

SPRING 2023

WILDCAT NEWS

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



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Blair-Taylor School District

United Campus

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A Message From Our Superintendent, Mr. Lynn Halverson

The conclusion of the 2022-23 school year is quickly approaching and summer school is just around the corner! Even though I've been involved in education for many years, this time of year always surprises me because I always wonder how the school year flew by so quickly! As we wrap up the current school year, we are simultaneously planning for the 2023-24 school year. Next year, and following years, we will continue striving to improve all experiences for our students, staff, parents, and community members. Our students continue to make us proud as we watch them learn and grow!

Thank you to the Blair-Taylor Community for your support of the operational referendum to exceed the revenue limit during the 2023-24, 2024-2025, and 2025-26 school years.. The Blair-Taylor Community has historically been very supportive of our school and this support is not taken for granted. Please know that the school district will continue to be fiscally responsible while allowing our students a wide variety of opportunities. The passage of this referendum will maintain current opportunities, increase staff retention and attraction, and decrease the need to short-term borrow throughout the school year. Thank you for your support!

I want to close by saying congratulations to the graduating Class of 2023. All of our 2023 graduates are individuals who have a variety of talents and skills to offer the world. We wish you all the absolute best with future endeavors. Be proud of your experiences at Blair-Taylor School District and please know that we will support you however we can in the future as well!

Sincerely,
Lynn Halverson
Superintendent

WALL OF INSPIRATION

Blair-Taylor School District is accepting nominations for our beautiful Wall of Inspiration. We want to recognize current or past residents of the Blair-Taylor School District who have excelled in the areas of service, contributions, leadership, character and impact on others. The nomination criteria are listed below.

Nomination Criteria:

- Nominees can be living or deceased.
- Must be a past or present resident of Blair-Taylor School District.
- Nominees do not have to be a graduate of Blair-Taylor School District.
- Nomination forms must be completed and submitted to the Blair-Taylor School District Office or online. No verbal nominations will be accepted.
- Nominations are unlimited.
- No self nominations.

Nomination forms can be obtained in the elementary, middle/high, or district office. Or nominations can be submitted via [Online Submission - Google Form](#).

Nominations are due by Friday, May 19, 2023.

From the desk of Mrs. Eide



Mrs. Dana T. Eide
Middle-High School Principal
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Thursday, 4/13
Parent Teacher Conferences

Saturday, 4/29
Prom

Monday, 5/8
Spring Band Concert

Tuesday, 5/16
Spring Choir Concert

Sunday, 5/21
Baccalaureate

Friday, 5/26
8th Grade Recognition

Saturday, 5/27
Senior Graduation

Friday, June 2
Last Day of School

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It is crazy to think that we are already in the third trimester of the school year. It has been an exciting year of learning, but it is not over yet! Here are a few of the events we have coming up this spring.

STATE EXAMS

Students in grades six through eleven will be taking the required state examinations to show what they know. Middle school students will be taking the Forward Exam during the week of April 17th. We break up the administration, so that students can do their best and so that there is minimal disruption for each class. Ninth and tenth grade students will be taking the new Pre-ACT Exam on April 13th and 14th. This will provide them with information about their strengths and areas they need to work on before taking the ACT in their eleventh grade year. The results of these assessments will be provided to our district this summer and will be used to help plan instruction for the future. We will be sharing results with students and families as well. Eleventh grade students took the ACT Exam earlier this month. The results from all state exams also contribute to the school district's state report card score. Please do your best to plan students' appointments and things around these dates, so that they are able to take the exams when scheduled.

PROM

Prom will take place on April 29th from 8:00 PM-11:30 PM. The Grand March will be at 8:30 PM in the auditorium. Everyone is welcome!

8th GRADE RECOGNITION

This exciting event is scheduled for May 26th at 2:00 PM and will recognize our eighth grade students as they prepare for their high school careers. We will be mailing parents/guardians letters with details about the event. Students are encouraged to dress nicely for this special event while keeping in mind that the dress code applies. There will be a small reception after the event. Please let me or your child's homeroom teacher know if you have any questions. We are really looking forward to this event, and hope you are, too!

GRADUATION

Graduation will take place on Saturday, May 27th at 1:00 PM. The ceremony will be held in the gymnasium. There is no limit to the number of people who attend the ceremony. There is no reserved seating. Doors open at 11:00 AM. The Baccalaureate and Senior Award Ceremony will take place in the auditorium the Sunday before graduation on May 21st beginning at 5:30 PM. All seniors and their families are welcome to attend.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

The last day of school is June 2nd. Summer school is scheduled for June 5-16th for students who failed any classes this year, those who need to recover credits, those who have unserved detention, and those who did not complete their portfolios.

Summa Cum Laude

CLASS OF 2023

Summa Cum Laude honors are earned when a student receives 39 or more laude points. This year we have nine students who reached the Summa Cum Laude Honors requirements. What an incredible accomplishment! Congratulations to the following students:



Hailee Brown

Future Plans: Attending UW Whitewater to study Mathematics

"Following high school I plan to pursue a bachelor's degree in mathematics. I am also interested in minoring in actuarial sciences. As a student, I have always excelled in and enjoyed my math classes."

Lydia Frederixon

Future Plans: Attending Winona State University to study Elementary Education.

"I want to pursue a degree in elementary education because I loved my experiences when working with children in my Youth Tutor Youth program. I want to be able to help them learn everything that they need to know to be successful and productive citizens."



Sydney Fremstad

Future Plans: Attending UW Whitewater to study Psychology

"I always knew I wanted to go into the healthcare field, but I was not sure what I wanted to do until I was a junior. My junior year I took a psychology class through CVTC and I really enjoyed the class while learning about the brain and emotions."





Alexandra Hanson

Future Plans: Attending UW Eau Claire to study Business and Marketing

"I plan on studying a subject in the business field. As of right now, I plan on pursuing marketing in the business field. I find the business field very interesting."

