

FALL 2022

WILDCAT NEWS

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS LETTER



Administration

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Blair-Taylor School District

United Campus

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Fall is Here!

A Message From Our Superintendent, Mr. Lynn Halverson

Fall is upon us! Students are in their routines, sports are in full swing, and most importantly, a lot of learning is taking place daily. The learning that takes place varies from teaching our youngest how to share, take turns, and encourage each other, all the way to supporting our high school students on how to achieve their career goals after graduation. It's impressive to step back and see the growth of our students as they work their way through all of the grade levels.

Student growth across the grade levels would not be nearly as successful without the genuine caring and dedication of our entire staff (all adults in the building). The staff working directly with the kids are the ones who make the magic happen! To be clear, our staff takes on a whole gamut of student needs, not just teaching students academics. At school, they are the ones that wipe away student tears, counsel students through difficult times, give kids the courage to try again, teach kids how to forgive, teach kids how to be persistent, the list goes on and on. The demands on our staff are much more than just teaching reading and math. As a school community, we are fortunate to have a staff that supports the "whole" child.

With the start of the 2022-23 school year, I've been able to see the Blair-Taylor School District from a different lens as the Superintendent and I continue to be impressed with our students, staff, parents, school board, and community. Thank you for a successful start to the 2022-23 school year and for your continued support!!

Inclement Weather

Colder temperatures are just around the corner which means there is the possibility for school cancellations, late starts, or early closure. Winter in Wisconsin is unpredictable and the school makes the best decision based on the information at the moment. The end goal is to keep our students and staff safe.

In the event of a school cancellation, late start, or early closure, an "all call" from the school will be made to all parents. Local television and radio stations will also be notified. If Blair-Taylor cancels school for the day or closes early, all after school practices and evening events will be canceled.

Sincerely,
Lynn Halverson

From the desk of the Middle-High School Principal

MRS. DANA T. EIDE



Mrs. Dana T. Eide

Middle-High School Principal
eided@btsd.k12.wi.us
608-989-2525



Thursday, Nov. 17th

Last day of the Trimester

Friday, Nov. 18th

Inservice
No School

November 21-25

No School

Hello Wildcat Families,

The beginning of the school year was a whirlwind of activities. We began at the middle and high school with a day of learning about expectations and creating a safe and supportive school culture. We also reintroduced the spirit stick. Great to see all the school spirit!

We next rolled into Homecoming 2022. We celebrated many exciting games, enjoyed a lip sync contest, parade, bon fire and dance. In addition, we celebrated the 40th year of Blair and Taylor consolidating for football.

Next up was Cheese Festival. Many students and staff volunteered to help run events such as the car show, pedal pull and food stands. It was great to be able to contribute to the success of this community event. Thanks to everyone involved!

Middle and high school students took the STAR Assessment this fall, which is a screener that provides information about each student's level of knowledge in reading and math. The students' performance is evaluated based on how they did compared to how all other students in the state did on the assessments as well as informing us how prepared the students are to advance to the next level of learning. Students will be given their results and asked to set goals for their learning for the year. The STAR Assessment is given two more times this year to monitor growth.

Information about "Snow Days"

Even though we have been able to enjoy our share of warm, sunny weather, winter is just around the corner. Snow Days this year will have a slightly different look for the middle-high school. Thanks to our experience teaching and learning through a pandemic, we have learned to "do school" remotely. Therefore, rather than add school days on at the end of the school year extending the year into June, we will conduct "Snow Days" as "Remote Learning Days". We understand that older students may be responsible for younger siblings or have other responsibilities on Snow Days; therefore, we do not expect students to "attend" class remotely on the bell schedule. However, we do expect them to engage in learning. Teachers will post activities and assignments on Google Classroom for each class. Students will be expected to complete the tasks and activities by the beginning of the next school day in order to be counted as "present" on the snow day. On the snow day, students are invited to email their teachers with any questions they may have.

From the desk of the Elementary School Principal

MRS. BETH LISOWSKI



Mrs. Beth Lisowski
Elementary School Principal
lisowb@btsd.k12.wi.us
608-989-2525



Thursday, 11/3
P/T Conferences 4:00 -7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 11/8
P/T Conferences 4:00 -7:30 p.m.

Friday, 11/18
No School - Teacher Inservice

11/21-11/25
No School

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Arrival & Dismissal Times
7:45 a.m. Elementary Doors Open
7:45 - 8:00 a.m. Breakfast is served
8:00 a.m. Classes Begin

Dismissal
3:24 p.m. 4K Dismissal
3:25 p.m. Grades K-1
3:26 p.m. Grades 2-3
3:27 p.m. Grades 4-5
3:30 p.m. MS/HS
3:36 p.m. Buses Depart

Wed. Dismissal - 1 hour earlier

The 2022-23 school year is off to a fantastic start! The staff and students have been busy sharing stories and experiences of their summer adventures and I have enjoyed meeting many parents, community members, and teachers. I have also really enjoyed getting to know the students and their unique personalities.

Students in grades Kindergarten - 5th have been busy learning to use their new English Language Arts curriculum, Into Reading. Under the direction of our Reading Specialist, Mr. Scott Nelson, each grade level has held a family night where parents have learned about the new program and how they can help their child be successful.

Important Elementary Reminders:

Encouraging Good Attendance

Attendance at Blair-Taylor Elementary is important for success in school. Research shows that it is nearly impossible for a student to succeed in school without maintaining regular attendance. Please ensure that your child attends school every day and arrives on time. Here are a few practical tips to help support regular attendance:

- Make sure your children keep a regular bedtime and establish a morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Ensure your children go to school every day unless they are truly sick.
- If possible, avoid scheduling vacations or appointments during school.
- Talk to teachers or counselors for advice if your child feels anxious about school.

Changes in Family Information

It is important that we maintain current contact information such as addresses, phone numbers, and emergency contacts. Please notify the elementary office of any changes.

Christmas Project

The Blair-Taylor School District is gearing up for the holiday season. In preparation, we want to let you know that we will be offering opportunities for families who may need a little additional support with gifts and/or food during this time. Throughout this process, your family's information will be kept strictly confidential and we will work closely with you on when you can pick up gifts and/or food at the school in a discreet manner.

