

School Delays and Closings

We all live in Wisconsin for many positive reasons; however, seasons do change and snow will be just around the corner, if it is not here already.

The Blair-Taylor School District collaborates with surrounding school districts regarding decisions related to school delays and closings. Student safety is our main consideration in making a decision to close, start late, or dismiss early.

If we choose to have a late start, a two-hour delay is our standard procedure. On a late start day, there will be no morning Early Childhood, 4 year-old kindergarten, or Head Start programs. A late start call is made if we feel it is likely that weather conditions will improve as the day progresses. Our second choice is to close school for the day. In cooperation with the National Weather Service, we choose to cancel school if we feel the weather will not improve throughout the day. The third option is an early release from school. This decision is made on days when we are already in session and the weather changes. In most cases, an early dismissal will be at 1:00 p.m.

We try to make our decision for a late start or cancellation by 6:00 p.m. the night before. The local radio and television stations are notified of our decision. In addition, we also use school messenger to notify parents. If we close school or have a late start, we normally put out a general message that will be sent to the primary parent//guardian in our student information system. If we close early, we will send a message to the primary, secondary, and emergency contacts in our student information system. Our reason for this is because we do not know who the primary pick up is after school; therefore, we send the information to all contacts we have for the student. For this reason, it is very important to keep your child's emergency contact information, including telephone numbers, up to date in our student database.

If a decision is made in Blair-Taylor to close school for the day or to close early due to inclement weather, all after-school practices and evening events will be cancelled.

Decisions to close school are made based on the best information we have early in the morning or during the school day. Making decisions on previous evening weather predictions can be difficult as weather patterns vary within a weather coverage area. We want to make a late start or closing decision as early as possible, knowing parents may have to make childcare arrangements for the day. I hope we have a mild winter and do not need to make a great number of these decisions.

Enjoy the season!

Jeffrey S. Eide, Superintendent
Blair-Taylor School District





From the Desk of the Middle/High School Principal...

We are off to a great start at the Blair-Taylor Middle High School. Many things have contributed to this great start.

#1 - Awesome attendance at Orientation Day. Most of the students and their parents/guardians attended Orientation Day on August 31st, where they connected with the students' homeroom teachers, received information about the school, and smiled nicely for the annual school pictures! Thanks to everyone who attended Orientation Day. We hope that it was as beneficial to you as it was to us!

#2 - Changes in the structure of the day. We have built time into the schedule to allow students to eat breakfast before the day begins and get to class ready to learn. We have also incorporated a structured support time into both the middle school schedule, as well as the high school schedule, to help students acquire skills they need and receive the assistance from teachers that they need to be successful. Students are beginning to buy into the importance of working hard to gain valuable knowledge and skills—even when a grade isn't attached—so that they can be more successful in the next chapter of their lives. This time for help and support is a "Response to Intervention" that we call PAWS (Personal Academics with Support). During this time, students receive extra instruction in math and language arts skills, as needed, as well as an opportunity to meet with teachers for extra help, to retake assessments, etc. Some student organization meetings take place during this time, too, giving all students access to these opportunities.

#3 - Teachers spent time this summer learning more about and preparing to apply the concepts for PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports). The middle-high school collaborated with the elementary school to incorporate the following expectations into "how we do business" in all areas of the school, including while using electronics: respectful, responsible, honest, and safe. These expectations are defined for all areas of the building. In addition, teachers developed classroom matrixes to explain how these expectations look in their classrooms. They have taught those, along with more detailed classroom procedures, to help develop routines that increase instruction time. When students know the expectations and know the procedures for things, such as how to turn in late work, in general, they are more willing and able to work. It seems that we have had less negative behavior so far this year, and students are doing a MUCH better job getting to classes on time!

#4 - Community involvement in student learning. Along with providing the students with a beautiful facility in which to learn, our community members are continuing to be involved in student learning. A group of community business leaders and representatives of organizations have begun to meet regularly to discuss ways they can support student learning and help students prepare for successful entry into the workforce. One task in which the committee engaged was developing a set of "Employability Skills." They defined skills they would like potential employees

to have. They clarified these skills, and the skills have now been put on the report cards for the middle and high school students. The students will learn about these skills and will understand that they were developed by our community business leaders. There has also been discussion about how the expectations of respect, responsibility, honesty, and safety can be acknowledged and supported in the community as well as the school. Several ideas were shared, and there will be more discussion to come. A final project that the committee is addressing is the development of a hall in which individuals, businesses, and organizations may be recognized for positive contributions to the school and society. All businesses and organizations are invited to send a representative to the community committee meetings to be a part of this collaborative effort to raise our children into productive citizens. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20th, at 6:30 p.m. in the united campus board room.

Students are faced with many challenges and high expectations as they prepare for the next steps in their lives. Working together is giving our students the best opportunity for success and a chance for some fun along the way, too!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Dana T. Eide
Middle/High School Principal



From the Desk of the Elementary Principal...

During my first few weeks as principal at Blair-Taylor Elementary, I've enjoyed meeting many of the parents, community members, and teachers. And most importantly, I've enjoyed meeting the students. I'll admit that I do not have all names memorized yet, but I'm working on it!