Samantha Kidd

Future Plans: Attending Winona State University to study Nursing

"Creating relationships with the residents is incredibly rewarding and I have thoroughly enjoyed my experiences with A New Day. Going to A New Day each day does not feel like work at all and that is how I know that I am doing something that I love. Eventually, I hope to own and operate an adult day center."



Deliah Paulson

Future Plans: Attending Kent State, Ohio to study Interior Design and Accounting

"After high school, I would like to study Interior Design and Accounting. I'm interested in these two fields of study because I'm very creative which helps with Interior Design and I also love math which helps with Accounting."

Lindsay Steien

Future Plans: Attending UW La Crosse to study Business and Finance

"Some careers that are intriguing to me are becoming a business analyst or a financial advisor. I like digging into something and finding solutions that can help others. In these careers, I would be able to help businesses or individuals make decisions that would allow them to meet their goals for success."



Jaren Swanson

Future Plans: Attending Western Technical College studying Business Management.

"I plan to study business after high school. I have always had an interest in the way businesses are run. There are also a lot of opportunities for jobs in the business field."



Abby Thompson

Future Plans: Attending UW La Crosse to study Elementary Education

"After completing several childhood classes, volunteering to work and read with our elementary students, and a handful of YTY's, I feel this career would suit me best. I love watching the kids grow and push themselves to learn more and more each day. Seeing their faces light up when they accomplish something difficult is a true joy to see."



The Class of 2023 would like to thank everyone who has supported them along this journey.

The staff of Blair-Taylor cannot wait to see what the future holds for our graduating class!



From the desk of Mrs. Lisowski



Mrs. Beth Lisowski
Elementary School Principal
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Thursday, 5/18
Spring Art Show Reception

Friday, 5/19
1st & 2nd Grade Spring Concert

Monday, 5/29
No School

Thursday, 6/1
Kindergarten Graduation

Friday, 6/2
Last Day of School

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Time sure flies! April is already upon us and there are fewer than two months left in the 2022-23 school year. Throughout the year, it has been enjoyable getting to know the students and families.

To our community- thank you for helping make this school year such a success. The continued support of our students and their families is absolutely phenomenal. We should all be very proud to call Blair-Taylor our home!

State Exams

Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 are finishing the state-required FORWARD Exam. The students have been working hard to show all their knowledge and skills in math, English language arts, science, and social studies. Thank you to parents/guardians for getting your child(ren) to school on their testing days. We appreciate your support!

Blair-Taylor Summer School 2023

Blair-Taylor Elementary Summer School will be offered two times a week (Tuesdays & Wednesdays) for six weeks. Summer school will run from 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. each day. Students attending summer school will receive free breakfast and lunch each day. Unfortunately, no swimming lessons will be offered through the school this year. Students eligible for Kindergarten - 5th grade in the fall of 2023 can attend.

Bussing/Transportation will be provided for students by area pick up/drop off locations (there will be no door to door pick up). The pick up/drop off locations will be:

<u>Blair:</u>	<u>Taylor:</u>	<u>Ettrick:</u>
2nd & Immell	Taylor Cenex	Beaches Corner
Blair Library	2nd St/Pearl (Old School)	
Center/Knutson		

Summer School Dates:

June 13 & 14
June 20 & 21
June 27 & 28
July 11 & 12
July 18 & 19
July 25 & 26

Registration information was already sent home. Please let your child(ren)'s classroom teacher know if you need another copy.



TITLE I Reading Corner

Dear Families,

We often view ourselves as readers and not writers, but the two go hand in hand. I found the following suggestions about writing tasks helpful when my children were in school. Many here at Blair-Taylor Elementary School also use similar methods in their writing instruction.

How can I make writing more enjoyable for my child?

Q: My student dislikes writing. When there's a writing assignment, my child just stares at the blank piece of paper. What can I do to help?

A: Many elementary schoolers freeze up at the thought of writing. They worry that what they write won't be any good. To help your student beat writer's block and learn to communicate effectively in writing:

- Ask what your child is feeling. Listen, and allow your child to express frustration. Explain even that professional writers have difficulty writing sometimes, too.
- Encourage your child to make a list of as many ideas as possible, without worrying about grammar or spelling. Editing for those things can come later.
- Discuss the ideas with your child. Ask questions to help your child think them through. After your conversation, it may be easier for your child to write the first draft.
- Provide positive feedback. When reviewing written work, focus on what your child is trying to say, not just the rules of writing. Praise what you like. Don't fix your child's mistakes—this sends the message that you don't think your child is capable of fixing them.

Writing is all around us. For many of us, it is a critical element of our jobs. Written words are powerful. "The written word endures; the spoken word disappears." Neil Postman

Happy Writing (& Reading)!

Respectfully,

Mr. Nelson



Mental Health: 5 ways to boost your well-being for spring

As winter ends, it is a great time to get outside more, bask in more sunlight, and get back to being social.



Reprioritize your Sleep

As the daylight last longer, it can be tempting to stay up later. Care for yourself by getting sleep and having energy for the day.



Change Up Your Space

Spring cleaning will help give your brain a boost of having something new and help your brain become more flexible!



Reconnect Socially

Social support helps our physical and emotional health. Hanging out with friends helps with stress relief, laughter, and mental stimulation.



Grow a Plant

Gardening outside increases your exposure to sunlight and physical movement. Even houseplants are known to decrease anxiety.



Make a Creative Goal

Instead of focusing all your goals on achievements, try setting a goal more about the process of doing something. Try learning something that you might think is fun, such as learning to knit or making a model car. It might not be perfect, but it is fun to learn something new and get creative.

References

Boiner, A. (2022). 5 ways to boost your mental health for spring. Psychology Today.

