

November 2023

Preparing for Tomorrow

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Trends

Growing up my sisters had the running joke that Lewis County always caught the back end of current fashion "trends". They would say that when flannel shirts were "in", we were still on the Hawaiian shorts trend, but we'd catch up soon. Since I became an administrator it's interesting to see that our pattern of trends not only is behind in fashion but in other areas as well. Some of these trends have affected schools.

Attendance

There is a national trend after the pandemic for students to be absent more often. This has resulted in an increase in chronic absenteeism. Nationwide there has been an increase of 8 million absences for the 22-23 school year over the 18-19 school year. * (Research is still out on the specific reasons, but there are theories. One of the theories relates to the thought that parents' perspectives of attendance have changed since the pandemic and that the benefits of absence are beginning to outweigh the benefits of attendance. Whenever there is a nationwide trend it is important for us to see what has happened locally.

At Beaver River comparatively in 2018-2019 we had a 95% attendance rate whereas in 2022-2023 we had a 93% attendance rate. While that may not sound like a significant amount, when you break down the absences, it's a difference of 2689 daily absences. With an average instructional time of 5 hours per day that is total of 13,445 hours of missed instructional time. This data only includes a full daily absence. We have also noticed a rise in late arrivals and early dismissals. For instance in the 2018-2019 School year there were 2,261 late arrivals and 4793 early dismissals, and in 2022-2023 there were 2481 late arrivals and 6,688 early dismissals. There wasn't a significant change in late arrivals, however, there was 40% increase for early dismissals.

While we do have attendance policies that have consequences for excessive absences, that is not the reason for concern. According to the National Center of Education Statistics (NCES) "Students who attend school regularly have been shown to achieve at higher levels than students who do not have regular attendance. This relationship between attendance and achievement may appear early in a child's school career."

From my own experience, students who regularly attend school are more engaged in the school community, have a higher level of self-confidence, and perform better than those students that miss significant amounts of school. There is value to students becoming part of a larger community and finding their role in that community. I would encourage parents to reassure their students that they are a valuable part of the school and being present is the only way to bring that value to. Even if they have a free period/study hall at the end of the day they could use that time to support other students if they are done with all of their schoolwork.

Sincerely,

Todd G. Green, Superintendent of Schools





Elementary Principal

Hello,

I want to thank all the parents and grandparents that came to our 1st Annual Grandparent/Fall Festival Day. The Home and School Association hosted the event and there were many activities planned. Kids and Grandparents could create art together, go fishing, take a cake walk, ring toss, estimate how many items were in a jar, visit the dairy princess and pick out a book just to name a few. I would also like to thank the Beaver Falls Fire Department who came out.

Even though homecoming is a high school event, the elementary students participated in the theme days throughout the week. It was fun seeing all the students who chose to participate, especially on school spirit day. The Fall Parade gave students a chance to celebrate by wearing a costume or they could opt to just view the parade. This is the first time since 2019 that we have had this parade.

I can hardly believe October is done and now we are in November. November is a time filled with holidays. It also marks the end of the first marking period and parent teacher conferences. Every student is scheduled for a parent teacher conference with their classroom teacher. Report cards are sent home for parents to review and give them time to be prepared to ask questions at parent teacher conferences. A student's success at school is based on a partnership between home and school. Please ask questions of the teacher or share your concerns.

Upcoming Dates:

November 10, 2023
November 15, 2023
November 16, 2023
November 20, 2023
November 20, 2023
November 22-24, 2023
November 22-24, 2023
November 20, 2023

Sincerely,

Kontaly & Lyman Wright

Dr. Lyman-Wright Elementary Principal

First Grade News

First grade has had a great start to the new school year! In September, we learned about citizenship, friendship and teamwork. This was a nice lead-in to a fun science unit in which we learned all about ants. We observed them working together in ant farms in our classrooms, and enjoyed learning about how ants and other living things survive.

In October, we learned about the changing seasons, and did an exiting inquiry activity with pumpkins. We learned about families, and family traditions and compared family life long ago to family life today by going on a field trip to the Mennonite Heritage Farm, and setting up our own long-ago museum. Thanks for your help and support with this, families!

In phonics, we are working hard to spell and decode "regular" and "irregular" words—words that follow known conventions and words that do not. This takes a lot of practice, but first grade is a year of huge growth! We look forward to discussing our reading growth at our November conferences. Please continue to read with your child daily at home. Thank you parents for your support!

