

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS LETTER



Administration

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Blair-Taylor School District

United Campus N31024 Elland Road Blair, WI 54616

www.btsd.k12.wi.us

Happy New Year & Welcome to the Second Trimester of the 2021-22 School Year!

Last year I referenced the beginning of the year to a twisted roller coaster. Though the beginning of the 21-22 school year may have felt similar at times, I believe working together, we have straightened it out, and we are looking forward to a great second half of the school year!

Referendum Thank You

On Facebook, we published a final referendum video thanking our Blair-Taylor community for their incredible support! We highlighted how together with our collective commitments, we continue to make our rural area a great place to live and raise a family.

United Campus Child Care Center

The Child Care Center has been up and running since December 6, 2021. We are excited to be serving our Blair-Taylor community! Kristin Elvaker is our director, and is doing an outstanding job. We do have a few openings at this time, so if you are in need of child care services, please give us a call at 608.989.2525 option 8.

School Board Member

Jeff Stalheim has decided not to run for another school board term. I want to thank him for his hard work, dedication, and growth mindset while serving our district. He has done an outstanding job supporting parents, staff, and students during his time on the school board. If you get the opportunity, please thank him for his service.

Covid Update

On behalf of the administration, I want to thank the Blair-Taylor community and our incredibly dedicated staff for their continued efforts and support. The decisions our school district makes to minimize Covid challenges are essentially focused on keeping our kids in school.

If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call.

Jeffrey S. Eide Superintendent

From the desk of the Middle-High School Principal

MRS. DANA T. EIDE



Challenges & Celebrations

This year seems to be marked with both challenges celebrations. and continue to be under the thumb of a global pandemic, which has caused us a great deal of physical as well as emotional challenges, yet we continue to engage learning and teaching along participation with concerts, field trips, student organizations and extracurricular activities. It definitely takes a village to carry this all off, so we thank you very much for your continued teamwork and support in providing the best educational opportunities for our children that we can. As continue forward, here are some of the things that are coming up for our students.

Good Attendance is a Key to Success

Preparing for life after high school takes a great deal of work. Being in school daily gives students the best opportunity for successful preparation. It can be difficult to catch up with school work after excessive absences, which can cause students stress. Being in school daily on time not only gives students the best opportunity for academic success, it also prepares students for future employment opportunities where excessive absences could result in loss of a job.

Last year threw a real monkey wrench into our attendance plans due to illness and need for quarantine. This year has continued to cause us some challenges. Most students learn best when they are in-person, so we are trying to rebuild that habits of being in school daily. However, there are times when students need to be out of school, which affects their attendance. If your child has been identified by a medical professional as a close contact to someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or your child has tested positive, and they must quarantine, your child will not be marked absent from school if they attend classes through Google Classroom. "Present" means having the camera on and staying in the Google Meet link until the teacher dismisses your child. If your child is too ill to attend school remotely, we and ask that you call the school, so that we are aware that you child is unable to attend. We ask that you provide the office with a note from the doctor indicating that the absence was due to COVID-19.

Students are invited to attend classes remotely if they are out of school for any reason other than COVID-19, such as being out of school with the flu, an injury or family vacation, in order to help stay caught up in their classes; however, they will be marked absent. Students attending classes remotely in these classes would not need to have their cameras on. Please call the office to inform us of your child's absence to avoid receiving an automated call.

Just a reminder, parents/guardians are able to excuse students up to ten days over the school year without a note from a medical professional or counselor. "Habitual truancy" may be filed with the county if students exceed ten days absent. Any absence without an excuse from a parent/guardian or medical professional is considered unexcused and will result in detention.



School success starts with attendance

Wisconsin State Assessments

The state of Wisconsin requires all students to be evaluated using state or nationally normed assessments. The assessments will be given this spring. The following provides some information about these assessments. More information will be sent home as the time for the assessments draws near.

The *Wisconsin Forward Exam* was developed to assess English language arts and mathematics skills for students in grades three through eight, science knowledge and skills for students in grades four and eight and social studies knowledge and skills for students in grades four, eight and 10. The testing window for all students in Wisconsin to be evaluated using the Wisconsin Forward Exam is March 21st through April 29th. We will establish an assessment schedule for students based on several factors, such as optimal testing times of the day, comfortable settings for testing, adequate breaks between assessments, minimal impact on instruction, and individual student needs. Once the schedule is set, we will send information home, so that you can help prepare your child to do their best.

The *ACT Aspire* assessment is given to ninth and tenth grade students to assess their knowledge and skills in the areas of English, reading, math, science, and writing. A student's performance on this assessment will help predict how they will perform on both the ACT when the student reaches 11th grade. These early high school assessments will help identify students who need extra help to learn skills they will need for the ACT and, more importantly, for career and college experiences after graduating. ACT Aspire test window is April 4th to May 4th.

The *ACT Plus Writing* exam is given to all eleventh grade students in Wisconsin to assess reading, math, English, science, and writing. The ACT can be used by students for a variety of purposes including college admission, scholarships, course placement, and NCAA eligibility. ACT Plus Writing will be given statewide on Wednesday, March 8th. All 11th grade students are asked to be at school a bit early on that day in order to be ready to begin the assessment. When the exam is finished close to 1:00pm, students with parents' permission will be allowed to leave for the day.

As soon as we confirm the dates and times for assessments we will let you know, so that you may plan appointments etc. around those days as it is very important that students are in attendance on the days of assessment, so that they do not need to miss other days for make-up testing.

Please reach out with any questions you may have.

Serior Graduation Info!

Mark your calendar if you haven't already! **Graduation will take place on Saturday, May 28th at 1:00PM** in the middle/high school gymnasium. Doors will be opened at 11:00AM. Everyone is welcome to attend. Seats are reserved for graduates, staff and school board members only. Graduates receive their gowns when they arrive at the school and turn them in before receiving their diplomas. Families are welcome to take pictures at school with their graduate before they return the gown.