From the desk of Ms. Hotchkiss



Ms. Morgan Hotchkiss

School Psychology Practicum Student

Blair-Taylor School District

UW - Eau Claire



Mental health is essential for all of us, just as important as physical health, and especially our kiddos as they are learning how to navigate the world. It is not just the absence of mental illness, but involves having healthy coping skills to deal with life's inevitable challenges. This helps all of us to bounce back from setbacks, be motivated, and believe in our ability to handle situations. If ignored, our mental health can impact many aspects of life. Caregivers and educators are especially important in giving children the support they need to grow into healthy young adults. Here are a few ways we can help children live happy and healthy lives:

- **Know the signs of mental health issues and how to get help**
 - *Common signs of depression or suicide risk:* change in habits, withdrawal, decreased social and academic functioning, unusual behavior, increased physical complaints
 - *What to do:* contact counselor, school psychologist, family doctor with concerns if symptoms worsen, don't improve with added support, interfere with learning or social functioning, present a danger to self or others
- **Create a sense of belonging**
 - Build positive relationships with children, ensuring they are connected to at least one trusted adult
- **Provide a caring and supportive environment**
 - Praise positive behaviors and successes like good decisions, self-control, and acts of kindness
 - Encourage helping others through volunteering, forgiveness, respect, and empathy
- **Encourage healthy habits**
 - Exercise, eat healthy, get enough sleep
- **Promote positive development surrounding emotional awareness**
 - Teach problem-solving skills like looking at problems from multiple perspectives and seeing the big picture
 - Teach reframing negative thoughts into positive ones
 - Teach coping strategies like deep breathing, yoga, self-talk
 - Teach how to stop and think, labeling their emotions

From the desk of Ms. Belitz

State Assessment Information for Students with Disabilities

All students with disabilities are provided with appropriate and approved accommodations during state testing. These accommodations are discussed at your child's annual IEP meeting. These accommodations do not change the information being accessed but do provide support to your child to eliminate some of the barriers they may experience. Typically allowable accommodations include but are not limited to: sending the test time, testing and alternative settings, having questions read to students, and taking breaks.



Ms. Katie Belitz
Elementary School Psychologist
Special Education Director
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From the desk of Mrs. Semb



ARROZ CON POLLO

INGREDIENTS (4 servings)

- 4 6-ounce chicken thighs (bone-in, skin removed)
- 1/2 teaspoon Kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 yellow onion (peeled and chopped)
- 1 bell pepper (cored, seeded, and chopped)
- 3 garlic cloves (peeled and minced)
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 cup long-grain white rice (uncooked)
- 1 can 14.5 ounce low-sodium diced tomatoes (including liquid)
- 2 cups water
- 1 cube low sodium chicken bouillon

DIRECTIONS

- To trim, lay chicken thighs on the cutting board, skin side up. Push the chicken down so the excess fat is on the cutting board (the excess is the part that isn't right on top of the chicken). Using kitchen scissors or a sharp knife, cut off excess fat and discard. Pat chicken dry with paper towels, and discard towels.
- Place the skillet over medium high heat and when it is hot, add the chicken thighs, skin side down and cook until browned, then flip, about 5 minutes on each side.
- Turn the heat off, carefully remove the chicken from the skillet and transfer to the plate. Pour off all but 1 tablespoon fat.
- Reheat the skillet over low heat and add the onion, pepper, garlic, cumin, and oregano and cook until the onion is softened, about 10 minutes.
- Add the uncooked rice and tomatoes and stir well.
- Add the water and bouillon cube and bring to a boil over high heat. Return chicken to pan, skin side down, turn the heat down to low and cover.
- Cook chicken for 20 minutes and then carefully flip so that the skin side is up.
- Cover and cook for an additional 20 minutes. Serve right away.



Mrs. Jenny Semb
School Nurse
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Are Energy Drinks for Kids a Good Idea?



With their neon colors and flashy designs, energy drinks are oh-so-tempting to young eyes. So, when your tween is begging for a bottle of one and you're tired of arguing, would it be the worst idea to cave and let them have one?

Pediatric dietitian Diana Schnee, MS, RD, CSP, LD says it's best to steer clear. "These drinks are marketed in a way that's really appealing," Schnee says. "But they can be harmful to kids."

Schnee explains why energy drinks and kids don't mix.

IS CAFFEINE SAFE FOR KIDS?

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) doesn't have official guidelines about kids and caffeine. But pediatric experts say kids under the age of 12 should avoid caffeine, and those over 12 should limit it to no more than 100 milligrams (about two cans of cola) per day.

If your kids sometimes drink caffeinated soda or enjoy an iced latte at the coffee shop, you might think that energy drinks aren't much different. Think again.

The American Academy of Pediatrics says that energy drinks should be totally off-limits to kids and adolescents.

A cup of cola contains about 45 milligrams of caffeine, while a cup of coffee has about twice that. Energy drinks vary widely, depending on the brand and the size of the can or bottle. But some can pack a punch of 400 milligrams or even 500 milligrams of caffeine per container. That's a lot.

Plus, the FDA doesn't regulate the amount of caffeine in beverages, Schnee says, so you can't always trust what you see on the label. "A can might say it contains 200 milligrams but actually has 250. There's no regulation."

Here's something else that parents might not be aware of. Many energy drinks contain a variety of stimulants besides caffeine, including herbal supplements or other natural stimulants from plants. That all adds up to a serious case of bouncing off the walls.



ENERGY DRINKS AND KIDS: HEALTH RISKS

What's the harm in a little energy boost? Energy drinks do more than make kids hyper. High amounts of caffeine can cause uncomfortable side effects and even harm a child's health.

These problems include:

- Sleep disruption.
- Jumpiness or restlessness.
- Increased anxiety.
- Mood swings.
- High blood pressure.
- Abnormal heart rhythms.
- Seizures.

"Regularly consuming energy drinks puts the body in an elevated state of stress," Schnee says. "Over time, that can affect children's developing brains and cardiovascular systems."

What age can you safely have energy drinks? Schnee says there's no age at which she'd say energy drinks are A-OK. "I wouldn't even recommend that adults drink them."

CAFFEINE WITHDRAWAL

Caffeine is also addictive, especially when you're regularly consuming high doses. "Caffeine might be legal, but it's still a drug," Schnee says.

Kids who drink a lot of caffeine and then quit can experience withdrawal symptoms, including:

- Fatigue.
- Headaches.
- Irritability.
- Muscle pain.
- Difficulty concentrating.