Second Grade News



We have had a wonderful start to our school year in second grade. In September, students read *The Secret Garden*, and learned the characteristics and qualities of a good friend. They spent time working cooperatively to create their own secret gardens. Students also learned about communities and map skills.

In October, second graders learned about bees. We were fortunate to have a local beekeeper, Dr. Elwin Stillman visit the second grade classes to teach them about bee keeping and the importance of bees! Thank you to Dr. Stillman for sharing your knowledge and honey! The second graders also learned about fire safety this month with a visit from Mr. Collin Edick, a local volunteer firefighter. Students were able to see the equipment and truck used by firefighters while learning about fire safety.

Throughout the first quarter of school, second graders have been learning new phonics

skills, reading, writing, adding, and subtracting. We look forward to meeting with families at parent teacher conferences in

November!











BIG BROTHER/BIG SISTER PROGRAM

At the end of last school year along with the retirement of Wanda Joslin, I was asked to become the new advisor for the Big Brother/Big Sister program. Over the past month, I have spent many hours dedicated to matching high school students grades 9-12 (aka "bigs") to students in grades PreK- 8 (aka "littles".) Once in a 6-day cycle bigs choose to forgo one period of a study hall to connect, bond and spend time with their "little". Bigs

Erin Davoy 315-346-1211 Extension 543

and littles can do things such as arts/crafts, play games, do puzzles, help with homework, go for a walk if the weather permits or use the gymnasium if available. Currently, there have been approximately 40 high school students that have signed up to be a Big Brother/Big Sister, with more students signing up daily. I have made 34 matches at this time. We consider Bigs to be good role models and give our younger students someone to look up to.

If you have a son/daughter in 9-12 grade that you believe would make a good Big Brother/Sister, or if you have a child in grades Prek-8 that you feel could use a positive role model in their life, please contact Erin Davoy at 315-346-1211 x543.



FORTH GRADE NEWS

Grade 4 recently traveled to Beaver Camp for a hands-on learning experience. They discovered the diversity of plants, insects, and animals found in the Beaver River habitat. Students also learned safe boating practices and experienced a short boat trip around Beaver Lake.



Dr. Lyman Wright presenting to the 4th grade class......







The 4th grade students made chocolate chip cookies after completing their Technical Text Unit......







ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNSELOR Mr. Matt Olmstead 315-346-1211 ext. 544

As an elementary school counselor, it is a privilege to help our students in PreK to 5th grade grow in their <u>CHARACTER</u>, <u>CAREER DEVELOPMENT</u> and <u>SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL SKILLS</u>. We have an amazing team of support staff, counselors, teachers, and administration working together to help your students become lifelong learners and "real world ready".

<u>Classroom Lessons</u>: Similar to last school year, I will be visiting each classroom multiple times this year to teach them character, career development and social/emotional skills.

"My Strengths & Interests" Lesson: The first classroom lesson this year will consist of a career activity, called "My Strengths and Interests". Your student will be able to note their strengths and interests on a special form. Their teacher will also be able to add encouraging comments about each student on the same form. Finally, family members will be able to add comments as well at the November parent conferences. This will help us all get to know your student better and aid them in their career development. So before you attend the November parent conference for your student(s), be thinking about the following questions:

- 1. One thing that your student is really good at doing (skill):
- 2. One career that I could see my student being successful at:

<u>Other Lessons</u>: In addition to the "My Strengths and Interests" lesson, I also plan on visiting each classroom to give the following lessons:

- A. Good Touch, Bad Touch (Personal Safety)
- B. How to Apologize and Receive Apologies (Character)
- C. Learning About the Career of One Person You Know (Career Development)
- D. The Golden Rule (Character)
- E. What I Want to Be When I Grow Up (Career Development)

"Grandparents Have Careers" Bulletin Board: Finally, I want to thank each of the Grandparents that visited the Elementary Fall Festival on Saturday, October 7th. Many of you stopped at the Career Bulletin Board and wrote down one job or career that you have had in your life. We have a total of 115 colorful notes on the wall from all of the Grandparents who took the time to write down their career. I hope this will lead to more conversations between grandparents and their grandchildren!



Exploring Your Strengths and Interests

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Parents,

We have had a great start to the year, and we would like to highlight some of the great things that students and teachers are doing.