If you are interested in receiving any support, please contact Mrs. Lisowski for 4K-5th grade students and Mr. Van Schyndel for 6th - 12th grade students as soon as possible. We will attempt to fulfill as many requests as possible. However, it will depend on the amount of need and requests.

Mrs. Beth Lisowski, Elementary Principal
lisowb@btsd.k12.wi.us
608-989-9835 ext. 203

Mr. Van Schyndel, School Counselor 6-12
vanscc@btsd.k12.wi.us
608-989-2525 ext. 301

Giving Back

The Blair-Taylor school district partners with area businesses, organizations and community members to help families in need during the holiday season. Through generous donations, we are able to provide students with clothes, gifts and food to help brighten their holiday season. If you are interested in making a donation, please contact Elementary Principal, Mrs. Beth Lisowski.

Helping Teachers Helps Students: Introducing Our Instructional Coach



Hello! I'm Mandy Swenson, Blair-Taylor's District Instructional Coach.

I am currently working as an instructional coach for the Blair-Taylor School District. This will be my first year in a coaching role after having taught in the Blair-Taylor School District for eighteen years. I have degrees in Broad Field Social Studies, English, 6-12 Education, and a Master's of Education in Professional Development, all from UW-La Crosse. I am currently taking classes through UW-Madison as I work towards my Instructional Coaching Certificate.

I am excited to take on a coaching role as it allows me to work in a new capacity with the amazing students and staff at Blair-Taylor!

What is an instructional coach?

"An instructional coach is an educational leader who works in a school or district to support teachers in reaching their goals. Effective instructional coaches serve as thought partners, building relationships based on trust and mutual respect and providing reflective, inquiry-oriented feedback rather than making judgments.

Instructional coaching is important because it builds teacher capacity and efficacy. Coaches and teachers engage in asset-based conversations focused on student learning rather. These coach-teacher partnerships also promote positive school climate and culture, which are essential for both student and teacher success. An increased sense of belonging leads to increased student achievement and decreased educator turnover." (University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2021)

Beliefs I want to transfer as we embrace instructional coaching at Blair-Taylor:

- I am motivated by the fact that students are here to learn and as teachers we facilitate this learning.
- I know that teachers get strength and grow through collaboration; coaches are partners-not evaluators.
- I believe educators (teachers, coaches, administrators) all have the ability and the power to impact student learning through collaboration, goal setting, implementation, and reflection.
- I am constantly mindful of the idea of positive intent in our actions and those of others we work with.
- I value clarity and open communication as it helps to build trust relationships and partnerships.



If you would like to collaborate or learn more about instructional coaching at Blair-Taylor, you may contact me by email at swensa@btsd.k12.wi.us or by phone at (608) 989-2881 ext. 241.

Reference

University of Wisconsin-Madison Place: Professional Learning and Community Education. (2021, June 29). *What is an instructional coach?* <https://place.education.wisc.edu/blog/what-is-an-instructional-coach/>



VETERANS DAY



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

Join us, Friday, Nov. 11th
for our Veterans Day Program
9:30 AM

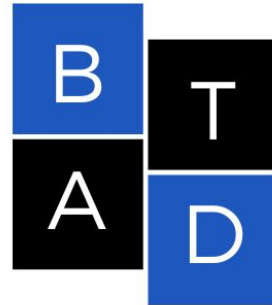


Blair Taylor United Campus
With Hospitality Brunch to Follow
Sponsored by FCCLA & HOSA



THE ART DEPT.

Want to get an inside look into the art rooms at Blair-Taylor?



 Blair-Taylor Art Department

 @BTArtDepartment

We have a Facebook page and Instagram account that share updates on projects and activities going on in the visual arts in our schools. Follow us on these platforms!

Peace Love & School Lunch

National School Lunch Week took place October 10th-14, and the theme was "PEACE, LOVE, and SCHOOL LUNCH". To celebrate this week, the kitchen staff and art department came together for a pretty awesome project! Thanks to funding from the B-T Booster Club, t-shirts and tie-dyeing supplies were purchased, and tie-dyeing was added to the art curriculum. With the help of Mrs. Bernhagen, each student in the elementary was able to tie-dye their own shirt to wear on "Tye-dye" Tuesday! The other dress up days for the week were Neon Monday, Crazy Hair/Headband Wednesday, Flower Power Thursday, and "Anything Hippy" Friday! Students and staff alike had a blast with this theme!



Handwashing

at Home, at Play, and Out and About



Germs are everywhere! They can get onto your hands and items you touch throughout the day. Washing hands at key times with soap and water is one of the most important steps you can take to get rid of germs and avoid spreading germs to those around you.

How can washing your hands keep you healthy?

Germs can get into the body through our eyes, nose, and mouth and make us sick. Handwashing with soap removes germs from hands and helps prevent sickness. Studies have shown that handwashing can prevent 1 in 3 diarrhea-related sicknesses and 1 in 5 respiratory infections, such as a cold or the flu.

Handwashing helps prevent infections for these reasons:



People often touch their eyes, nose, and mouth without realizing it, introducing germs into their bodies.



Germs from unwashed hands may get into foods and drinks when people prepare or consume them. Germs can grow in some types of foods or drinks and make people sick.



Germs from unwashed hands can be transferred to other objects, such as door knobs, tables, or toys, and then transferred to another person's hands.



What is the right way to wash your hands?

1. Wet your hands with clean running water (warm or cold) and apply soap.
2. Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap.
3. Scrub all surfaces of your hands, including the palms, backs, fingers, between your fingers, and under your nails. Keep scrubbing for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song twice.
4. Rinse your hands under clean, running water.
5. Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.



Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention
National Center for Emerging and
Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

When should you wash your hands?

Handwashing at any time of the day can help get rid of germs, but there are key times when it's most important to wash your hands.

- Before, during, and after preparing food
- Before eating food
- Before and after caring for someone who is sick
- Before and after treating a cut or wound
- After using the bathroom, changing diapers, or cleaning up a child who has used the bathroom
- After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- After touching an animal, animal food or treats, animal cages, or animal feces (poop)
- After touching garbage
- If your hands are visibly dirty or greasy

What type of soap should you use?