HOW TO GET MORE ENERGY NATURALLY

How do you handle a kid who really wants to drink the stuff in the cool can? "Sit down and talk to them about it," Schnee suggests. "Ask why they want it. Is it because their friends are drinking it? Or do they feel like they have low energy?"

If they complain of feeling sluggish, you can work together to find natural ways to give them a boost.

Schnee suggests starting with the basics:

- Move more.
- Get plenty of sleep.
- Eat balanced meals.
- Take a multivitamin.
- Drink enough water.

"Rather than just putting a caffeinated bandage on the problem, look for ways to give them a jump-start," she says.

ENERGY DRINK ALTERNATIVES

Many kids are simply tempted by the colors and flavors of energy drinks. So help them find alternative beverages. True, caffeine-free soda is an option, but there are healthier choices that aren't full of sugar.

Schnee suggests these sugar-free, caffeine-free alternatives:

- Unsweetened, flavored seltzer water (like those flavored with fruit essences).
- Plain water infused with sliced lemons or berries.
- Herbal teas (served hot or cold).

Bottom line? Like buying your kids a pony or letting them have ice cream for every meal, put energy drinks on your "not gonna happen" list. End of discussion. "There are better ways to get energy," Schnee says.



FINE ART NEWS



CELEBRATING MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS

Couleeland Honors Band for middle school band members celebrated its 10th anniversary this year. We hosted 13 school districts and nearly 200 musicians. As part of our founding mission, we dedicated ourselves to commissioning a new piece of music for the group every 5 years. This year, we performed the world premiere of "Primeval Dance" by internationally recognized composer, Brian Balmages. He even sent along a recorded message for our students. Thank you to all the participating students and to our guest conductors, Mr. Ryan Waldhart and Mr. Monte Dunnum.

Throughout the month of march, different educators came into the band room to participate in music-making themselves! Thank you to those willing to put themselves out there to try something new! Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Eide, Mr. Breidenbach, Mr. Van Schyndel, Mr. Halverson, Mr. Wiseman, and Mrs. Swenson, we greatly enjoyed sharing our learning with you!

ART CLUB MUSEUM VISIT

Five lucky art club students spent the day in Madison to celebrate Youth Art Month. Their day was filled visiting the Chazen Museum of Art, the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, and the state capitol building. We loved that this opportunity allowed students to see so many different styles of art that can not be fully experienced in the typical classroom.

PROUD OF OUR ARTISTS!

Nine Blair-Taylor Wildcats were selected to have their art displayed in West Salem in the Regional Youth Art Month Show hosted by the Wisconsin Art Education Association. From there, six artworks were chosen by judges to represent the district at the state level!

Congratulations to the students whose artwork achieved this honor (* signifies a state-level recognition, pictured above):

- Juan L (12th grade)*
- Signe B (11th grade)*
- Katerina B (9th grade)*
- Oliver L (6th grade)
- Leah O (4th grade)*
- Hank F (3rd grade)*
- Avery S (1st grade)
- Jonathan HG (1st grade)
- Dawson P (Kindergarten)*



Hank's work was selected for an additional honor at the State Youth Art Month Show. His work was recognized in a ceremony on March 31st with the Elementary NASCO Award. We are so proud of his work!



UPCOMING EVENTS



Mark your calendars for these upcoming showcases of our Wildcats' hard work:

MAY 8

SPRING BAND CONCERT

The third trimester band concert will feature concert marches, rock tunes, and programmatic lyrical selections. Students will also perform their state-qualifying pieces.

Program to start at 6:30 pm.



MAY 16

SPRING CHOIR CONCERT

The concert will feature our State Solo & Ensemble participants, some spirituals, a medley of songs from "Seussical" the musical, and another medley of songs from the musical "Dear Evan Hansen"!! You won't wanna miss it!!

Program to start at 7:30pm



MAY 18

DISTRICT ART SHOW

The District Art Show will be on display between May 8th and May 19th with a reception for the show to take place from 3:30 - 6:00 pm on May 18th. All elementary students will have at least one artwork on display! Join us in celebration of all the creative work our students have made this school year.

Attendees will have the chance to complete a scavenger hunt, write fan mail to an artist, visit a small petting zoo, and more!



MAY 19

1ST / 2ND GRADE SPRING CONCERT

The first and second grade concert this year will focus on kindness and character. When we focus on being kind and being a good friend, the world can be a much better place for everyone.

Program to start at 2:00 pm.



JUNE 1

KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION

The date of the Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony has been moved to June 1st in the United Campus Auditorium. Please join us in celebrating our young learners on that day!

Program to start at 1:30 pm.



LIBRARY MATTERS

This school year is flying by! As always, the district library has been a busy place, but here are some highlights:

At the MS/HS level, 3rd trimester started on March 6. The new trimester has resulted in some changes at the HS level. A number of high school students in distance learning, virtual co-op, or independent classes report to the library during the day, as do some study hall students. By my count, this trimester, we have **27 different classes and/or study halls** reporting to the library throughout the course of the day! I also have a new section/group for Video Editing.

MS/HS Library Survey

In February, MS/HS students were invited to take a survey related to library services. One hundred and forty-one students took the survey, or approximately 40% of the MS/HS student body.

I won't share all the results here due to privacy/confidentiality, as well as for the sake of space/efficiency in the newsletter, but here are some highlights:

- 96.5% of students find the library to be a safe, welcoming place.
- 92.9% of students indicated they are able to find/get what they need when they come to the library.
- 82.3% of students think they have enough opportunities to come to the library.
- 80.1% of students think they have enough opportunities to have their voice heard when it comes to the library..

Students were asked to rate the library space (furniture, lighting, decorations) on a scale from 1-5, with 5 being excellent and 1 being poor. 29.8% rated it a 5, 49.6% gave it a 4, 14.9% rated it at 3, 2.8% gave it a 2, and 2.8% rated it at 1.