Through the efforts of many class advisers, coaches, and students, school spirit week was a great success. Throughout the week, students participated in a volleyball tournament, organized fundraisers, supported classmates in sports, and ended the school week with a very exciting and fun pep rally. Homecoming Weekend was held on October 13-14. The school's athletic areas were busy throughout the weekend. On Friday, Beaver River held three soccer games. We hosted a community open run and family-friendly fun run, a cross country invitational, and two football games on Saturday. The week ended with a homecoming dance on Saturday evening to finish off the festivities, and over 160 students attended the dance.

Theater students have been preparing and rehearsing for the upcoming musical *Beauty and the Beast*. Performances will be on November 9th and 10th at 7:00 p.m., and a matinee showing November 11th at 2:00 p.m. Please come out and see the show.

Some FFA officers plan to visit various businesses and Camp Oswegatchie November and participate in learning about agribusiness as well as some outdoor leadership development activities.

Our chapter of the National Honor Society is preparing to welcome new members during the induction ceremony on November 21st at 8:50 AM to celebrate the students' leadership, scholarship, citizenship, and service.

The middle and senior high choruses, middle and senior bands, jazz band, and choraleers are preparing for music concerts coming up in December. Mark your calendars now for a great musical experience.

As we visit classrooms and activities, we continue to be impressed by our students and faculty. We have wonderful students and great teachers. Thank you for your continued support of our school community.

Sincerely,

Daniel Rains MS/HS Principal

1)-0 J.R.

Troy Hebert MS/HS Assistant Principal

Troy Hebert



Music Department News written by Isaiah Virkler, grade 10

Our students have been working hard and a select few have earned the opportunity to perform in the upcoming Bi-County Music Festival and the Area All State Chorus based on their NYSSMA scores from last school year. Congratulations to them.

Representing Beaver River in the Elementary Bi-County Chorus are 6th graders, Adah Boliver, Faith Boliver, Kaina Boliver, and Jensen Freed. Aaliyah Virkler, grade 8, will be in the Middle School Bi-County Band. Quinlyn Pominville, Lilly Reape, Aiyden Turck, Isaiah Virker, and Nathan Virkler will be in the Senior High Bi-County Chorus. The festival concerts will take place at Lowville Academy on Saturday, November 4th at 12:30pm for the Elementary and Middle School ensembles and at 2:00pm for the Senior Chorus.

The prestigious Area All-State Chorus Concert will be held at the Crane School of Music, SUNY Potsdam, on November 18th, at 2:00 PM. The Chorus will be conducted by Dr. David Fryling, from Hofstra University. One song in particular, called Past Life Melodies, is a humming, near-wordless piece of primitive chant and resonating tones. It is an intense, 11 part, behemoth of songwriting. The other exquisite songs are The Stars Stand Up In The Air, This Little Light Of Mine, and Light Of A Clear Blue Morning. The chorus will be comprised of students from Lewis, Jefferson, and St. Lawrence counties. Representing Beaver River will be Andrew Chartrand, Aiden Cherry, Tessa Murphy, Isaiah Virkler, and Nathan VIrkler. Congratulations to these hard-working students.

Upcoming Performances

December 5th, HS Christmas Concert 7:00 PM December 7th, Elementary and Middle School Concert 7:00 PM December 13th, Advent Concert at St. Stephen's Church 7:00 PM













ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Michael Kogut, Athletic Director

The fall athletics regular season has come to a close for the 2023 school year. As athletes arrived back in late August, it was a joy to see the school grounds filled for another season.

A special thank you to all of the families, athletes, coaches, and officials for making this season exciting in many ways. The Beaver River teams were very entertaining to watch compete over September and October. There were many highlights this fall across Girls Tennis, Girls Swim, Girls and Boys Cross Country, Girls and Boys Soccer, and Boys Football. The Homecoming week was a success with many events for the students and community to attend. Spirit Week festivities put on by the Student Council added extra energy to the support of our athletes. The community as always showed strong enthusiasm in helping to make the experience of being a Beaver River athlete special.

We now move towards the Winter Sports season with high expectations for more excitement. Please make sure all athletes are registered through **Aktivate** for the upcoming seasons. The start dates for Varsity and Junior Varsity athletes is November 13. As the weather starts to get a little colder and we transition our athletes indoors we look forward to seeing continued support and enthusiasm at all of our contests. Hopefully there is much to celebrate over the winter season. You can follow the athletics calendar for the most up to date changes on schedule galaxy. As always, Go Beavers!