You can use bar soap or liquid soap to wash your hands. Many public places provide liquid soap because it's easier and cleaner to share with others. Studies have not found any added health benefit from using soaps containing antibacterial ingredients when compared with plain soap. Both are equally effective in getting rid of germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

How does handwashing help fight antibiotic resistance?

Antibiotic resistance occurs when bacteria resist the effects of an antibiotic – that is, germs are not killed and they continue to grow. Sickneses caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria can be harder to treat. Simply using antibiotics creates resistance, so avoiding infections in the first place reduces the amount of antibiotics that have to be used and reduces the likelihood that resistance will develop during treatment. Handwashing helps prevent many sicknesses, meaning less use of antibiotics.

Studies have shown that handwashing can prevent

1 in 3

diarrhea-related sicknesses and

1 in 5

respiratory infections, such as a cold or the flu.

For more information and a video demonstration of how to wash your hands, visit the CDC handwashing website:

www.cdc.gov/handwashing

Reading Corner

TITLE I

Establish limits on your child's recreational screen time

Screen time usage among children surged during the pandemic. According to data from SuperAwesome, a youth technology company, children ages six to 12 said they spend at least 50% more time in front of screens each day.

To set healthy limits on recreational screen time:

- Let your child know that it's time to set limits to make time for more productive non-screen activities.
- Establish blackout times. Set periods each day when all screens must be off (parents, too!) If 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. is always "tech-free" time, for example, your child will get out of the habit of reaching for a screen device during these hours.
- Power down before bed. Screens and sleep don't mix. In fact, screens make falling asleep harder. So have your child stop using digital devices at least one hour before lights-out. And keep them out of your child's room overnight.
- Leave the phone in your pocket. When you're out running errands or sitting in a waiting room, don't reach for a digital device. Instead, offer your child a book, a deck of cards, a pen and paper, etc. A creative brain is the best "device" your child will ever own!

Source: S. Fischer, "Kids' daily screen time surges during coronavirus," Axios Media. www.parent-institute.com

Respectfully,
Mr. Nelson, Title 1/Reading Specialist



A Healthy Recipe Share

From the Desk of our School Nurse, Mrs. Semb

Apple Oatmeal Muffins



INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup milk, non-fat
- 1/3 cup applesauce
- 1/2 cup flour, all-purpose
- 1/2 C quick-cooking oats (uncooked)
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 apple (tart, cored & chopped)

*Makes 6 Servings

DIRECTIONS

1. Wash hands with soap and water.
2. Preheat oven to 400°F.
3. Place 6 cupcake holders in baking tin.
4. In a mixing bowl, add milk and applesauce. Stir until blended.
5. Stir in flour, oats, sugar, baking powder, cinnamon. Mix until moistened (don't over mix).
6. Gently stir in the chopped apples.
7. Spoon into cupcake holders.
8. Bake for 15-20 minutes or until an inserted toothpick comes out clean.
9. Cool in pan 5 minutes before serving. Store in an airtight container.

Optional toppings: raisins, walnuts.

Source:

Simple Healthy Recipes.

Oklahoma Nutrition Information and Education - ONIE Project

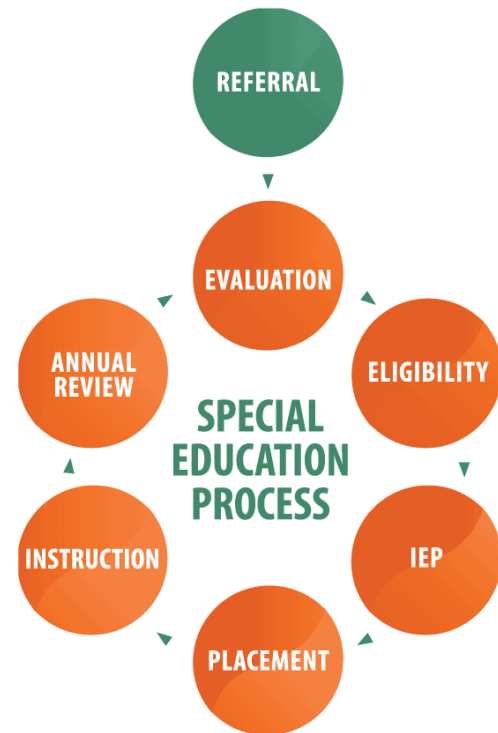
From the Desk of Ms. Belitz, School Psychologist...

Special Education Services

The Blair-Taylor School District Department of Special Education provides educational support to students with special needs. Programs for all disability areas are available to students in the district. General information may be obtained by calling 608-989-2525 ext 216. Support is provided to students with disabilities through an Individual Education Plan (IEP) with support in the following areas:

- Autism
- Speech & Language Impairment
- Emotional/Behavioral Disability
- Specific Learning Disability
- Occupational Therapy/Physical Therapy
- Psychological Services
- School Health Services
- Specially Designed Physical Education
- Cognitive Disability
- Homebound Instruction
- Pre-School Screening
- Early Childhood Special Education
- CESA Contracted Services for Low Incidence
- Vision & Hearing Impairment
-

Students with disabilities that do not qualify for special education may be eligible to receive services through a 504-accommodation plan.



Referrals

Children with suspected disabilities can be referred for an evaluation by contacting the school psychologist.

Our district offers Student Assistance Team (SAT) intervention to assist students experiencing difficulties in school. This team not only provides guidance to staff in terms of meeting student academic and/or emotional needs but also helps decide if a student should be referred for a Special Education evaluation. Please contact your child's building principal and/or school psychologist for more information. Additional written information and resources will be provided upon request by calling 608-989-2525 ext 216.



Child Development Days Screening

Each year the Special Education Department, in conjunction with Western Dairyland Head Start and various agencies, conducts child development screenings. Birth to Three is available to screen children between the ages of 6 months and 3 as well. All children should be screened at least one time prior to kindergarten. Vision and hearing should be checked twice before kindergarten. Child Development Days is held for students and parents to learn about child development and for the child to be screened for potential need areas.