Also, students were asked to rate the library collection on the same scale. 21.3% rated it at 5, 41.1% gave it a 4, 29.8% rated it a 3, 5% gave it a 2, and 2.8% rated it 1.

It appears we are meeting the majority of students' needs, and we are starting out in a pretty good place, but there certainly are areas we can focus on trying to improve.

In an initial effort to respond to the results of the survey, I have begun seeking books to add to the collection that fit with our collection development policy and also appeal to students' interests/requests. For example, I added several books related to agriculture, based on several students' requests. Secondly, I am giving students the opportunity to join a group that will have a chance to have a voice when it comes to the library, discussing items such as book recommendations, games & activities offered, and library programming. There will likely be a number of other small changes that come about as a result of the survey and the discussions that come out of the library advisory groups. I would like to thank all the students who participated in the survey!

April is School Library Month, and National Library Week is April 23-29. Help to celebrate libraries by encouraging your children to visit the school library, or taking a trip to your local public library!



LIBRARY MATTERS



Improving Access for Elementary Students

In order to make it easier for our younger elementary students to find what they are looking for, we have been grouping more books together in bins, rather than having so many on the shelves in alphabetical order or in the case of leveled early readers, just grouping them together according to the reading level.



In the past, if a student asked “Where are the Barbie books?” or “Where are the unicorn books?” we had to say, “It depends.” Then, we’d need to check the online catalog to find where the various books were and help them find the book they wanted. By grouping some books together in bins, it helps students to be able to find books that interest them more easily and quickly than in the past.

A huge shout out to Mrs. Armitage and Mrs. McNamer for all their work on this!

Top 4 Reasons to Care about Following Copyright Law

1. It's the right thing to do. Violating copyright law is a form of stealing—stealing someone's intellectual property.
2. Violating copyright law can result in fines, even as high as \$150,000 for **each** incident.
3. Violating copyright law can result in jail or prison time.
4. If you violate copyright law, you could be sued by the person who owns the rights to that work.

10 (Mostly) Easy Ways to Avoid Violating Copyright Law

- Use original material
- Get permission from the copyright holder (not quite “easy,” but it is an option)
- Use a short excerpt for educational purposes only (no profit) and give the person credit
- Use this site: <https://creativecommons.org/>
- Or this one: <https://pixabay.com/> (use safe search for younger students)
- Or this: <https://www.videvo.net/> (pay attention to whether something is free or not)
- Use this site for royalty-free, copyright-free music: <https://www.bensound.com/> (filter your search by “Free Music”)
- Here's an option for public domain materials: <https://archive.org/>
- Use “public domain” as part of your search
- Google image search – filter by Creative Commons; or use “creative commons” as part of your query and/or look for content that has this designation (CC)



And, as always, here's an update on our circulation numbers so far this school year!

Wow! That's a lot of books! Keep reading, Wildcats!

Kimberly Joten
K-12 Library Media Specialist

Book Check-Outs	As of Sept. 20:	As of Dec. 20:	As of March 16:
Middle/High School Library	665	1,356	3,270
Elementary School Library	1,383	7,423	10,659

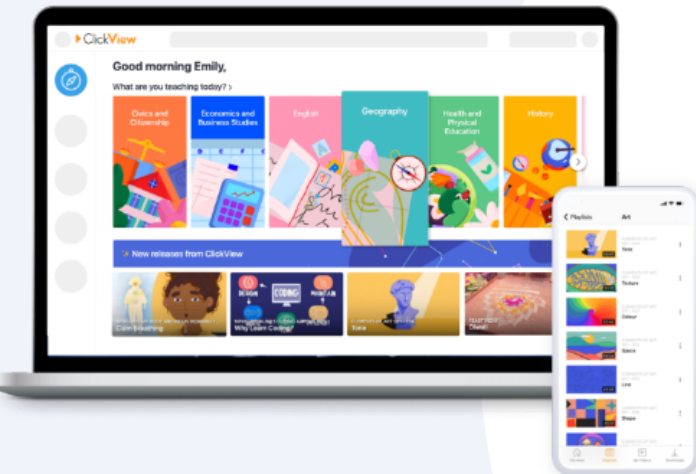
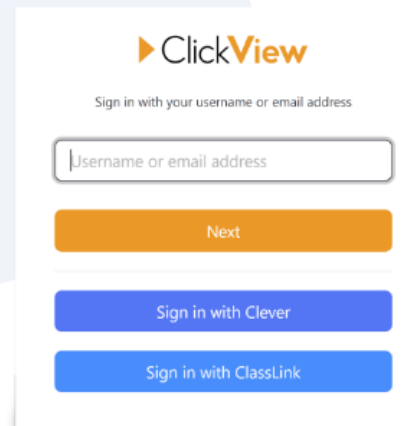


Educational Videos

Kindergarten - Grade 12



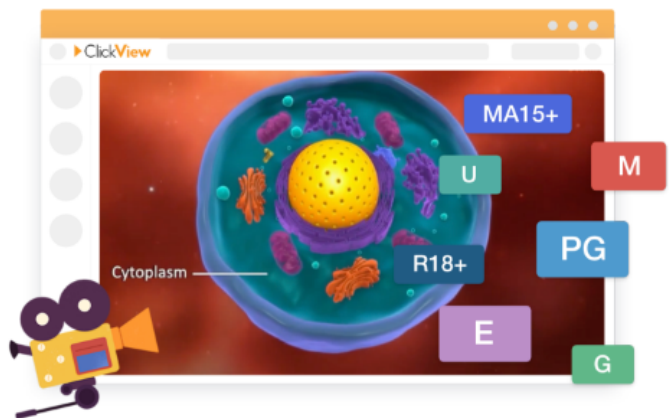
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CURRENT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:

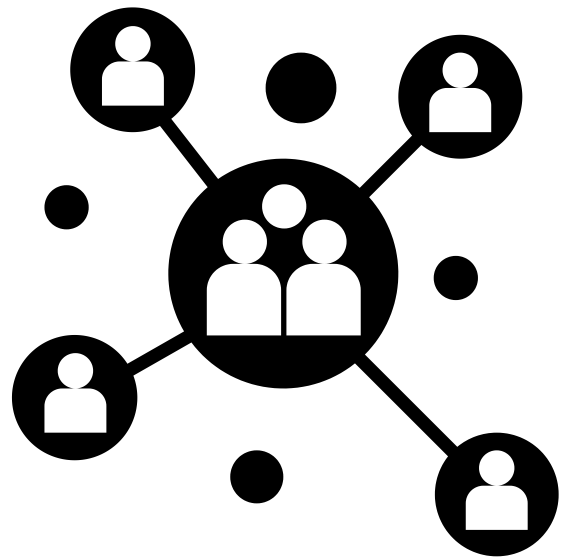
<p>Neil Kniseley N5451 Pete Coulee Rd. Taylor, WI 54959 Home: 715-869-0638 knisen@btsd.k12.wi.us</p>	<p>Dr. Blaine Koxlien PO BOX 67 Blair, WI 54616 work: 608-989-2528 koxlib@btsd.k12.wi.us</p>	<p>Perry Kujak W14419 Hillcrest Rd Blair, WI 54616 Home: 608-989-2510 Cell: 608-797-6160 kujakp@btsd.k12.wi.us</p>	<p>Sarah Staff W16133 Big Slough Rd. Hixton, WI 54635 Home: 715-984-2309 staffs@btsd.k12.wi.us</p>
<p>Michele Steien W15771 Jackson Road Taylor, WI 54659 Cell: 715-299-8025 steiem@btsd.k12.wi.us</p>	<p>Troy Tenneson N25277 US Hwy 53 Ettrick, WI 54627 Home: 608-525-5672 Cell: 507-459-3451 tennet@btsd.k12.wi.us</p>	<p>David Thompson N25955 Joe Coulee Rd Blair, WI 54616 Cell: 608-792-3162 thompdp@btsd.k12.wi.us</p>	<p>REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS: 3rd Monday of each month 4th Monday of April and October United Campus Board Room 5:30 p.m.</p>

CENSUS INFORMATION:

Each summer the Blair-Taylor School District works hard to update the census for our school. Keeping the census up to date is valuable for our school and community. The census assures funding for our reading programs, projects, future enrollment, and aids us in keeping accurate records for Child Development Days.

When you have an addition to your family, or are a new family to our community, we would love to hear from you with your information. A census form will be sent home to each family. Please fill out and return that sheet, or contact either the Elementary office or Cindy Peterson directly via email (peterc@btsd.k12.wi.us).

Thanks for helping us keep our census up to date!



From the desk of Mrs. Tenneson



Mrs. Kim Tenneson
Director of Food Service
tennek@btsd.k12.wi.us

SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM

The Blair-Taylor School District is happy to announce it will once again sponsor the Summer Food Service Program. This program helps fill a void when regular school meals are not available, helping to meet the nutritional needs of children during the summer. The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and is administered by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). The program provides nutritious meals to children during the summer.

Free meals will be offered to all children 18 years of age and under. The SFSP will coincide with the Blair-Taylor summer school program; however, persons may receive free meals even if they choose not to enroll in the summer school program. The SFSP meals will be available Tuesdays and Wednesdays only, starting June 13th, 2023 and continue through July 26th, 2023. Please note that meals will not be available the week of July 4th. Meals will be served in the elementary commons at the Blair-Taylor School, N31024 Elland Road, Blair, WI 54616.

Breakfast will be served in the elementary commons from 7:45am -8:15am and lunch will be available from 11:00-11:30am. We will also have a summer school session which will run August 29-31, 2023. Breakfast will be served 7:45-8:15am and lunch will be served 11:00am -12:15pm. If you have questions, please contact the Blair-Taylor Elementary office at (608) 989-9835.

USDA NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: How to File a Complaint, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- email: program.intake@usda.gov

Claim forms are also available on the Blair-Taylor School website. <https://www.btsd.k12.wi.us/>
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



From the Wildcat Kitchen

H	H	C	A	N	I	P	S	P	I	C	K	L	E
C	A	S	H	P	T	R	C	A	R	R	O	T	S
I	H	A	T	O	P	N	E	S	N	B	U	N	W
A	I	I	M	E	E	L	P	T	P	I	Z	Z	A
I	L	A	C	H	E	E	E	A	A	P	R	O	N
T	T	F	C	K	S	B	E	C	T	S	U	B	E
O	Y	T	R	E	E	L	V	E	C	S	O	R	N
C	I	S	E	E	H	N	I	F	O	T	Y	O	E
K	E	H	E	A	D	C	L	T	R	E	K	C	R
L	C	Z	E	P	E	O	O	Y	N	G	N	C	G
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R	L	U	N	C	H	L	A	D	Y	N	T	I	K
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CHEESE
 APPLE
 ALFREDO
 HEALTHY
 PIZZA
 WILDCAT WAY
 OLIVE
 THANK YOU
 ENERGY
 PASTA
 BEETS
 BROCCOLI
 ROMAINE
 LUNCH LADY
 BUN
 NUGGETS
 CARROTS
 CORN
 TOMATO
 CHICKEN
 KITCHEN
 APRON
 PICKLE
 SPINACH