Senior Awards Night takes place the Sunday before graduation. This year it will take place on May 22nd. The baccalaureate service will take place in the in the auditorium at 5:30PM and the Senior Awards Ceremony will follow at 6:30PM. Are seniors and their families are invited to attend. Seniors dress up in business casual attire and usually sit together as a class.

Senior Exit Interviews take place on Tuesday, May 17th between 3:30-7:30PM. The exit interviews are conducted by each senior as a culmination of the academic career planning work they have done over their years in high school. Completing an exit interview is a graduation requirement. Family and friends are welcome and encouraged to attend their student's exit interview as it is a wonderful summary of their time in high school as well as future plans.



8th Grade Recognition

Another important event is the **8th Grade Recognition Event** held in honor of the eighth grade students as they prepare to transition to high school. This event will take place on Friday, May 13th at 2:00 in the auditorium. Students are asked to dress in formal attire. Clothing must meet the school's dress code. Everyone is welcome to attend!

From the desk of the Elementary School Principal

MR. LYNN HALVERSON







Report Cards will be sent home on Wed., January 26.



Parent/ Teacher Conferences will be held: February 17 & 22, 3:30pm - 7:30pm. As we enter 2022, I want to communicate a sincere THANK YOU to our school community. Like many areas of society since March of 2020, education has been forced to create new ways to accomplish the same goals. Our staff and students have continued to grow exponentially, even in these new and unique circumstances. Our parents and community members have continued to support the difficult decisions made to ensure students are in the building every day. The hard work from our staff and students, along with the support of our parents and community has resulted in positive outcomes.

According to the Department of Public Instruction, Blair-Taylor Elementary "Exceeds Expectations" on the 2020-21 school report card. With this report card score, Blair-Taylor Elementary has exceeded expectations on the last three report cards issued by DPI. Many factors account for the school report card rating including academic achievement, growth, target group outcomes, and on-track to graduation (attendance). Upon digging deeper into the report card, to further improve, we need to increase overall academic achievement and attendance rates.

Academic achievement and attendance go hand in hand. Referencing the 2020-21 school year, our attendance rates and academic achievement are slightly below the state average. Attendance is not something we can fix alone, we absolutely need support from our parents to improve attendance rates. If we increase attendance rates, I do guarantee that academic achievement will increase. Attendance impacts not only the child absent, it also affects the teacher and classmates. Teachers work really hard to get students "caught up" but nothing replaces being at school for the universal lessons. This time a teacher spends getting students "caught up" makes an already demanding job even more demanding. It also takes time, attention, and instruction away from other students. Let's work together to improve attendance rates!

Thank you to all parents, staff, and community members for your continued support as we continually strive to improve in all areas as a school and community.

Sincerely, Lynn Halverson Blair-Taylor Elementary Principal

Wisconsin Forward Exam

The Wisconsin Forward testing window for our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students will be March 21-April 29. There will be additional information sent home in student communication folders regarding specific testing dates and times for each grade level. Students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th, will be tested in the areas of Math and English Language Arts. Students in 4th grade will also be tested in the areas of Science and Social Studies. As always, we want our students to do their very best on this assessment. Following are some suggestions to help increase student success during the Wisconsin Forward Exam:

- Make sure your child gets to school regularly throughout the entire school year.
- Read or promote independent reading with your child every night (including in summer).
- Ask your child about their school day, every day. What did they learn today?
- Have your child eat breakfast at school or at home.
- Have a bedtime to ensure our students are well rested and ready to learn each and every day.
- Create routines and establish age appropriate chores for your child to contribute at home

CURRENT MEMBERS:

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SCHOOL BOARD

Official Ballot Nonpartisan Office Blair-Taylor School District

April 5, 2022

Notice to Voters: If you are voting on Election Day, your ballot must be initialed by two election inspectors. If you are voting absentee, your ballot must be initialed by the municipal clerk or deputy clerk. Your ballot may not be counted without initials. (See back of ballot for initials.)

Instructions to Voters: If you make a mistake or have a question, see an election inspector. (Absentee voters: Contact your municipal clerk.)

To vote for a name on the ballot, make an "X" or other mark in the square next to the name. To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name in the space marked "write-in."

II	District 1 School Board Member Vote for 1	
	Daniel M. Zawacki	.10
	David Thompson	campio
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	Blaine Owen Koxlien	•
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Reading Corner

Dear Blair-Taylor Families,



Blair-Taylor is a school-wide Title 1 school. What does that mean? According to the state of Wisconsin, school-wide programs are designed to generate high levels of academic achievement for all students, especially those most in need of additional support. All staff, resources, and classes are part of the school-wide program, and it serves all the children in a school. https://dpi.wi.gov/title-i/schoolwide-program

BTSD Title 1 has an internet presence and can easily be accessed from the district's web page. www.btsd.k12.wi.us Hover over the schools tab to locate Title 1 at the bottom of the elementary column. There are many resources for you to explore together as a family. What is Title 1? is a great place to start. A brief 7-slide power point presentation explains in a nutshell what it means to be part of a Title 1 school. Another tab worth mentioning is the Family Compact. This is an electronic copy of the family compact that was shared in October at fall conferences. It is a nice visual and reminder for all of our rights and responsibilities as students, families, and educators.

20-5-1...What does this mean? The answer is at the top of the list under the Family Engagement tab of the Title 1 web site. I will comment on this in the next newsletter.

We welcome any and all feedback. You may contact Mr. Eide, Mr. Halverson, or Mr. Nelson with any comments or concerns.

Have a great winter season. It is a privilege serving here at BTSD.

Respectfully, Mr. Nelson, Title 1 / Reading Specialist



Feb. 3rd 5pm-8pm & Feb. 4th 9am - 11am

Each year the Special Education Department, in conjunction with Western Dairyland Head Start and various other agencies, conduct pre-school screenings. All children should be screened at least one time prior to kindergarten. Vision and hearing should be checked twice before kindergarten. Child Development Day is held for students and parents to learn about child development and for the child to be screened for potential need areas. Birth to 3 will be available to screen children as young as 6 weeks old through 2.5 years and the school will screen children older than 2.5 years.

This year's Child Development Day will be held February 3rd between 5pm-8pm and February 4th between 9am-11:00 am.