This year, Child Development Days will be held the evening of February 3rd, 2023 from 5:00-8:00 pm and the morning of February 4th, 2022 from 9:00 am -12:00 pm .

For further information on the pre-school screening process, please contact 608-989-2525. Looking forward to seeing you there!



WHY THIS MATTERS

Fostering positive mental health in students can improve their overall health and improves student learning, attendance, and engagement. Positive mental health also reduces bullying, risky behaviors, substance abuse, school violence, and involvement in the juvenile justice system. Since students spend the majority of their days at school, strengthening student mental health in school benefits the whole school community.



SCHOOLS ARE CONNECTED TO **95%** OF ALL 5-17 YEAR OLD KIDS

WHAT THE RESEARCH SAYS

School connectedness – the feeling of belonging in a school that cares about each student – positively impacts student mental health. Kids who feel connected to at least one person at school have significantly better mental health than those who lack a connection to school.¹ Just one accepting adult in the life of an LGBTQ youth can reduce their risk of suicide attempt by 40%.²

Schools that cultivate positive relationships and implement a preventative framework addressing the needs of all students—including the screening of all students on mental health measures—have demonstrated positive results and improved symptoms of student depression.³

Outside of school, research shows that getting at least 8 hours of sleep improves mental health and academic performance. The number of high schoolers who sleep that minimum amount has steadily declined since 2007 (when smartphones were launched).⁴ Scientists stress that teenagers need 8-10 hours of sleep each night, but their biological sleep rhythms naturally cause teens to fall asleep later. To account for this, researchers recommend instruction should not begin before 8:30 a.m.⁵ School start times impact mental health and cognitive functioning: those who begin school at 8:30 or later have better performance, better attendance, and fewer car crashes.⁶

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WISCONSIN?

Many kids do not receive any mental health treatment. The ratio of mental health professionals to students in Wisconsin and across the nation is far below recommended standards. The number of students per school counselor and per school psychologist are about twice the recommended levels, and 7x the recommended number of students to school social workers.⁷

To address the mental health needs of students, Wisconsin is investing in comprehensive school mental health systems (CSMHS).⁸ Schools implementing a CSMHS offer a continuum of services to all students.

Additionally, there are a growing number of peer-led youth groups in Wisconsin. These are vital to providing youth voice and serve an important role given the shortage of mental health professionals in schools. To see the variety and geographic spread of peer-led groups, click on this [map](#).



Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

- continued -

SUPPORTING CHILD WELL-BEING THROUGH STRENGTHENING STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH

WHAT HELPS?



School connectedness and strong relationships with staff and peers.



Positive, not punitive, school culture that supports belonging.



Sufficient sleep and developmentally appropriate start times.

WHAT WE CAN DO

STUDENTS

- Build positive relationships among your friends and peers. Healthy relationships protect you from mental health concerns and build resilience to overcome life's challenges.
- Advocate for student mental health in your school or on your campus. For examples, see the [Youth Mental Health Groups](#).
- Submit a confidential tip to [Speak Up Speak Out Wisconsin](#) if you know of someone who poses a threat to themselves or to your school.

PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

- Encourage your student to participate in a sport, club, or school activity – this can foster connections to their school.
- Ensure your child gets sufficient sleep every night.
- Explore parent [resources](#) to understand the developing brain and impact on mental health, behavior, and learning.

SCHOOLS

- Build a positive, welcoming, and inclusive school culture.
- Prioritize school belonging so every student feels connected to at least one supportive adult.
- Focus on bullying prevention as a central feature of the school's safety plan.

- Implement universal mental health screening of all students.
- Provide instruction and training to students and staff on suicide prevention, positive mental health practices, and wellness.
- Create a supportive culture for educators' mental health.
- Adopt trauma-informed learning and supports over disciplinary approaches.
- Start school after 8:30 a.m. for middle school and high school students.

POLICYMAKERS

- Support increased, stable funding of comprehensive school-based mental health services where most kids spend their day.
- Prioritize and fund the recruitment and retention of school mental health professionals.⁹
- Increase funding for peer support services.
- Provide access and coverage for students to receive mental health telehealth services regardless of insurance coverage.
- Require schools to teach mental health literacy and suicide prevention education. Require school staff to take suicide prevention and mental health training.

REFERENCES:

¹ Centers for Disease Control. (2022, April 1). Mental Health, Suicidality, and Connectedness Among High School Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic. ABES Survey, U.S. January–June 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/71/ss/ss7103a3.htm>

² The Trevor Project. (June 2019). The Trevor Project Research Brief: Accepting Adults Reduce Suicide Attempts Among LGBTQ Youth. https://www.thetrevorproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Trevor-Project-Accepting-Adult-Research-Brief_June-2019.pdf

³ Arora, Collins, Dart, et al. (2019). Multi-tiered Systems of Support for School-Based Mental Health: A Systematic Review of Depression interventions. *School Mental Health*, 11, 240–264.

⁴ CDC. Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data in YRBS Explorer. Retrieved July 12, 2022 from <https://yrbsexplorer.services.cdc.gov/#/graphs?questionCode=H888&topicCode=C08&location=XX&year=2019>

⁵ CDC. Most U.S. middle and high schools start the school day too early. Retrieved July 12, 2022 from <https://www.cdc.gov/sleep/infographics/too-early.html>

⁶ Wahlstrom, Kyla. (2014). Examining the Impact of Later High School Start Times on the Health and Academic Performance of High School Students. University of Minnesota.

⁷ Hopeful Futures Campaign. (February 2022) America's School Mental Health Report Card. <https://hopefulfutures.us/action-wisconsin/>

⁸ Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Wisconsin School Mental Health Framework. <https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/mental-health/framework>

⁹ SAMHSA. Recruitment and Retention of School Mental Health Providers: Strategies and Key Resources. Retrieved July 12, 2022 from https://mhtcnetwork.org/sites/default/files/2021-08/SMHWorkforceReport_2021_final_updated_05AUG21.pdf



MATTERS

Welcome to the 2022-2023 School Year!