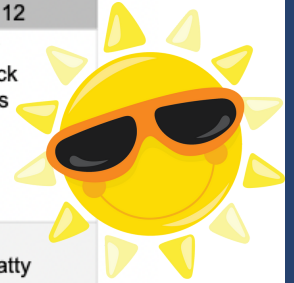
April 2023 Breakfast & Lunch Menu

	Apr 3	Apr 4	Apr 5	Apr 6	Apr 7
Breakfast	Banana Bread Cheese stick Apple slices Juice Milk	Pancakes Cheese stick Banana Juice Milk	Long John Cheese stick Grapes Juice Milk	Inservice	No School
Lunch	BBQ Rib Hoagie Bun Curly Fries Cowboy Beans Peaches Milk	Penne Pasta Red Meat Sauce Breadstick Broccoli Pears Milk	Hot Ham & Cheese Bun Smile Fries Carrots Fruit Cocktail Milk		
	Apr 10	Apr 11	Apr 12	Apr 13	Apr 14
Breakfast	No School	Cereal Blueberries Cheese stick Juice Milk	Cinnamon Rolls Craisins Cheese stick Juice Milk	Waffles Cheese stick Apple slices Juice Milk	Egg/Cheese Bagel Cheese stick Orange slices Juice Milk
Lunch		Pizza Dippers Marinara Broccoli Applesauce Scooby Doo Cracker Milk	Hamburger Gravy Mashed Potatoes Dinner roll Corn Mandarin Oranges Milk	Chicken Fries Sweet Potato Fries Peas Apple slices Milk	Hotdog Hotdog Bun Baked Beans Sunchips Peaches Milk
	Apr 17	Apr 18	Apr 19	Apr 20	Apr 21
Breakfast	Yogurt Cheese stick Granola Strawberry Cup Juice Milk	Pancake on a stick Cheese stick Banana Juice Milk	Cinniminis Cheese stick Grapes Juice Milk	Waffles Cheese stick Apple slices Juice Milk	Breakfast Pizza Cheese stick Pear cup Juice Milk
Lunch	Quesadilla Salsa Refried Beans Corn Strawberry Cup Milk	Meatball sub Hoagie Bun Sweet Potato Fries Baked Beans Pineapple Milk	Chicken Filet Bun Smile Fries Broccoli Fruit Cocktail Milk	Cheeseburger Mac Buttered Bread Carrots Peaches Milk	Pizza Green Beans Apple slices Ice Cream Cup Milk
	Apr 24	Apr 25	Apr 26	Apr 27	Apr 28
Breakfast	Muffin Cheese stick Fruit Cup Juice Milk	Combo Bar Cheese stick Banana Juice Milk	Cinnamon Rolls Cheese stick Grapes Juice Milk	Breakfast Sandwich Cheese stick Craisins Juice Milk	Pancakes Cheese stick Apple slices Juice Milk
Lunch	Chicken Nuggets Deli Roasters Carrots Peaches Snack Crackers Milk	Walking Taco- Fritos Taco Meat Corn Fiesta Beans Tropical Fruit Milk	Meatloaf AuGratin Potatoes Green Beans Banana Dinner roll Appleway Bar Milk	Cheeseburger Bun French Fries Peas Pears Milk	Chicken Alfredo Penne Pasta Broccoli Breadstick Blueberries Milk



May and June 2023 Breakfast & Lunch Menu

	May 1	May 2	May 3	May 4	May 5
Breakfast	Frudels Cheese stick Orange slices Juice Milk	Cheese Omelet Cheese Stick Banana Juice Milk	Powdered Donuts Cheese Stick Blueberries Juice Milk	Waffles Cheese Stick Strawberry Cup Juice Milk	Banana Bread Cheese Stick Apple Slices Juice Milk
Lunch	Chicken Tenders Tater Tots Carrots Pineapple Goldfish Crackers Milk	Sloppy Joes Bun Baked Beans Sweet Potato Fries Apple Slices Milk	Mac & Cheese Pretzel Broccoli Pineapple Milk	Turkey Gravy Mashed Potatoes Corn Dinner Roll Fruit Cocktail Milk	Fish Square / Tartar Bun French Fries Carrots Strawberry Cup Milk
	May 8	May 9	May 10	May 11	May 12
Breakfast	Assorted Cereal Cheese Stick Applesauce Juice Milk	Scrambled Eggs Sausage Patty Cheese Stick Banana Appleway Bar Juice Milk	Cinnamon Rolls Cheese Stick Pineapple Juice Milk	Pancake on a Stick Cheese Stick Grapes Juice Milk	Combo Bar Cheese Stick Apple Slices Juice Milk
Lunch	Pulled Pork Bun Sweet Potato Fries Peas Coleslaw Apple Slices Milk	Calzone Marinara Broccoli Applesauce Cup Cookie Milk	Corn Dog Curly Fries Baked Beans Tropical Fruit Milk	Pizza Hotdish Breadstick Green Beans Watermelon Milk	Omelet Sausage Patty Muffin Appleway Bar Hashbrowns Blueberries Juice Cup Milk
	May 15	May 16	May 17	May 18	May 19
Breakfast	Muffins Cheese Stick Orange Slices Juice Milk	Cook's Choice Cheese Stick Banana Juice Milk	Cook's Choice Cheese Stick Kiwi Juice Milk	Cook's Choice Cheese Stick Strawberry Cup Juice Milk	Cook's Choice Cheese Stick Apple Slices Juice Milk
Lunch	Breaded Chicken Smile Fries Broccoli Apple Slices Cheez-its Milk	Cook's Choice Corn Peaches Milk	Cook's Choice Carrots Fruit Cocktail Milk	Cook's Choice Baked Beans Manadrin Oranges Milk	Cook's Choice Green Beans Pineapple Milk
	May 22	May 23	May 24	May 25	May 26
Breakfast	Cook's Choice Cheese Stick Grapes Juice Milk	Cook's Choice Cheese Stick Banana Juice Milk	Cook's Choice Cheese Stick Apple Slices Juice Milk	Cook's Choice Cheese Stick Craisins Juice Milk	Cook's Choice Cheese Stick Blueberries Juice Milk
Lunch	Cook's Choice Peas Peaches Milk	Cook's Choice California Blend Fruit Cocktail Milk	Cook's Choice Refried Beans Corn Apple Slices Milk	Cook's Choice Sweet Potato Fries Green Beans Strawberry Cup Milk	Cook's Choice Broccoli Peaches Milk
	May 29	May 30	May 31	Jun 1	Jun 2
Breakfast	No School	Cook's Choice Cheese Stick Banana Juice Milk	Cook's Choice Cheese Stick Assorted Fruit Juice Milk	Cook's Choice Cheese Stick Assorted Fruit Juice Milk	Cook's Choice Cheese Stick Assorted Fruit Juice Milk
Lunch		Cook's Choice Refried Beans Corn Milk	Cook's Choice Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk	Cook's Choice Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk	Cook's Choice Assorted Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk



From the desk of Mr. Storlie

SPRING SPORTS:

Remember that spring sports are scheduled to change due to weather conditions. So please check with the school if sport activities are still on if the weather is sketchy. On that date.