Please set up a screening time by contacting 608-989-9835.

Understanding Good Mental Health

Your mental health influences how you think, feel and behave in daily life. It also affects your ability to cope with stress, overcome challenges, build relationships, and recover from life's setbacks and hardships.

Strong mental health isn't just the absence of mental health problems. Being mentally or emotionally healthy is much more than

being free of depression, anxiety or other psychological issues. Rather than the absence of mental illness, mental health refers to the presence of positive characteristics.

People who are mentally healthy have:

- A sense of contentment
- A zest for living and the ability to laugh and have fun
- The ability to deal with stress and bounce back from adversity
- A sense of meaning and purpose, in both activities and relationships
- · The flexibility to learn new skills and adapt to change
- · A balance between work and play, rest and activity.
- The ability to build and maintain fulfilling relationships
- Self-confidence and high self-esteem

The relationship between resilience and mental health:

Having solid mental health doesn't mean that you never go through bad times or experience emotional problems. We all go through disappointments, loss, and change. And while these are normal parts of life, they can still cause sadness, anxiety, and stress. But just as physically healthy people are better able to bounce back from illness or injury, people with strong mental health are better able to bounce back from adversity, trauma, and stress. This ability is called resilience.

People who are emotionally and mentally resilient have the tools for coping with difficult situations and maintaining a positive outlook, also known as having a growth mindset. They remain focused, flexible, and productive, in bad times as well as good. Their resilience also makes them less afraid of new experiences or an uncertain future. Even when they don't immediately know how a problem will get resolved, they keep trying until a solution is found.

Whether you're looking to cope with a specific mental health problem, handle your emotions better, or simply to feel more positive and energetic, there are plenty of ways to take control of your mental health--starting today.

Welcome Childcare Center Staff

Welcome to the Blair-Taylor Child Care Center. Each month you will receive a newsletter containing highlights from the previous month and news about upcoming activities your child's classroom will be doing. This month we are introducing our teaching staff to your families!!



INFANTS LEAD TEACHER:

Hello Blair-Taylor families! My name is Mandy Stevens! I recently moved to the area from Galesville with my husband Ryan and our 3 girls Elizabeth, Katelyn, and Olivia. I received my Associates Degree in Community Developmental Disabilities at Western Technical College in 2005 and have been teaching in Child Care for 16 years now and absolutely love my job. I am thrilled to be your Infant Lead Teacher. This year will be FILLED with fun, LOTS of learning and new adventures. I look forward to meeting you.



TODDLERS 1 LEAD TEACHER:

Hello! My name is Stephany Stoker. I live in Hixton with my fiance and our four children. My children are 7, 4, 2, and 1. They keep us busy and on our toes at all times! We enjoy our family time and getting outside as much as we can! Some our favorites are going to the pool and going fishing.

I am so excited to be the Toddlers 1 Lead Teacher. I have worked with infants for four years and I am really looking forward to a new age group and all the opportunities it will bring! One is such a wonderful age and I can't wait to see all the fun and learning we will do together!



TODDLER 2 LEAD TEACHER:

Hello! Welcome to the Blair-Taylor Child Care Center! My name is Ayshia Kuboushek, and I get the privilege to be your child's teacher from age two to three! I graduated from Blair-Taylor in May of 2016 and have been a lead childcare teacher since. I have two beautiful children of my own; a four-year-old daughter and a two-year-old son. We also have a dog named Tucker. A few of my favorite things are spending time with my family, the Fall weather, candles, the movie Elf, and all things Christmas! I can't wait to meet all of you, and to be such a significant part of your child's learning and growing!



TPRESCHOOL 3 LEAD TEACHER:

Hello families, my name is Lisa Brefeld! I have two young precious granddaughters. I was born in a small town in Pennsylvania, moved and grew up in Chicago IL. In 2013 I made the decision to move to semi-rural Wisconsin and now reside in my forever home with my finance in Black River Falls.

I have always loved guiding young children as they grow. My own children were homeschooled by myself and I have volunteered and taught at my church as well. I have worked professionally in Child Care for more than seven years now. During this time I have taken classes and have acquired my Preschool Credential.

I am very excited to begin this new chapter of Child Care at the Blair-Taylor Child Care Center!



Welcome Childcare Center Staff



PRESCHOOL 4 AND FLOAT TEACHER: Hello my name is Hannah Dahl! I am originally from Blair and graduated from Blair-Taylor High School. I live in Blair with my husband Nate and three kids Colby, Tenley and Nataley. We enjoy spending time outside enjoying all of the seasons Wisconsin has to offer from Baseball games to Snowmobiling! I am excited to begin working at the Blair-Taylor Child Care Center and help your children learn and grow within the district! It will be exciting to see the kids start out in the Child Care Center and move on to the Blair-Taylor Elementary!



TODDLERS 1 ASSISTANT TEACHER: Hello, my name is Kiley. I'm from the Blair area and grew up a B-T Wildcat! I have 3 happy and healthy children ages 11, 7, and 1 year. I am due to have my fourth and final baby in January 2022 which will complete our family of 6! In my free time I enjoy watching or playing sports spending time with my family, fresh air, long walks to the park and nap time! I have experience working in Healthcare the last 10 years and I'm excited to start this new journey of working in the Child Care Center!



PART-TIME FLOAT TEACHER:
Hello! My name is Jayme Miller. I live in
Merillan with my two dogs and my cat. I
enjoy kayaking and diamond painting in
my free time. I spend a lot of time with
my family as well. I've worked in the
Child Care field for the past 6 years and
have worked with all age groups. I am
excited to start with new journey and
get to know all the new families at the
Blair-Taylor Child Care Center.



PART-TIME ASSISTANT TEACHER: Hello, my name is Hannah Mason. I am 18 years old and currently attending school at Winona State University with a major in Social Work. I live in Blair with my mom and two younger siblings. In my free time I enjoy spending time with family and friends, camping, traveling, shopping and going to the gym. Working with kids has always been a passion of mine and I'm excited to be part of the new Child Care Center at Blair-Taylor!