Here's a quick snapshot of some things we've been up to in the district library so far:

Prior to the beginning of the school year, library and district staff, with assistance from IT, ensured that Chromebooks were ready for deployment for grades 3-12. With over 450 students enrolled at those grade levels, and each child needing a Chromebook and charger, this amounted to managing the deployment of over 900 devices.

Starting on day one, K-5 students have been coming to the library for a 45-min. Library Skills class during their scheduled time in the 6-day schedule/cycle. Some classes come in for an additional 15-min check-out during the 6-day cycle, if requested/scheduled by their teacher.

6th grade students have a 30-min. class/check-out every other week. 7th and 8th grade students come to the library for a check-out time scheduled during their homeroom.

Early Learning Center students have gotten an introduction to our library staff and space. Students in the Early Learning Center and Childcare Center will start coming to the library in October.

We have been establishing routines for HS students who come to the library for distance learning, virtual co-op and independent classes, study halls, or alternative education. By my count, this trimester, we have 32 different classes/study halls coming to the library throughout the day. Fortunately, so far, behavior has been exemplary!

We've added approximately 200 new books to our collection (catching up on deliveries that arrived during the summer).

Of course, students and teachers alike come to the library as needed to seek resources and help.

Here's a breakdown of how many books we've checked out so far (as of 9/20/22):

Middle/High School Library - 665

Elementary Library - 1,383

Live Streaming Update

We've been working on getting the live streaming program up and running again for the school year. So far, we've had trouble recruiting student volunteers. If you have children in middle or high school, and you think they might be interested in helping out, please ask them to contact me (Mrs. Joten). High school students can earn community service through this activity, even if they live stream something that takes place during the school day. It is relatively easy to learn how to live stream, and we will train and support students as needed. It's actually kind of fun to do!

Parent and community member Jeff Stalheim deserves a special shout out, as he has live streamed all of our home football games so far this season! We could not possibly be more appreciative of his efforts. Thank you, Jeff!



MATTERS



Students and Staff Can Access Thousands of eBooks for Free, Thanks to Sora!

I want to make sure all students, staff, and parents/guardians are aware of this resource. Our district library pays a subscription which allows students and staff to read thousands of eBooks for FREE!

I went into more detail in the summer edition of our newsletter. [Click here](#) to revisit a previous issue of the newsletter. Or, if you are just looking for directions for Sora, [click here!](#)

Mark Your Calendars for the Book Fair!

The Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled for Nov. 2 - Nov. 9. [Click here to view our homepage.](#) This is considered a K-8 Fair, though we should have a few items for that pertain to Pre-K as well.

Please see below for the hours we'll be open each day for the in-person Fair:

Wed., Nov. 2, 7:45 am - 3:30 pm	Mon., Nov. 7, 7:45 am - 3:30 pm
Thurs., Nov. 3, 7:45am - 7:00 pm	Tues., Nov. 8, 7:45 am - 7:00 pm
Fri., Nov. 4, 7:45 am - 3:30 pm	Wed., Nov. 9, 7:45 am - 3:30 pm



We intentionally scheduled the Book Fair to coincide with both nights of elementary parent-teacher conferences, so that parents/guardians can stop in with their children, if they so choose. For those families for which this will not work, elementary students are able to shop during a portion of their normal Library Skills class during the six days our Fair will run. One other option includes an adult accompanying elementary students to the Fair before school. (In the past, we had issues with a number of elementary students skipping breakfast or being late to class, which is why we now require an adult to accompany them.) If families are unable to attend the Fair in person, they are welcome to shop our [online Fair](#) instead (Nov. 2 -15).

We encourage families to set up [eWallet accounts](#) (particularly for elementary students). These accounts allow students to shop without having to bring money to school, reducing issues with students losing money or potentially having it stolen. Please be aware that any left-over money in an eWallet account is treated as a credit toward the individual's Scholastic account.

In addition, please note that we are required to charge sales tax. Many children find this hard to understand. Please help by planning ahead and doing what you can to explain to them that even if a book is \$4.99, they will need more than a \$5.00 bill to pay for it. (What a great opportunity to reinforce math and money-counting skills!)

You may have noticed that over the past few years, we've reduced the number of toys and trinkets available for purchase at the Fair. The main reason for this is because we would like the emphasis to remain on literacy, learning, and building personal libraries at home. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me (Kimberly Joten, K-12 Library Media Specialist) at jotenk@btsd.k12.wi.us. I'd be happy to talk with you regarding our Book Fair.

Are You Following Us On Social Media?

We're not always able to update things as often as we'd like, but we sure do try! If you're interested, here are some ways to engage with our district library online:

[Elementary Library Facebook Page](#) (Search for "Blair-Taylor Elem. Library" on Facebook)

[Middle/High School Library Facebook Page](#) (Search for "Blair-Taylor MS/HS Library" on Facebook)

**CURRENT SCHOOL
BOARD MEMBERS:**

PRESIDENT:

Troy Tenneson

N25277 US Hwy 53
Ettrick, WI 54627
Home: 608-525-5672
Cell: 507-459-3451
tennet@btsd.k12.wi.us

VICE PRESIDENT:

Perry Kujak

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Home: 608-989-2510
Cell: 608-797-6160
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CLERK:

David Thompson

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Blair, WI 54616
Cell: 608-792-3162
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TREASURER:

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DIRECTOR:

Dr. Blaine Koxlien

PO BOX 67
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Michele Steien

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DIRECTOR:

Neil Kniseley
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Taylor, WI 54959
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knisen@btsd.k12.wi.us

SCHOOL BOARD

NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

(S.120.06(6)(b), Wis. Stats.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to qualified electors of the Blair-Taylor School District that a School Board election will be held on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, to elect school board member to the seat currently held by Sarah Staff as District Director At-Large whose 3-year term expires in April 2023. The incumbent is eligible for re-election.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any qualified elector desiring to be a candidate for this position on the school board shall file a Declaration of Candidacy at the Blair-Taylor School District Office, N31024 Elland Road, Blair, WI not earlier than Tuesday, December 1, 2022 and not later than Tuesday, January 3, 2023, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. The forms may be delivered or mailed to the address noted above prior to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 2023. District boundary information is available in the district office.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that if a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

Dated this 26th day of September, 2022.

