

NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL—Mrs. Judy Cox

Dear Parents,

We have already had two Victories and Opportunities Assemblies this year. This is a wonderful way to recognize students for all the great things they do. It is always a neat thing to see students come up looking so proud and happy. Please continue to encourage your child to do their “personal best”.

The month of November brings around Thanksgiving. We are thankful every day that you have given us the opportunity to educate your children. All of us here at Washington hope you have an enjoyable Thanksgiving.



PICTURE MAKE-UP DAY



Our picture make-up day is on Wednesday, November 17. Again, no money is needed. You may order pictures afterwards.

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM & SPIRIT DAY

On Thursday, November 11, Washington will host a Veterans Day Program at 1:30 PM for all Veterans of friends and family of Washington Elementary School. Notes went home earlier explaining the program with a return note as to how many people will be coming. If you know of any veterans, please invite them. The note is on page 5 of this newsletter. November 11 will also be a red, white, and blue Sprit Day.



STUDENT COUNCIL

Congratulations to our Student Council Members! The 2010-11 members are: **President**—Arianna Brown, **Vice President**—Tia Good, **Secretary**—Aaron Schwartz, **Treasurer**—Coleman Staudacher. **3rd Grade Reps:** Marquise Black, Alanna Osuna, Allyson Woods. **4th Grade Reps:** Scott Rembish, Gabrielle Rembish, Cody Rodriguez, Marielena Silva, and Sabrina Villarreal. **5th Grade Reps:** Yolanda Brinson, Alannah Dean, Anthony Gilbert, Abby Newsham, Cheyenne Searfoss, and Aleya Keyes.

DENTAL BUS



The Dental Bus will be here November 17-23. Notes will be coming home explaining the program. If you did not get a note,

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Important Dates to Remember

Nov. 2—NO SCHOOL—Professional Learning Day for staff.

November 5: V&O Assembly and Student Council Induction @ 1:45 pm

November 10: Coffee Club @ 8:30 am

November 11: Red, White, and Blue Spirit Day.

November 11: Veterans Day Program at 1:30 PM in the gym.

November 17: Picture Make-Up Day

November 17-23: Dental Bus

November 24-28: NO SCHOOL—Thanksgiving

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

We are off to a great start for the 2010-11 school year. Here are a few items I wanted to share.

Preschool Program Update: As I mentioned last month, we are excited to offer the Great Start Preschool Program (GSPR) at four of our elementary schools: Kolb, Linsday, MacGregor and Washington. Each school will hold an AM and a PM session serving 32 students each day, totaling 128 children being served this year. The program kicked off on October 25 and focuses on kindergarten readiness for four-year olds.

Gifted and Talented-25th Anniversary: This year marks the 25th anniversary of this Bay City Public Schools program. Watch for opportunities to celebrate as the year progresses.

Central High School to Honor Retired Teacher John West: Central High School will be honoring long-time staff member, John West, with an honorary plaque to be placed just outside his former classroom. Mr. West was instrumental in the design and construction of the new science wing with the 2006 facilities bond as well as being an exemplary educator.

Financial Aid / College Bound Information Nights: On the following nights, we will be hosting our "College Bound: It's Not All about the Money!"

- WHS: January 13, 2011, 6:30-9:00 PM - 15 different "college going" topics
- CHS: January 18, 2011, 6:30-9:00 PM - 15 different "college going" topics
- CHS: February 17, 2011, 6:00-9:00 PM - FAFSA Part II - 3 computer labs
(with Delta College financial aid experts for one-on-one FAFSA assistance)
- WHS: February 22, 2011, 6:00-8:00 PM - FAFSA Part II - 3 computer labs
(with Delta College financial aid experts for one-on-one FAFSA assistance)

For more information related to College Preparation Services, contact the Director, Suzanne Murphy, at 662-0402.

Auburn Honors Mary Goedert, Retired Principal: The Auburn PTO, staff and students recently recognized Mary Goedert for her outstanding leadership and dedication at Auburn Elementary by planting a tree in her honor.

20 Minutes a Day Rescheduled: Due to a rain-out, the event was rescheduled to Saturday, November 6 in Handy Middle School's large gym, 11:00-1:00. Many children will be happy to know they'll have another chance to enjoy the books and see the characters!

As always, I appreciate your interest and support of the Bay City Public Schools. If you have comments or questions, I can be reached at 671-8165 or newcombed@bcschools.net.

Sincerely,

Douglas L. Newcombe
Superintendent



Calling All Veterans



The Student Council of Washington School is planning a day to honor our local Veterans this coming Veterans Day Thursday, November 11th.

IF YOU KNOW ANY VETERANS, WE WOULD LOVE FOR THEM TO COME TO SCHOOL SO WE CAN HONOR THEM IN A SPECIAL CEREMONY WITH REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW.

The Veterans may be your parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, neighbors, or family friends. Invite them for a special time.

This will take place Thursday, November 11th at 1:30 p.m. Please fill out the bottom portion of this note with the number of Veterans you have invited to the office by

Tuesday, November 9, 2010.



Veterans Day Celebration R.S.V.P. Please have your child return this slip to the office.

Student Name _____ Teacher _____

Grade _____ Number of Veterans attending _____





Favorite TV Show: Grey's Anatomy, CSI, Criminal Minds

Favorite Hobby: Running, Time with family, coaching softball

Favorite Color: Hot Pink

Quote: "It is our attitude at the beginning of a difficult task which, more than anything else, will affect it's successful outcome."