PART-TIME ASSISTANT TEACHER: My name is Isabella Kamrowski and I am so excited to be working here at the Blair-Taylor Child Care Center! I am a senior this year and I will be attending CVTC next fall for their Early Childhood Education Program. I have a passion for working with children and planning fun, educational activities for them to do. I have a lot of experience caring for children of all ages and I can't wait to meet all the kiddos!

We are Hiring!

Join our already fantastic team!

LIBRARY S

Welcome to the first installment of this new column devoted to all things library related! The goal of this column is to keep people informed regarding library happenings, but also to share out a variety of information related to literacy, tech, etc.

Chromebooks

A major undertaking this past summer/fall was taking on a new/expanded role with Chromebook management. A great deal of work and effort were expended to make it happen, but we ultimately assumed a greater role in the management of Chromebooks/chargers for grades 3-12, which equates to over 1,000 devices that needed to be added to our system, barcode labeled, sorted by homeroom/classroom teacher, and distributed to those teachers so they could, in turn, distribute them to their students. Our IT consultant and library staff could not have handled the workload alone. We were fortunate that a number of paraprofessionals were willing to help. Brad Becker deserves special recognition as he worked extensively over the summer to bring this project to fruition. Thank you, again, to ALL of the staff members who answered the call and helped out when we needed them!

Collaboration with WTCO (formerly TCCTV)

In September, high school students from Blair-Taylor and Whitehall who were enrolled in my Video Editing & Production class for first trimester took a field trip to WTCO (formerly TCCTV) in Whitehall to see a real TV studio and learn from professionals in the industry. Students also had the opportunity to shadow WTCO when they came to live stream football games at Blair-Taylor. Thank you to WTCO for working with our school district and students!



New Furniture/Shelving

We are so grateful for the funding we received from the Redsten grant, which allowed us to make a few additions/replacements so far this school year.

The first change came in August. Our elementary graphic novels section has steadily grown over the years. We were housing the books on a shelf/cart that was never really intended for that purpose, and we were running out of room. Thanks to the Redsten grant, we were able to purchase three new bookshelves to house our graphic novels section. It makes this section of the library so much more appealing and accessible for the students.



In October, we were also able to replace some of our student furniture on the elementary side-going with seating that is lighter, more mobile, and has a surface that is easier to sanitize and keep clean than the large, cloth chairs that we've had in the United Campus library since its inception in 2014. It will not be necessary to replace all of the furniture, such as wooden tables and plastic/metal chairs, but it is our goal to gradually replace the large, cloth chairs. It is cost-prohibitive to replace all of them in one year, so our hope/plan is to utilize the Redsten grant to replace that furniture incrementally over the next few years.





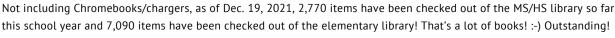
MS/HS Contest

In October, Mrs. McNamer, who works in our school library in the morning and then heads to work at the Blair-Preston Public Library, where she serves as Library Director, organized a fun contest for the MS/HS side of the library. Students were invited to guess how many candy pumpkins were in a jar, and they were encouraged to recommend a book to their peers when they submitted an entry in the contest. The student with the closest guess would receive a brand new set of the Maze Runner series. sponsored by the Blair-Preston Public Library. The students' recommendations were posted so others could see them and get ideas for what books to read next. The contest received over 50 entries! If you're curious, there were 106 candy pumpkins in the jar. Middle schoolers Emma Hanson and Mary Flynn both tied with the closest guess of 107, so we held a drawing to determine who would win the set of books, and the other student was allowed to choose two items from the prize box that we have in the library. Thank you to Mrs. McNamer and the Blair-Preston Public Library for organizing and sponsoring this contest! We are extremely fortunate to enjoy such a close working relationship with one of our local public librarians!





Before I draw this issue's column to a close, I thought I'd share a couple fun stats with you:





Fall Book Fair

We held our annual Scholastic Book Fair in November. It was fun to be back to an in-person fair, after having an online-only fair in 2020 due to concerns with COVID-19. Our book fair was successful, resulting in many new books getting into children's hands and being added to families' personal libraries at home; while school and public libraries are essential, multiple studies have demonstrated the importance of reading materials being readily available in the home. Another positive result is that we earned more than \$2,000 in Scholastic Dollars, which our library can use in a variety of ways to benefit the district/students (purchasing items such as: books; equipment/materials for the library; incentives, such as bookmarks and pencils; or digital services, such as BookFlix). Thank you, all, for your support! We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!



Keep reading, Wildcats!
Kimberly Joten, District Library Media Specialist

For Ages 5 and Older: WHAT PARENTS AND GUARDIANS SHOULD KNOW

On November 3, 2021, Wisconsin expanded COVID-19 vaccine eligibility to include children ages 5 to 11. Anyone age 5 and older can now get protection against COVID-19 through vaccination.

Where can I learn more about the vaccine?

Wisconsin COVID-19 vaccine information:

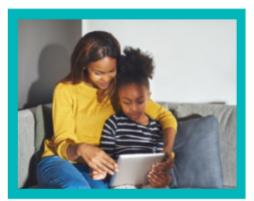
www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine.htm

What to expect when you get the vaccine:

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-prepare.htm

Benefits of getting vaccinated:

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/ 2019-ncov/vaccines/vaccinebenefits.html



Which vaccine can my child get?

At this time, the Pfizer vaccine is the only vaccine available for anyone age 5 and older. The Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are only authorized for use in adults age 18 and older.

Children ages 5 to 11

A new Pfizer vaccine product was developed for children ages 5 to 11. The vaccine uses a different formula and is a lower dose compared to the Pfizer vaccine for adolescents and adults.

Why should my child get vaccinated?

- Some children can get very sick from COVID-19, and may need to be hospitalized. In rare cases, they may die. By getting vaccinated, your child will be protected from getting sick and reduce the chances of spreading the virus to others.
- People who survive a COVID-19 infection get stronger protection against future infection by getting vaccinated.
- Medical experts are learning about the longterm effects of COVID-19 in children such as multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C). MIS-C can cause parts of the body to become inflamed including the heart, lungs, brain, and other organs. One of the best ways to protect your child from the long-term effects of COVID-19 is to get them vaccinated.
- Fully vaccinated children and adults do not have to quarantine, but should take additional steps to protect themselves and others after exposure to COVID-19
- COVID-19 vaccines provide good protection against variants, including the Delta variant. The more people who get vaccinated, the less chance the virus has to mutate.