David Thompson, Clerk
Blair-Taylor School District

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS:

**3rd Monday of each month
4th Monday of October & April
United Campus Board Room
5:30 p.m.**

November 2022 Breakfast & Lunch Menu

Date	K-12 BREAKFAST	4K-12 LUNCH
Nov 1 - Tue	Breakfast Bagel	Orange chicken
	Cheese stick	Brown Rice
	Banana	Carrots
	Juice	Mandarin oranges
	Milk	Fortune cookie
Nov 2 - Wed	Donut	Pizza Dippers
	Cheese stick	Marinara
	Grapes	Broccoli
	Juice	Pears
	Milk	Scooby Doo Snack
Nov 3 - Thu	Cheese Omelet	Chicken Noodle Soup
	Toast	Cheesy Bread
	Apple slices	Saltines
	Juice	Corn
	Milk	Applesauce
	Frudel	Milk
Nov 4 - Fri	Frudel	Nachos- Taco meat, cheese, Sr. Cream
	Cheese stick	Fiesta Beans
	Craisins	Carrots
	Juice	Fruit Cocktail
	Milk	Milk
Nov 7 - Mon	Muffin	Chicken Tenders
	Cheese stick	Sweet potato Fries
	Raisins	Peas
	Juice	Apple slices
	Milk	Milk
Nov 8 - Tue	Pancake Sausage Bites	Cheese Omelet
	Cheese stick	Sausage Patty
	Banana	Hashbrown
	Juice	Appleway Bar
	Milk	Banana
Nov 9 - Wed	Cinnamon Roll	Salisbury Steak
	Cheese stick	Gravy
	Grapes	Mashed Potatoes
	Juice	Dinner roll
	Milk	Corn
		Peaches
Nov 10 - Thu	Combo Bar	Pizza
	Cheese stick	Green Beans
	Apple slices	Sidekick
	Juice	Applesauce
	Milk	Milk
Nov 11 - Fri	Yogurt	Ravioli
	Granola	Red Sauce
	Cheese stick	Breadstick
	Blueberries	Broccoli
	Juice	Pears
	Milk	

Date	K-12 BREAKFAST	4K-12 LUNCH
Nov 14 - Mon	Waffles	Quesadilla
	Cheese stick	Salsa, Sr Cream
	Strawberry Cup	Refried Beans
	Juice	Carrots
	Milk	Pineapple
Nov 15 - Tue	Breakfast Sandwich	Chicken Alfredo
	Cheese stick	Pasta
	Banana	Texas Toast
	Juice	Winter Blend
	Milk	Fruit Cocktail
Nov 16 - Wed	Mini Donuts	Chicken Nuggets
	Cheese stick	Tater Tots
	Grapes	Green Beans
	Juice	Mandarin Oranges
	Milk	Milk
Nov 17 - Thu	Mini Bagel	Turkey Gravy
	Cheese stick	Mashed Potatoes
	Orange slices	Stuffing
	Juice	Corn
	Milk	Cranberries
		Craisins
		Pumpkin Bar
		Milk
	Friday, Nov. 18 - Friday, Nov. 25 - No School. Happy Thanksgiving!	
	Nov 28 - Mon	Cereal
Cheese stick		Sunchips
Applesauce		Baked Beans
Juice		Peaches
Milk		Milk
Nov 29 - Tue	Pancakes	Fish Sticks
	Cheese stick	Curly Fries
	Banana	Coleslaw
	Juice	Broccoli
	Milk	Grapes
Nov 30 - Wed	Cinnamon Roll	Pizza Hotdish
	Cheese stick	Green Beans
	Grapes	Strawberry Cup
	Juice	Milk
	Milk	



December 2022 Breakfast & Lunch Menu

Date	Breakfast	Lunch
Dec 1 - Thu	Breakfast Pizza	Hot Ham & Cheese
	Cheese stick	Bun
	Orange slices	Deli Roasters
	Juice	Carrots
	Milk	Fruit Cocktail
		Milk
Dec 2 - Fri	Muffin	Ravioli
	Cheese stick	Red Sauce
	Apple slices	Breadstick
	Juice	Green Beans
	Milk	Milk
Dec 5 - Mon	Cereal Bar	Chicken Nuggets
	Cheese stick	Smile Fries
	Craisins	Broccoli w/Cheese
	Juice	Pineapple
	Milk	Milk
Dec 6 - Tue	Waffles	Quesadilla
	Cheese stick	Refried Beans
	Banana	Corn
	Juice	Apple slices
	Milk	Milk
Dec 7 - Wed	Long John	Chili
	Cheese stick	Cheesy Breadstick
	Grapes	Peas
	Juice	Applesauce
	Milk	Milk
Dec 8 - Thu	French Toast Sticks	Mac & Cheese
	Cheese Stick	Pretzel
	Apple	Carrots
	Juice	Pears
	Milk	Milk
Dec 9 - Fri	Frudel	Hot dog
	Cheese stick	Baked beans
	Fruit Cup	Macaroni Salad
	Juice	Doritos
	Milk	Peaches
		Milk
Dec 12 - Mon	Poptart or Oatmeal Bar	BBQ Rib
	Cheese stick	Bun
	Craisins	Spiral Fries
	Juice	Peas
	Milk	Strawberry Cup
		Milk
Dec 13 - Tue	Pancakes	Meatballs/Gravy
	Cheese stick	Mashed potatoes
	Banana	Carrots
	Juice	Dinner roll
	Milk	Fruit Cocktail
		Milk
Dec 14 - Wed	Cinnamon Roll	Chicken Tenders
	Cheese stick	Sweet Potato fries
	Kiwi	California Blend w/cheese
	Juice	Apple slices
	Milk	Milk

