weather changes quickly in Michigan. With these changes, school delays and/or closings are possible. In a school delay, it is just that— school starts exactly 2 hours later than our regular starting time of 8:20 AM. That means all morning bus pick-up times are 2 hours later than normal. On days when it appears school may be delayed or closed, please **do not** call the office. Please listen to TV or radio stations for announcements, or check our webpage at www.bcschools.net. As soon as schools are closed or delayed, the media and our webpage are updated. The safety of our students is

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 20—January 2. School returns on Monday, 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!