HOMECOMING PHOTOS.....













































GUIDANCE NEWS

The Guidance staff facilitated a field trip to Fort Drum Career Day on October 12th. This event was sponsored by Jeff -Lewis BOCES and the 10th Mountain Division to expose students to career opportunities in the military. Students were able to talk with active military personnel about careers within the military, and how the military can prepare soldiers for careers in civilian life. Students were engaged with a variety of hands-on activities including touring aircraft, and military vehicles, participating in simulation exercises with military technology and also viewing heavy machinery and artillery.



















Beaver River Central

Central School

Nutri-Grain Bar or Cereal Ba

100% Fruit Juice, Fruit,

Assorted Cereal,

V Hot Entrée Listed

1% White Milk or FF White

Milk

All items available

A LA CARTE

Breakfast Choices

Elementary Snack Drink \$.6.

Meal Categories: Free, Reduced @ \$.00 and

Full @ \$1.50

week or longer period of time

You can make online paymen

and check your child's

BRCS LUNCH FUND

Checks Payable to:

www.MySchoolBucks.com

account balance (a)

An Application for Free or

Reduced Meal benefits may completed and submitted anytime during the school year

Call Mrs. Ashley Roes at

346-1211 Ext. 561 for

information

recommended at least by the

Prepayment for meals are

Menu 11/1-11/10 Reverse side 11/13-11/30

November 2023



	Mon	TUE	Wed	Тни	Fru
10			Hot egg, sausage, cheese 1 on English Muffin	Ham & Egg 2 Breakfast Pizza	Bagel w/ Cream Cheese 3 or Peanut Butter
e ar			*Rib-que on Bun *Spaghetti w/ meat sauce Grated Cheese	*Entrée Choose 1 *(Gr. K-5) Chicken Nuggets *(MS/HS) Chicken and Cheese Quesadilla Wrap w/ Sour Cream & Salsa *Beef Goulash	*Entrée Choose 1 *Pepperoni Pizza *Cheese Pizza *Macaroni and Cheese
	Ted Te	TKFIT	BRCS Made Italian Bread	Whole Grain Bread and Butter	Whole Grain Bread and Butter
92	N. C.		Vegetables and Fruit Tossed Romaine Salad w/ dressing Roasted Green Beans	Vegetables and Fruit Tossed Romaine Salad W/ dressing Roasted Cauliflower	Vegetables and Fruit Tossed Romaine Salad w/ dressing Roasted Garbanzo Beans
			100% Fruit Juice November Birthday Cake	Canned Fruit Choices Assorted Fresh Fruit	Assorted Fresh Fruit Canned Fruit Choices
ne ne	Apple 6 Frudel	Sausage & Egg 7 Breakfast Pizza	Hot egg, ham, cheese 8 on English Muffin	Ham & Egg 9 Breakfast Pizza	10 Veterans
nts	*French Toast Sticks w/ syrup and Sausage Patty *Hamburger on Bun	*Mini Com Dogs *Boneless Chicken Wings Ranch and BBQ Sauces	*Mexican Taco's w/ Lettuce, Cheese, Salsa & Sour Cream *Escalloped Potatoes and Ham	*Entrée Choose 1 *Smokey BBQ Chicken Wrap *Crispy Chicken Wrap *(Gr.6-12)Spicy Chicken Wrap All w/ lettuce, cheese & assorted sauces	Day *** VETERANS DAY ****
u		Whole Grain Bread and Butter	BRCS Cinnamon Roll	Whole Grain Bread and Butter	
r be	Vegetables and Fruit Tater Tots Warm Applesauce Carrot Sticks	Vegetables and Fruit Butternut Squash Seasoned Green Peas Mashed Potatoes / Gravy	Vegetables and Fruit Roasted Com Kemels Refried Beans Seasoned Black Beans	Vegetables and Fruit Roasted Broccoli Carrot Sticks	
Sar.	Canned Fruit Choices Assorted Fresh Fruit	Assorted Fresh Fruit Canned Fruit Choices	Canned Fruit Choices Assorted Fresh Fruit	Assorted Fresh Fruit Canned Fruit Choices	School

USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

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FRI	Bagel w/ Cream Cheese 17 or Peanut Butter	*Cheese Pizza *White Garlic Pizza *White Garlic Pizza *Macarom & Cheese	Whole Grain Bread and Butter Vegetables and Fruit Tossed Romaine Salad w/ dressing Roasted Garbanzo Beans Steamed Carrots Canned Fruit Choices	Assorted Fresh Fruit	24		THANKS							
THU	Ham & Egg 16 Breakfast Pizza	*Entrée Choose 1 Thanksgiving Dinner *Turkey / Gravy w/ dressing *Ham Patty on Bun	Dinner Roll Vegetables and Fruit Butternut Squash Mashed Potatoes Seasoned Peas Cranberry Sauce Apple Pie		23					Ham & Egg 30 Breakfast Pizza	*Baked Mozzarella Sticks w/ Marmara Sauce *Oniental Cherry Chicken - (Grades K-5) *Oriental General TSO	Chicken - (Grades 6-12) Whole Grain Bread and Butter	Vegetables and Fruit Egg Roll Oriental Rice Roasted Broccoli	Canned Fruit Choices Assorted Fresh Fruit
Wed	Hot egg, sausage, cheese on English Muffin	*Entrée choose 1 *Toasted Cheese Sandwich *Filet of Fish on Bum	Vegetables and Fruit Tomato Soup Pasta / Vegetable Salad Carrot Sticks	Assorted Fresh Fruit	22					Hot egg, Ham, cheese 29 on English Muffin	*Rib-que on Bun *Rotini Pasta w/ meat sauce Grated Cheese	BRCS Made Italian Bread	Vegetables and Fruit Tossed Romaine Salad w/ dressing Roasted Green Beans	Assorted Fresh Fruit Canned Fruit Choices
TUE	Sausage & Egg 14 Breakfast Pizza	*Entrée Choose 1 *Stuffed Cheese & Pepperoni Calzone Pocket *Chicken Fajita (add lettuce, cheese, Tomato, sour cream)	Whole Grain Bread and Butter Vegetables and Fruit Roasted Com Refried Beans Seasoned Black Beans	Canned Fruit Choices	Sausage & Egg Breakfast Pizza	*Pepperoni Pizza *Cheese Pizza *Macaroni & Cheese	Whole Grain Bread and Butter	Vegetables and Fruit Tossed Romaine Salad w/ dressing Roasted Garbanzo Beans	Canned Fruit Choices Assorted Fresh Fruit	Sausage & Egg 28 Breakfast Pizza	*Entrée Choose 1 *Chicken Drumsticks *Cheese Stuffed Ravioli In Sauce	Whole Grain Bread and Butter	Vegetables and Fruit Butternut Squash Potato Rounds Seasoned Peas	Canned Fruit Choices Assorted Fresh Fruit
Mon	Cherry 13 Frudel	*Entrée Choose 1 *Pulled Pork w/ BBQ Sauce on Bun *Popcom Chicken Ranch & BBQ Sauce	Whole Grain Bread and Butter Vegetables and Fruit Roasted Cauliflower / Broccoli Sweet Potato Fries Cabbage Salad	Assorted Fresh Fruit	Mini 20 Waffles	*Entrée Choose 1 *Hamburg in Bun *Hot Dog on Bun	Chili-n-Beans	Vegetables and Fruit Oven Fries Baked Beans Seasoned Carrots	Assorted Fresh Fruit Canned Fruit Choices	Mini 27 French Toast	*Entrée Choose 1 *Mini Com Dogs *Boneless Chicken Wings Ranch and BBQ Sauces	Whole Grain Bread and Butter	Vegetables and Fruit Seasoned Carrots Seasoned Green Peas Mashed Potatoes / Gravy	Assorted Fresh Fruit Canned Fruit Choices

unch Choices

aily Elementary Choices:

 Hot Entrée Listed hef Salad w/ Crackers or PB&J Sandwich Yogurt w/ Crackers or Wheat Bread Wheat Bread

Daily MS/HS Choices:

Sandwich / Soup, Crackers gurt Parfait w/ Crackers or acho's with Cheese Sauce salad Bar w/ Crackers or ✓ Hot Entrée Listed Wheat Bread Wheat Roll

Milk Choices: 1% White, FF White or FF Chocolate Milk

All Bread / Buns: 100% Whole Wheat or 51% Whole Grain

All Students MUST choose Vegetable OR (1) Fruit,

May choose up to

Grades K-8: lay choose up to (1) Fruit

(2) or (3) Vegetables

ay choose (1) or (2) Fruit Grades 9-12:

Meal Categories: Free, teduced @ \$.00 and Full Price @ \$2.30 Elem \$2.40 MS/HS



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BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Musical Performance will be on



November 9th @ 7:00 p.m. November 10th @ 7:00 p.m. November 11th @ 2:00 p.m.

District Newsletter Request



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