EARLY PICK-UP OF STUDENTS



Thank you for helping us with the changes of our early release procedures. As a reminder, the changes are: **1.** If there is a change in the regular way students get home, a note, signed by the parent, or a fax about the change needs to be in the office by 2:00 PM. Phone calls **will not** be accepted due to security and liability issues. **2.** If there is an appointment of some kind for the student, a note signed by the parent is needed 48 hours ahead of time and turned in to the office. We realize emergencies arise, and we will try to accommodate. However, these will be at a minimum in order to comply with our safety plan. **3.** Dismissal time is 3:19 PM. Early dismissals will be limited to documented appointments only. Children getting called out of a classroom early is a disruption to the learning and causes a safety concern. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

MEAP TESTING

MEAP testing is now over for most students. Thank you, parents, for helping your child do their best on the MEAP test. As you know, the MEAP test is our important, state test to help us understand how well we are doing. Thank you, again, for your help and support.

TWO-CAN FUNDRAISER

Our 3rd graders continue collecting cans each Tuesday to help fund their field trip to Mackinaw Island this spring. Please continue to support this effort each, and every, Tuesday! Classrooms with the most cans collected are: Mrs. Keenan—54, Mrs. Neering—75, Mrs. DuRussel—79, Mr. Legner—410, Mrs. Mach—386, Ms. Rankey—287, and Mrs. Dine—80.



SPIRIT HOCKEY "KID OF THE GAME"

The Bay Regional Medical Center has begun a new program called "Kid of the Game". One student will be selected by our Staff to receive this reward. This prize winner receives 4 tickets to a Spirit Hockey game, their name on the video board, their name announced over the PA system, and you will be visited by the team mascot. This will be a special evening for the family!

THANKSGIVING RECESS



What does it look like? This is a hard one, but I'll give it a shot. "Personal Best" could be defined as working on something, or toward something, and giving it your best effort or giving it your all. In turn, **Personal Best** is doing a great job and doing what is right whether someone is watching or not. Of course we can't talk about "**Personal Best**" unless we include the discussion of "Pride.....Honesty.....Integrity.

Table Talk Ideas:

- When you've done your personal best, how do you usually feel?
- Is it more difficult to do your personal best if there's no one watching?
- How do you know when you have done your personal best?
- Describe how pride, honesty, and integrity relate to "Personal Best".
- Share a time when you gave your personal best and did not do so well.
- Share a time when you gave your personal best and succeeded.

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR



Thanks to the Washington Parent Volunteers and all of our Staff for a great Halloween Spooktacular! The students had a great time!

COFFEE CLUB

Our Coffee Club meets monthly. This is for any parent who wishes to attend to help with school events, have questions about things at school, or just would like to socialize with other parents. Each meeting will have a school focus. Our November meeting is on Wednesday, November 10 from 8:30 am to 9:30. am, and our topic will be Artsonia.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

We are in need of volunteers for our library. If you can volunteer during your child's media time, that would be great. Please call the office at 894-2744 if you are available.

SCHOOL DELAY AND CLOSING INFORMATION

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



online student art museum. Artsonia showcases artwork from thousands of schools around the world. Artsonia's goals are to develop students' pride and self-esteem, increase their multicultural understanding through art and involve parents and relatives in student education and accomplishments.



This is a large undertaking, so I am doing this in stages, enrolling my students in grades 2-5 to begin. Later as I am able, I will add the other two grades. In order to enroll your student on Artsonia, a permission slip must be completed by the parent or guardian. Permission slips were sent home near the beginning of school, so you may have it at home. However, if it cannot be found, there will be additional permission slips available at parent teacher conferences. If you are interested in helping with this program, please indicate that on the bottom on the permission slip.

NURSE'S NEWS—NURSE KLOC



We have been lucky to have so many healthy students this fall. This flu season, we are asking that if a student is running a fever, please keep him/her home until he/she is fever free for 24 hours **WITHOUT** the use of fever-reducing medications. We hope that this will help the sick student get well, and keep the other students and staff healthy!

TWENTY MINUTES A DAY

Reading for 20 minutes a day has been a theme we have focused on for the last 10 years. This year, our 10th Annual Reading Celebration in September was rained out! Because of this, the event is scheduled for Saturday, November 6 at Handy Middle School. The program will begin at 11 AM until 1 PM. Registration for **FREE** prizes and **FREE** books will begin at 10 AM. Hope all of you can make it so we can **CELBRATE** reading!



At left, Second Graders learn about water and the Earth from lessons by Bay County 4-H. Mrs. DuRussel received a grant for all 2nd Graders to experience these lessons.

Gifted & Talented Program



Referrals are now being accepted from teachers and principals for kindergarten – 4th grade students for next fall's Gifted and Talented Program of the Bay City Public Schools. Parents are also welcome to refer their own child based upon the characteristics listed below. This program is designed for 1st through 5th grade students whose learning characteristics indicate a need for unique educational experiences beyond the regular classroom curriculum.

Students considered for testing should possess several of the following characteristics:

- **Ability to learn rapidly and easily**
- **Exceptional memory**
- **Extensive vocabulary**
- **Outstanding reasoning abilities**
- **Intellectual curiosity**
- **Keen powers of observation**
- **Sensitivity to feelings of others**
- **Willingness to accept challenges**
- **Original ideas**
- **Persistence**

For additional information or to make referrals, please call Mary Stuart in the Gifted and Talented Office at 671-8170.

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 Jackie 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 Tuesday, November 2 due to Staff Development Day.

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.

.....
_____ Yes, I received and read the November Newsletter.

Student _____ Parent (optional) _____

Parent Signature _____ Phone #: _____

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