IN ADDITION TO OUR SPORT SCHEDULES:

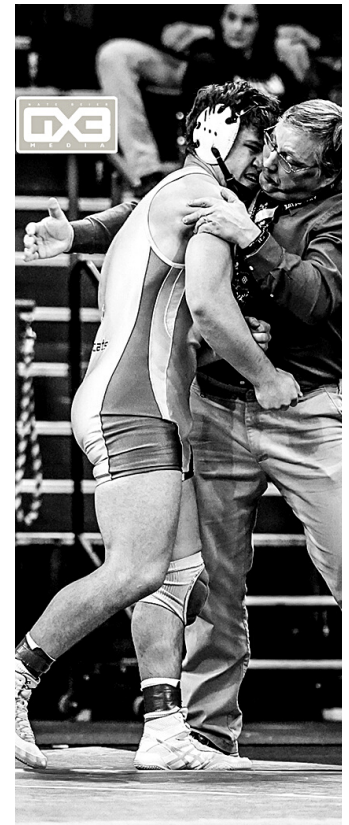
The WIAA has awarded the Blair-Taylor Schools the Sectional Finals in both Softball and Baseball. The Softball Sectional will be on June 1st with game time at 5 pm. The Baseball Sectional will be on June 6th. The game times on that date will be 10 am, 1 pm, and 4 pm for the Championship. Admission to these dates will be \$7 which is set by the WIAA.



Mr. Randy Storlie

Athletic Director
storlr@btsd.k12.wi.us

IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A WILDCAT



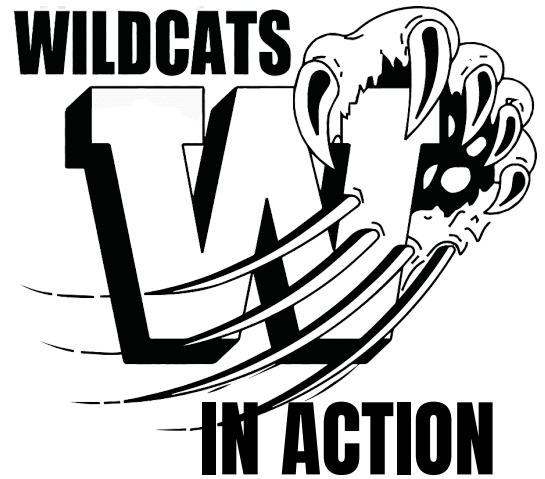
Blair-Taylor Spring Sport Schedule as of April 10th

Baseball 2023

April 11	Independence	5:00 pm
April 12	EC Immanuel	5:00 pm
April 14	Mel-Min	5:00 pm
April 18	at Alma-Pepin	5:00 pm
April 20	at Lincoln	5:00 pm
April 21	Augusta	5:00 pm
April 24	at Osseo-Fairchild	5:00 pm
April 25	Whitehall	5:00 pm
April 27	CFC	5:00 pm
April 28	at EC Immanuel	4:30 pm
May 1	GET	5:00 pm
May 2	Eleva-Strum	5:00 pm
May 3	Arcadia	5:00 pm
May 5	at Independence	5:00 pm
May 9	Lincoln	5:00 pm
May 11	at Mel-Min	5:00 pm
May 12	Alma-Pepin	5:00 pm
May 13	Eleva-Strum	TBD
May 15	at Augusta	5:00 pm
May 19	at Whitehall	5:00 pm
May 22	at CFC	5:00 pm
May 23	Brookwood	5:00 pm
May 25 - 31	Regionals	
June 6 - 13	Sectional/State	10:00 am start

Track 2023

April 11	at Bangor	4:00 pm
April 13	at Independence	4:45 pm
April 18	at Onalaska Luther	4:15 pm
April 20	at Augusta	4:15 pm
April 22	at Cashton	9:00 am
April 24	at Independence	4:15 pm
April 25	at BRF	4:00 pm
April 27	at Royall	4:00 pm
April 29	at UWL	9:00 am
May 2	Blair-Taylor	4:30 pm
May 4	at Whitehall	4:00 pm
May 5	Blair-Taylor MS Meet	4:30 pm
May 9	at Mondovi	4:00 pm
May 11	at Mel-Min	4:00 pm
May 15	Rain Date	4:00 pm
May 18	at Whitehall	4:00 pm
May 22	Regional @ Luther	4:00 pm
May 25	Sectional @ Lancaster	3:30 pm
June 2-3	State @ UWL	



Softball 2023

April 11	Independence	5:00 pm
April 12	EC Immanuel	5:00 pm
April 14	Mel-Min	5:00 pm
April 17	at Osseo-Fairchild	5:00 pm
April 18	at Pepin/Alma	5:00 pm
April 20	at Lincoln	5:00 pm
April 21	at Augusta	5:00 pm
April 22	Prescott	12:00 pm
April 24	Loyal	5:00 pm
April 25	Whitehall	5:00 pm
April 27	CFC	5:00 pm
April 28	at Immanuel	4:30 pm
May 1	GET	5:00 pm
May 2	Eleva-Strum	5:00 pm
May 5	at Independence	5:00 pm
May 6	Arcadia Tourney	9:00 am, JV as well
May 9	Lincoln	5:00 pm
May 11	at Mel-Min	5:00 pm
May 12	Pepin/Alma	5:00 pm
May 15	Augusta	5:00 pm
May 18-25	Regional	
June 1	Sectional	5:00 pm
June 8-9	State	

Passes for Athletic Events

Athletic Passes for the 2022-23 school year are available for purchase in the district office.

Adult Pass: \$40.00

Senior Pass (62 or older) - Free

GO CATS

School District of Blair-Taylor

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