For Ages 5 and Older: WHAT PARENTS AND GUARDIANS SHOULD KNOW

Is the vaccine safe for my child?

The Pfizer vaccine has gone through the same safety tests and met the same standards as all other vaccines authorized in the U.S. Millions of children between ages 12 and 19 years old have already gotten the COVID-19 vaccine safely. Very few people have had any severe side effects. In fact, people are more likely to have serious long-term effects from getting sick from COVID-19. If you have more questions, we recommend you connect with your child's primary care doctor.

How does the vaccine work?

The Pfizer vaccine is an mRNA vaccine. The mRNA in the vaccine gives your cells instructions on how to make coronavirus spike proteins. Those proteins help your immune system produce specific antibodies that defend against COVID-19. So if the real virus enters your body, your immune system can fight it off to help prevent you from getting sick.

mRNA vaccines do not put a weakened or inactivated virus into your body. They cannot give someone COVID-19. Your cells break down and get rid of the mRNA as soon as it is finished using the instructions. The vaccine does not affect or interact with your DNA in any way. Vaccines give us protection against COVID-19 without ever having to risk getting hospitalized or dying from COVID-19.

Where can my child get vaccinated?

Check out <u>Vaccines.gov</u>, the <u>Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) website</u>, or call toll-free at 1-844-684-1064 to learn where your child can get vaccinated.

What else should I know about the COVID-19 vaccine?





The vaccine is free for everyone.

You do not need an ID or health insurance to get it.



9

Some people have temporary side effects after vaccination such as pain or swelling on the arm where they got the vaccine.

This is normal and means the body is building up protection against COVID-19.





The Pfizer vaccine requires two doses separated by 21 days.

Make sure to mark your calendar for your second dose so your child can get fully vaccinated.





A Healthy Recipe Share From the desk of our School Nurse, Mrs. Semb.

Peanutty Stew



A spicy and savory one pot dish that the whole family will enjoy. Add some cayenne pepper for an extra kick.

Ingredients

- 1 cup brown rice (instant)
- 2 cups chicken broth (reduced sodium)
- 1/3 tablespoon dehydrated onion (minced)
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon ginger (ground)
- 1/8 cup red pepper (optional)
- 1 sweet potato (2 cups, peeled and diced)
- 1 can tomatoes (diced, 14.5 ounces, with liquid)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt (optional)
- 1/2 cup peanut butter (creamy, reduced-fat)
- 1 1/4 cups milk (non-fat)
- 3 cups baby spinach (coarsely chopped)
- 1/4 cup peanuts (roasted, chopped)
- green onion (optional, thinly sliced for garnish)

Nutrition Information

Serving Size: 1 cup (223g)

Nutrients	Amount
Total Calories	260
Total Fat	12 g
Saturated Fat	2 g
Cholesterol	1 mg
Sodium	526 mg
Carbohydrates	31 g
Dietary Fiber	5 g
Total Sugars	6 g
Added Sugars included	1 g
Protein	10 g
Vitamin D	0 mcg
Calcium	104 mg
Iron	2 mg
Potassium	558 mg

MyPlate Food Groups



Vegetables	1/2 cups
Grains	1 ounces
Protein Foods	1 1/2 ounces
Dairy	1/4 cups

Directions

Combine first 9 ingredients in a soup pot. Bring to boil, then turn down to medium low, cover and simmer for 10 minutes. Stir in peanut butter and milk. Return to gentle simmer and cook uncovered for 5 minutes. Stir in spinach and cook until wilted, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove from heat. Ladle stew into bowls and top with peanuts and green onion, if desired.

Tips

Substitute 12 ounces frozen spinach for fresh.

Flavor boosters: chopped cilantro, red and green peppers, raisins.

https://www.myplate.gov/recipes/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap/peanutty-stew?utm_source=email-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Dec-2021-ROTM.



The open enrollment application period for the 2022-23 school year is February 7 - April 29, 2022.

What is Open Enrollment?

The inter-district public school open enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend public school in a school district other than the one in which they reside.

Who can apply?

Any Wisconsin resident in 4K to grade 12 may apply to attend a nonresident school district under the open enrollment program. However, a child may transfer to a nonresident school district for early childhood education or 4K only if the child's resident school district offers the same type of program and only if the child is eligible for that program in the resident school district.

When can parents apply?

The regular open enrollment application period for the 2022-23 school year begins on February 7, 2022, and ends at 4:00 pm on April 29, 2022. The best way to apply is online (a link to the online application is at the top of this page during the application period). Additional information on the regular open enrollment application season can be found on the DIP applications page (https://dpi.wi.gov/openenrollment/applications)

An alternative application procedure allows pupils to apply for open enrollment at any time during a school year if certain criteria are met. For additional information, please visit the alternative application procedures page on the WI DPI website for further information (https://dpi.wi.gov/openenrollment/applications/alternative).

WI DPI OPEN ENROLLMENT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Email: openenrollment@dpi.wi.gov or call toll-free: 888-245-2732

Questions may also be directed to the Blair-Taylor District Office 608-989-2525 option 7

Can applications be denied?

Both the nonresident and resident school districts may deny an application for reasons specified in state law. If an application is denied by either the resident or nonresident school district, the parent may file an appeal with the DPI within 30 days. The DPI is required to affirm the school district's decision unless the DPI determines that the decision was arbitrary or unreasonable.

How do students get to school?

Parents are responsible to provide transportation to and from school in the nonresident school district, except that transportation required in a child's IEP must be provided by the nonresident school district. A nonresident or resident school district is permitted (but not required) to provide transportation to open enrolled pupils, however the nonresident school district is prohibited from picking up or dropping off a pupil within the boundaries of the pupil's resident school district unless the resident school district agrees. Low-income parents may apply to the DPI for reimbursement of a portion of their transportation costs.



















Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Jill K. Underly, PhD, State Superintendent 125 S. Webster Street • Madison, WI 53703

(608) 266-3390 • (800) 441-4563 (Language assistance available) For telephone accessibility for those who are deaf, deafblind, or hard of hearing, visit www.wisconsinrelay.com

Please be sure to dress your child to stay warm & safe this winter!



SCHOOL DELAYS & CLOSINGS

Student safety is the primary consideration in decisions related to school delays or school closings. Normally, one of three decisions is made. The first may be a late start. In this case, a two-hour school delay is our standard procedure. On "late start' days, there will be no morning Early Childhood, 4-year old kindergarten or Head Start programs. The second decision we may make is to close school for the day. The third decision is an early release from school, which would normally be at 1:00 pm.

We realize that parents must make childcare arrangements for the day. Therefore, we will try to make school delay or closing decisions by 8:00 pm the night before if possible. In the event that is not possible, we will strive to decide by 6:00am the day of.

If a decision is made to close school for the day or to have an early release due to inclement weather, all after-school practices and all evening activities and/or events will be canceled.

In the event of school closure, late start, or early release: you will be notified via SCHOOL MESSENGER, which is our communication system (phone message and/or email) used to deliver information to parents and/or guardians.

The below media stations will also carry our school closing information:

WWIS	99.7 FM	BRF
WHTL	102.3 FM	Whitehall
WKBT	CH 8	La Crosse
WEAU	CH 13	Eau Claire
WXOW	CH 19	La Crescent
WQOW	CH 18	Eau Claire
FOX	24/48	La Crosse/ Eau Claire
WAXX	104.5 FM	Eau Claire
WAYY	11.50 AM	Eau Claire
WECL	92.9 FM	Eau Claire
WEAQ	790 AM	Eau Claire
WBIZ	100.7 FM	Eau Claire
WKTY	580 AM	La Crosse
WIZM	14.10 FM	La Crosse
Z93	93.3 FM	La Crosse
WTRV	95.7 FM	La Crosse

MIDDLE-HIGH STUDENTS

On School closure days, you will be expected to complete remote learning assignments via google classroom. You do not need to join your classes' Google Meets, but you do need to complete each of your assignments before the following school day in order to be counted as "present." for class that day.

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

If your teacher gave you a "snow day" packet, please work on activities in that packet.

February 2022 Breakfast & Lunch Menu

Date	Breakfast	Lunch
	Pancakes	Chicken Fries
	Cheese stick	Doritos
	Banana	Cali blend w/cheese
Feb 1 - Tue	Juice	Strawberries
	Milk	Craisins
	Milk	Milk
	Cinnamon Roll	Pulled Pork
	Cheese stick	Bun
	Grapes	Sweet Potato Fries
Feb 2 - Wed	Juice	Baked Beans
	Milk	Apple slices
		Milk
	Muffin	Hamburger Gravy
	Cheese stick	Mashed Potatoes
	Apple slices	Bread Slice
Feb 3 - Thu	Juice	Green Beans
	Milk	Apricots
		Craisins
		Milk
	Appleway Bar	Calzone
	Hard boiled egg	Marinara
	Cheese stick	Peas
Feb 4 - Fri	Craisins	Pears
	Juice	Milk
	Milk	
	Cereal	Hot Dog
	Cheese stick	Bun
	Applesauce	Doritos
Feb 7 - Mon	Juice	Baked Beans
	Milk	Peaches
		Milk
	Breaklfast Bowl	Orange Chicken
	Cheese stick	Rice
	Banana	Carrots
Feb 8 - Tue	Juice	Mandarin Oranges
	Milk	Fortune Cookie
		Milk
	Cinnamon Roll	Breaded Pork Chop
	Cheese stick	Garlic Pasta
Feb 9 - Wed	Grapes	Cali Blend
. 00 0 - Hod	Juice	Fruit Cocktail
	Milk	Milk
	Waffles	Spaghetti
	Cheese stick	Meat Sauce
	Fruit Cup	Breadstick
Feb 10 - Thu	Juice	Green Beans
	Milk	Apple slices
	min	Milk
	Frudel	Chicken Tenders
Eab 44 E-:	Cheese stick	Sweet Potato Fries
Feb 11 - Fri	Apple slices	Peas
	Juice	Pineapple
	Milk	Milk

Date	Breakfast	Lunch
	Yogurt	Pizza Dippers
	Granola	Marinara
Feb 44 Men	Blueberries	Broccoli
Feb 14 - Mon	Juice	Pears
	Milk	Cookie
		Milk
	Pancakes	Chicken Noodle Soup
	Cheese stick	Cheesy Bread Bites
	Banana	Cheese Stick
Feb 15 - Tue	Juice	Saltines
	Milk	Peas
		Applesauce
		Milk
	Donut	Chicken Nuggets
	Cheese stick	Sweet Potato Fries
Feb 16 - Wed	Grapes	Baked Beans
	Juice	Fruit Cocktail
	Milk	Milk
	Omelet	Salisbury Steak
	Obsess stiet	O
	Cereal Bar	Pizza
	Cheese stick	Green Beans
Feb 18 - Fri	Raisins	Strawberry Cup
	Juice	Sidekick
	Milk	Milk
	Banana Bread	Quesadilla
	Cheese stick	Salsa/Sr Cream
Feb 21 - Mon	Craisins	Refried Beans
T CD ZT - IIIOII	Juice	Peas
	Milk	Pineapple
		Milk
	Combo Bar	Chicken Alfredo
	Cheese stick	Texas Toast
Feb 22 - Tue	Banana	Winterblend
	Juice	Pears
	Milk	Milk
	Cinnamon Roll	Cheeseburger
	Cheese stick	Bun
Feb 23 - Wed	Grapes	French Fries
. 55 25 - 1100	Juice	Beets
	Milk	Apricots
		Milk
	Waffles	Tater Tot Hotdish
	Cheese stick	Dinner roll
Feb 24 - Thu	Apple	Carrots
	Juice	Fruit Cocktail
	Milk	Milk
Feb 25 - Fri	In-Service	Inservice
Feb 28 - Mon	No School	No School