Date	Breakfast	Lunch
Dec 15 - Thu	Yogurt	Loaded Nachos
	WG Granola	Fiesta beans
	Cheese stick	Corn
	Blueberries	Applesauce
	Juice	Milk
		Milk
Dec 16 - Fri	Combo Bar	Pizza
	Cheese stick	Green Beans
	Apple slices	Peaches
	Juice	Scooby Snack
	Milk	Milk
Dec 19 - Mon	Cereal	Chicken Patty
	Cheese stick	Bun
	Applesauce	Tater tots
	Juice	Carrots
	Milk	Fruit Cocktail
		Milk
Dec 20 - Tue	Pancake on a stick	Calzone
	Cheese stick	Marinara
	Banana	Green Beans
	Juice	Pears
	Milk	Fruit Snack
		Milk
Dec 21 - Wed	Mini Donuts	Meatloaf
	Cheese stick	Potato Wedges
	Grapes	Garlic bread knot
	Juice	Broccoli w/cheese
	Milk	Applesauce
		Milk
Dec 22 - Thu	Muffin	Turkey Gravy
	Cheese stick	Mashed Potatoes
	Apple slices	Dinner roll
	Juice	Corn
	Milk	Mandarin Oranges
		Pudding
		Milk
Dec 23 - 30	No School	

*happy
holidays*

January 2023 Breakfast & Lunch Menu

Date	Breakfast	Lunch
Jan 3 - Mon	Cereal Bar	BBQ Rib
	Cheese stick	Bun
	Raisins	Smile Fries
	Juice	Cauliflower
	Milk	Blueberries, Craisins
		Milk
Jan 4 - Tue	Waffles	Penne Pasta
	Cheese stick	Meat sauce
	Banana	Breadstick
	Juice	Green Beans
	Milk	Apple slices
		Milk
Jan 5 - Wed	Cinnamon Roll	Chicken Tenders
	Cheese stick	Sweet Potato Fries
	Grapes	Peas
	Juice	Applesauce
	Milk	Milk
Jan 6 - Thu	Frudel	Pizza Dippers
	Cheese stick	Marinara
	Apple slices	Broccoli
	Juice	Pears
	Milk	Milk
Jan 7 - Fri	Yogurt	Nacho Chips
	Granola	Taco Meat
	Cheese stick	Cheese sauce
	Juice	Salsa/Sr Cream
	Blueberries	Fiesta Beans, Corn
	Milk	Fruit Cocktail
		Milk
Jan 10 - Mon	Cereal	Turkey Gravy
	Cheese stick	Mashed Potatoes
	Applesauce	Corn, Dinner roll
	Juice	Peaches
	Milk	Milk
Jan 11 - Tue	Combo Bar	Pizza
	Cheese Stick	Green Beans
	Banana	Apple slices
	Juice	Sidekick
	Milk	Milk
Jan 12 - Wed	Donut	Omelet
	Cheese stick	Sausage Patty
	Grapes	Hashbrown
	Juice	Appleway Bar
	Milk	Banana
		Milk
Jan 13 - Thu	Breakfast Bowl	Chicken Nuggets
	Craisins	Sweet Potato Fries
	Juice	Broccoli w/cheese
	Milk	Mandarin Oranges
Jan 14 - Fri	Banana Bread	Quesadilla
	Cheese stick	Salsa/Sr Cream
	Juice	Refried Beans
	Apple slices	Cauliflower
	Milk	Pineapple

Date	Breakfast	Lunch
Jan 17 - Mon	Muffin	Sloppy Joe
	Cheese Stick	Bun
	Apple	Potato Wedges
	Juice	Baked Beans
	Milk	Pears
		Milk
Jan 18 - Tue	Cheese Omelet	Fish Sticks
	Cheese stick	Curly Fries
	Banana	Coleslaw
	Juice	Green Beans
	Milk	Peaches
		Milk
Jan 19 - Wed	Cinnamon Roll	Chili
	Cheese Stick	Cheesy Bread Bites
	Grapes	Saltines
	Juice	Cheese stick
	Milk	Broccoli
		Milk
Jan 20 - Thu	Pancakes	Cheeseburger
	Cheese stick	Bun
	Apple slices	French Fries
	Juice	Beets, Apple slices
	Milk	Milk
Jan 21 - Fri	Appleway Bar	Scalloped Potatoes
	Hard Boiled egg	Ham
	Cheese stick	Animal Crackers
	Raisins	Carrots
	Juice	Fruit Cocktail
	Milk	Milk
Jan 24 - Mon	In-Service	
Jan 25 - Tue	Waffles	Hot dog
	Cheese stick	Bun
	Banana	Baked Beans
	Juice	Sunchips
	Milk	Pears
		Milk
Jan 26 - Wed	Donut	Ravioli
	Cheese Stick	Breadstick
	Grapes	Broccoli
	Juice	Fruit Cocktail
	Milk	Milk
Jan 27 - Thu	Frudel	Chicken Patty/ Bun
	Cheese stick	Tater Tots
	Apple slices	Carrots
	Juice	Pineapple
	Milk	Milk
Jan 28 - Fri	Cereal	Cheeseburger Mac
	Cheese Stick	Peas
	Applesauce	Peaches
	Juice	Appleway Bar
	milk	Milk
Jan 31 - Mon	Yogurt	Pizza
	Granole	Green Beans
	Cheese stick	Applesauce
	Blueberries	Sidekick
	Juice, and Milk	Milk