March 2022 Breakfast & Lunch Menu

Date	Breakfast	Lunch
Mar 1 - Tue	No School	No School
Mar 2 - Wed	No Schyool	No School
Mar 3 - Thu	No School	No School
Mar 4 - Fri	No School	No School
	Cereal Bar	Hot Ham & Cheese
	Cheese stick	Bun
Mar 7 - Mon	Orange slices	Deli Roasters
Mai 7 - Moli	Juice	Baked Beans
	Milk	Craisins
		Milk
	Pancakes	Popcorn Chicken
	Cheese stick	Mashed Potatoes
	Banana	Gravy
Mar 8 - Tue	Juice	Corn
	Milk	Dinner roll
		Pineapple
		Milk
	Donut	Philly Beef
	Cheese stick	Hoagie bun
Mar 9 - Wed	Grapes	Smile Fries
mai 5 - WCa	Juice	Cauliflower
	Milk	Blueberries
		Milk
	Omelet	Ravioli
	Cheese stick	Breadstick
Mar 10 - Thu	Raisins	Broccoli
	Juice	Fruit Cocktail
	Milk	Milk
	Frudel	Fish Sticks
	Cheese stick	Curly Fries
Mar 11 - Fri	Apple slices	Coleslaw
	Juice	Green Beans
	Milk	Peaches
	Variot	Milk
	Yogurt	Mini Corn Dogs
	Granola	Baked Beans
Mandd Man	Cheese stick	Sunchips
Mar 14 - Mon	Blueberries	Pears
	Juice	Milk
	Milk	
	Combo Bar	Meatloaf
	Cheese stick	AuGratins
	Banana Silck	Dinner roll
Mar 15 - Tue	Juice	Corn
	Milk	Grapes
	HIIIN	Milk
	Cinnamon Roll	Pizza
	Cheese stick	Green Beans
Mar 16 - Wed	Grapes	Applesauce
	Juice	Sidekick
	Milk	Milk
	Breakfast Sandwich	Chicken Patty
	Craisins	Bun
Mar 17 - Thu	Juice	Tater Tots
mai 17 - Illu	Milk	Carrots
		Pineapple
		Milk
		1

Date	Breakfast	Lunch
	Muffin	Mac & Cheese
	Cheese stick	Pretzel
Mar 18 - Fri	Apple slices	Broccoli
	Juice	Peaches
	Milk	Milk
	Cereal	Chicken Fries
	Cheese stick	Doritos
Mar 21 - Mon	Applesauce	Cali blend w/cheese
Mai Zi - Moli	Juice	Strawberries
	Milk	Craisins
		Milk
	Pancake on a stick	Nacho Chips
	Cheese stick	Taco Meat
	Banana	Cheese sauce
Mar 22 - Tue	Juice	Fiesta Beans
	Milk	Carrots
		Fruit Cocktail
		Milk
	Donut	Cheeseburger
	Cheese stick	Bun
Mar 23 - Wed	Grapes	French Fries
Mai 23 - Weu	Juice	Beets
	Milk	Apple slices
		Milk
	Waffles	Meatballs/Gravy
	Cheese stick	Mashed Potatoes
	Raisins	Bread slice
Mar 24 - Thu	Juice	Corn
	Milk	Apricots
		Craisins
		Milk
	Mini Bagel	Pizza Dippers
	Cheese stick	Marinara
Mar 25 - Fri	Apple slices	Broccoli
	Juice	Pears
	Milk	Milk
	Frudel	BBQ Rib
	Cheese stick	Hoagie Bun
Mar 28 - Mon	Orange slices	Smile Fries
	Juice	Cauliflower
	Milk	Blueberries
		Milk
	Omelet	Orange Chicken
	Cheese stick	Rice
Mar 29 - Tue	Banana	Carrots
	Juice	Mandarin Oranges
	Milk	Fortune Cookie
	Cinnamon Roll	Milk
	Chnamon Roll Cheese stick	Breaded Pork Chop Garlic Pasta
Mar 30 - Wed	Grapes	Cali Blend
mai Jo - wed	Juice	Fruit Cocktail
	Milk	Milk
	Breakfast Bowl	Hot Dog
	Craisins	Bun
	Juice	Baked Beans
Mar 31 - Thu	Milk	Doritos
	ams	Peaches
		Milk

April 2022 Breakfast & Lunch Menu

Date	Breakfast	Lunch
	Grilled Cheese	
	Tomato Soup	
Apr.4 Fri	Corn	
Apr 1 - Fri	Saltines	
	Applesauce	
	Milk	
	Pizza	Yogurt
	Green Beans	Granola
	Applesauce	Cheese stick
Apr 4 - Mon	Sidekick	Blueberries
	Milk	Juice
		Milk
	Scrambled eggs	Pancakes
	Sausage Patty	Cheese stick
Apr 5 - Tue	Hashbrown	Banana
Apr 5 - Tue	Appleway Bar	Juice
	Banana	Milk
	Milk	
	Chicken Nuggets	Donut
	Sweet Potato Fries	Cheese stick
Apr 6 - Wed	Broccoli w/cheese	Grapes
	Mandarin Oranges	Juice
	Milk	Milk
	Turkey Gravy	Banana Bread
	Mashed Potatoes	Cheese stick
Apr 7 - Thu	Corn	Apple slices
•	Dinner roll	Juice
	Peaches	Milk
	Milk	10-15I
	Cheese Quesadilla	Mini Bagel
	Salsa	Cheese stick
A 0 F-:	Sour Cream	Orange slices
Apr 8 - Fri	Refried Beans Carrots	Juice Milk
	Pineapple	WHIK
	Milk	
	Sloppy Joe	Appleway Bar
	Bun	Hard boiled egg
	Potato Wedges	Cheese stick
Apr 11 - Mon	Peas	Craisins
	Pears	Juice
	Milk	Milk
	Scalloped Potatoes	Waffles
	Ham	Cheese stick
	Breadstick	Banana
Apr 12 - Tue	Carrots	Juice
- pr 12 140	Strawberries	Milk
	Craisins	
	Milk	
	Mac & Cheese	Cinnamon Roll
	Pretzel	Cheese stick
Apr 13 - Wed	Broccoli	Craisins
. ф. 10 - 1100	Peaches	Juice
	Milk	Milk
	Pulled Pork	Cereal
	Bun	Cheese stick
	Sweet Potato Fries	Applesauce
Apr 14 - Thu	Green Beans	Juice
	Apple slices	Milk
	Milk	MILIS
	omis	

Date	Breakfast	Lunch
Apr 15 - Fri	No School	No School
Apr 18 - Mon	Inservice	In-servce
	Ravioli	Combo Bar
	Texas Toast	Cheese stick
Apr 19 - Tue	Broccoli	Banana
	Fruit Cocktail	Juice
	Milk	Milk
	Chicken Noodle Soup	Donut
	Breadstick	Cheese stick
	Saltines	Grapes
Apr 20 - Wed	Cheese stick	Juice
	Peas	Milk
	Applesauce	
	Milk	
	Chicken Tenders	Pancake on a stick
	Sweet Potato Fries	Cheese stick
Apr 21 - Thu	Corn	Apple slices
Apr 21 - Illu	Apple slices	Juice
-	Milk	Milk
		Cereal Bar
	Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans	Cheese stick
Apr 22 Fri		
Apr 22 - Fri	Sunchips	Craisins
	Pears	Juice
	Milk	Milk
	Calzone	Pancake
	Marinara	Cheese stick
Apr 25 - Mon	Peas	Fruit Cup
	Pears	Juice
	Milk	Milk
	Popcorn Chicken	Frudel
	Mashed Potatoes	Cheese stick
Apr 26 - Tue	Corn	Banana
Apr 20 - rue	Dinner roll	Juice
	Pineapple	Milk
	Milk	
	Nacho Chips	Cinnamon Roll
	Taco Meat	Cheese stick
	Cheese sauce	Craisins
Apr 27 - Wed	Fiesta Beans	Juice
•	Green Beans	Milk
	Fruit Cocktail	
	Milk	
	Meatloaf	Muffin
	Augratins	Cheese stick
	Dinner roll	Apple slices
Apr 28 - Thu	Broccoli	Juice
	Grapes	Milk
	Milk	milis
		Omolet
	Chicken Patty	Omelet
	Bun	Cheese stick
Apr 29 - Fri	Tater Tots	Orange slices
•	Carrots	Juice
	Apple slices	Milk
	Milk	

Middle School Girls Basketball

Jan 13 Lincoln 4:30

Jan 18 at Alma/Pepin (Alma) 4:30

Jan 20 BRF 4:30

Jan 21 Whitehall 4:30

Jan 24 at Lincoln 4:30

Jan 25 at Indee 5:30

Jan 27 at CFC 4:45

Feb 1 Gilmanton 4:30

Feb 3 Augusta 4:30

Feb 8 at Whitehall 4:30

Feb 10 Indee 4:30

reb 10 Indee 4:3

Feb 15 CFC 4:30 Feb 17 at Gilmanton 5:00

Middle School Wrestling

Jan 11	at Whitehall	5pm
Jan 20	at Indee	5pm
Jan 21	at Arcadia	5pm
Jan 27	at CFC	5pm
Feb 1	at BRF	5pm
Feb 8	at Arcadia	5pm
Feb 15	Blair-Taylor	5pm
Feb 22	at Mel-Min	5pm
Mar 10	at BRF	4:30

Middle School Track

Apr 19	at CFC	4:00
Apr 25	at GET	TBD
May 3	at Arcadia	4:00
May 6	Blair-Taylor	4:30

High School Track

March 22	at UW-Stout	3:30
March 26	at LaCrosse	9:00
April 1	at UW-Stout	(Elite)
April 7	at Augusta	4:15
April 12	at Bangor	4:00
April 14	at Indee	4:45
April 19	at Luther	4:00
April 21	Blair-Taylor	5:00
April 23	at Cashton	10:00
April 25	at Indee	4:15
April 26	at CFC	4:00
April 28	at Royall	4:00
May 3	Blair-Taylor	4:30
May 5	at Whitehall	4:15
May 12	at Indee (Conf)	4:00
May 16	Rain Dt (Conf)	
May 19	at Whitehall	4:00
May 23	Regional	
May 26	Sectional	

State

June 3



High School Softball

at BRF

3/25

3/29	Fall Creek
3/31	Whitehall
4/1	CFC
4/4	Osseo-Fairchild
4/5	at Immanuel
4/7	Eleva-Strum
4/8	at Indee
4/12	Lincoln
4/14	at Mel-Min
4/19	Pepin/Alma
4/21	Augusta
4/22	at Whitehall
4/25	Greenwood/Loyal
4/26	at CFC
4/28	Immanuel
4/29	Eleva-Strum
5/3	Indee
5/5	at GET
5/6	at Lincoln
5/7	at Arcadia Tourney 9am
5/10	Mel-Min
5/13	at Pepin/Alma
5/16	at Augusta
5/19,24,26	Regional
5/31+6/2	Sectional
6/9.10.11	State

All games: Varsity at 5:00, JV to follow unless otherwise posted

High School Baseball

3/31	BRF
4/4	Osseo-Fairchaild
4/7	Eleva-Strum
4/8	at Indee
4/12	Lincoln
4/14	at Mel-Min
4/19	Pepin/Alma
4/21	Augusta
4/22	at Whitehall
4/26	at CFC
4/28	Immanuel
4/29	at Eleva-Strum
5/3	Indee
5/6	at Lincoln
5/10	Mel-Min
5/13	at Pepin/Alma
5/16	at Augusta
5/19	Whitehall
5/20	CFC
5/23	at Immanuel
5/26,31+6/1	Regional
6/7	Sectional
6/14	State

All games: Varsity at 5:00, JV to follow unless otherwise posted

School District of Blair-Taylor

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