2022-23 MUSIC SCHEDULE

- September 18 - Cheesefest Parade (HS BAND) 12:15 @ old elementary school
- October 24 - Band Concert (MS BAND & HS BAND) 6:00 call, 6:30 concert
- *October 25 (Tues) - Choir Concert (HS CHOIR) 6:00 call, 6:30 concert
- *November 11 (Fri.) - Veterans Day
- November 12, 2022 - Dairyland Honors Band & Choir (select HS students)
- November 12-13 NATS Auditions - Lawrence University, Appleton, WI
- December 16 - Elementary Holiday Concert--3rd - 5th Grade 2:00 p.m.
- December 19 - Winter Choir Concert (MS & HS CHOIR) 6:00 call, 6:30 concert
- December 21 - Handbell Christmas Concert 6:00 call, 6:30 concert
- February 18, 2023 - Solo/Ensemble for EVERYONE (MS/HS/Handbells) @ MM
- February 20- Band Concert (BEGINNER BAND, MS BAND & HS BAND) 6:00 call, 6:30 concert
- February 24 - Couleeland Honors Band (select MS students- HS volunteer opportunity)
- *March 7 - Clearwater Festival @ Eau Claire (HS CHOIR) during the day.
- March 21 - 6th Grade Megaband (BEGINNER BAND) 1:00 concert
- May 6 - State Solo/Ensemble @ UWEC
- May 8 - Band Concert (BEGINNER BAND, MS BAND & HS BAND) 6:00 call, 6:30 concert
- *May TBD - 8th-grade recognition (MS Band, MS Choir & HS Band) 2 pm
- *May 16 (Tues) - Spring Choir Concert (MS & HS CHOIR) 6:00 call, 6:30 concert
- May 19 - Spring Concert--Grades 1-2 2:00 p.m.
- May 21 - Baccalaureate program (HS CHOIR) 5:00 call, 5:30 ceremony
- May 25 - Kindergarten Graduation 2:00 p.m.
- May 27 - Graduation (HS BAND) 12:30 call, 1:00 concert
- May 29 - Memorial Day (Blair) 10:30 call, 11:00 play



High School Boys Basketball

*JV/C Team to begin at 6pm,
Varsity to follow unless otherwise noted

Nov 21	at Fall Creek (Scrimmage)
Nov 29	Loyal
Dec 1	at Greenwood 5:45/7:15
Dec 3	Nekoosa 1:00/2:30
Dec 8	Mel-Min
Dec 10	at De Soto (Varsity) 2:30
Dec 13	Eleva-Strum
Dec 16	Whitehall
Dec 22	at CFC
Dec 29	at Cashton 4/7:00
Jan 3	Augusta
Jan 6	at Mel-Min
Jan 7	Bangor 1:00/2:30
Jan 14	Brookwood 1:00/2:30
Jan 17	at Immanuel
Jan 20	Gilmanton
Jan 21	EPC 1:00/4:00
Jan 26	at Lincoln
Jan 31	Indee
Feb 3	at Pepin
Feb 4	at JAG 12:45 Royall
Feb 9	at Eleva-Strum
Feb 14	at Whitehall
Feb 17	CFC
Feb 23	at Augusta
Feb 28-Mar 4	Regionals
March 9,11	Sectional
March 16-18	State

MS Boys Basketball

Nov 3	at Mel-Min	4:30
Nov 7	at Lincoln	4:45
Nov 8	at Whitehall	4:30
Nov 10	at BRF	4:30
Nov 15	at Indee	4:30
Nov 17	at CFC	5:00
Nov 28	Arcadia	4:30
Nov 29	at Gilmanton	5:30
Dec 1	Whitehall	4:30
Dec 5	Mel-Min	4:30
Dec 8	CFC	4:30
Dec 9	Gilmanton	4:30
Dec 12	BRF	4:30
Dec 15	at Mel-Min	4:30
Dec 20	Lincoln	4:30
Dec 22	at Arcadia	4:30

High School Girls Basketball

*JV/C Team to begin at 6pm,
Varsity to follow unless otherwise noted

Nov 15	at New Lisbon JV 5:45
Nov 17	BRF
Nov 22	GET
Nov 29	at Mel-Min
Dec 2	at Eleva-Strum
Dec 6	Whitehall
Dec 9	CFC
Dec 10	at De Soto Varsity 1:00
Dec 15	at Augusta
Dec 20	Mel-Min
Dec 29	at Cashton 4/5:30
Jan 7	Bangor 1:00/4:00
Jan 10	Immanuel
Jan 13	at Gilmanton
Jan 14	Brookwood 1:00/4:00
Jan 19	Lincoln
Jan 21	EPC 1:00/2:30
Jan 24	at Indee ? Holmen
Jan 27	Alma/Pepin
Feb 2	Eleva-Strum
Feb 4	at JAG 11:10/Royall
Feb 7	at Whitehall
Feb 10	at CFC
Feb 16	Augusta
Feb 21, 24,25	Regional
March 2, 4	Sectional
March 9-11	State

MS Girls Basketball

Jan 10	Gilmanton	4:30
Jan 13	at Lincoln	4:45
Jan 16	at Mel-Min	4:30
Jan 19	at BRF	4:30
Jan 20	at Gilmanton	5:30
Jan 23	at Whitehall	4:30
Jan 24	at Indee	4:30
Jan 26	CFC	4:30
Jan 30	Lincoln	4:30
Feb 2	at Arcadia	4:30
Feb 6	Mel-Min	4:30
Feb 7	Arcadia	4:30
Feb 9	Whitehall	4:30
Feb 13	Indee	4:30
Feb 14	at E-S	4:30
Feb 16	at CFC	5:00



High School Wrestling

Dec 1	Arcadia	7:00 pm
Dec 3	at Royall	9:30am
Dec 8	at Mondovi	7:00 pm
Dec 10	at EC North	9:00 am
Dec 15	Osseo-Fairchild	7:00 pm
Dec 16	at Whitehall	4:00 pm
Dec 29	at River Falls	7:00 am
Jan 7	at Kickapoo	10:00 am
Jan 14	at Ithaca	9:00 am
Jan 19	at Whitehall	7:00 pm
Jan 21	at Sparta	9:00 am
Jan 26	at Indee	7:00 pm
Jan 28	Indee Tourney	9:45 am
Feb 2	at CFC	7:00 pm
Feb 11	Regional	
Feb 18-23	Sectional/State	

MS Wrestling

January 13	at Blair-Taylor	5pm
January 19	at Whitehall	5pm
January 20	at Arcadia	5pm
January 26	at Indee	5pm
Feb 2	at CFC	5pm
Feb 9	at Mondovi	5pm
Feb 21	at Mel-Min	5pm
March 7	at BRF	4:30

Passes for Athletic Events

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

Adult Pass: \$40.00

Student Pass: \$15.00

Senior Pass (62 or older) - Free



School District of Blair-Taylor

N31024 Elland Road

P.O. Box 107

Blair, WI 54616

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