Our students have been busy; they are learning not only academics, but also behavioral expectations. As a school, our number one priority is to keep all students safe and provide an educational learning environment that welcomes all students and is conducive to student learning. It's been enjoyable to witness the tremendous behavioral growth among our students during the first month of school. Thank you for all your support!

I've also been pleasantly reminded of the generosity of our communities. During the first few days of school, Blair and Taylor churches brought in six totes of school supplies for our students to use as the year progresses. Thank you! Blair-Taylor has so many reasons to be proud!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your elementary principal! I look forward to continuous improvement as the year progresses!

Parent Teacher Conferences will take place from 3:30-7:30 p.m. on October 29th and November 3rd.

"The Wildcat Way"

Blair-Taylor Elementary School is participating in an important district initiative. It is called *Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports*--"The Wildcat Way." What is "The Wildcat Way"?

"The Wildcat Way" is a process for creating a safer and more effective school. It is a systems approach to enhance the capacity of our school to educate all children by developing research-based, school-wide, and classroom behavior support systems. The process focuses on improving a school's ability to teach and support positive behavior for all students. "The Wildcat Way" includes school-wide procedures and processes intended for all students and all staff in all settings. "The Wildcat Way" is not a program or a curriculum. It is a team-based process for systematic problem solving, planning, and evaluation. It is an approach to creating a safe and productive learning environment where all teachers can teach and all students can learn.

We have adopted a unified set of expectations for behavior in our school. You will see these expectations posted throughout the school and your child is learning them throughout the beginning of the school year. Our unified classroom expectations, found in every classroom and non-classroom setting in the school, are as follows:

- Be Safe
- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Honest

As part of our "Wildcat Way" process, teachers and other staff members use evidence-based practices to increase student learning and decrease classroom disruptions. To keep students focused on expectations in a positive manner, we do the following when teaching academics and behavior:

- Constantly teach and refer to our school-wide expectations.
- Provide students with more praise than correction.
- Talk to students with respect using positive voice tone.
- Actively engage everyone in the class during instruction.
- Use pre-correcting, prompting, and redirecting as we teach.
- Look for the positive first and provide positive, immediate, frequent, and explicit feedback.
- We also have a school-wide system of consequences, as we have in the past. Consequences may include loss of privileges, re-teaching, or meetings with the principal or parents.

If you have questions about "The Wildcat Way," please feel free to contact your child's teacher. We look forward to continuing a great school year teaching your child.



PAWS Time Expands to the Elementary

The goal at Blair-Taylor School is to achieve high levels of learning for all students. As Blair-Taylor works toward meeting the needs of all of our children, we have identified a thirty-minute instructional block at the K-2, 3-4, and 5-6 grade levels called PAWS (Personalized Academic Work Study), where all of our students can "soar" to new heights with additional supports. Enrichment or intervention support will take place during PAWS, depending on student needs—all students will be receiving something "more." The goal for our students is to always work toward proficiency and beyond.

In order to implement this 30-minute block of instruction, we will analyze our students' data and classroom progress to determine areas where improvement and/or enrichment are needed. We will monitor student progress and make changes to instruction based on student needs. Students who do not need the additional literacy, math and/or behavioral instruction, will participate in extension or enrichment groups. The groups are fluid, and students will move in or out of the groups as they demonstrate proficiency or a need for intervention. Although students will always have the opportunity to move from one group to another, we will re-evaluate all student needs and PAWS groups based on data, approximately every 6 6-day-cycles or 36 school days.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's classroom teacher. Thank you, in advance, for your support and cooperation in helping our students find success!

Encouraging Good Attendance

Clearly, going to school regularly matters! Blair-Taylor Elementary would like to ensure that every student attends school regularly. We don't want your child to fall behind in school and get discouraged. 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 doctor's appointments when school is in session.
- Talk to teachers and counselors for advice if your children feel anxious about going to school.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, neighbor, or another parent to take your child to school.
- If your child refuses to go to school, please call the school at (608) 989-9835—we can help!!

Let us know how we can best support you and your children so that they can show up for school and on time every day. We want your child to be successful in school!

Lynn S. Halverson
Blair-Taylor Elementary Principal

Blair-Taylor Welcomes New Staff



From left to right: Emily Becker, Bill Hinman, Cheri Omernick, Melissa Massman, Mac Bowen, Jared Peterson, and Kris McNamer. Missing: Julie Nehring and Cindy Schein.

Several new staff members have joined the school district this fall. We are excited to welcome them to our district and communities.

Emily Becker teaches special education in grades K-4. She is originally from Indiana and graduated from Anderson University. She holds degrees in cross-categorical education (1-8), general education (1-3), and early childhood special education. She taught at New Castle Community Schools in Indiana for two years and in Independence last year. She is very excited to be a part of the Blair-Taylor School District. She and her husband, Josh, live in Ettrick.

Bill Hinman teaches Spanish. He is originally from the Chicagoland area but went to college in Wisconsin, where he has remained ever since. He earned his bachelor's degree in Spanish and his master's degree in special education. He has been teaching Spanish since 1997; the majority of that time was spent in the Alma School District. He and his wife have three sons who attend school in Holmen—one is in middle school, while the other two are in high school. His interests include log rolling, downhill skiing, speaking Spanish, and music.

Cheri Omernick currently teaches 6th grade. She is from this area and graduated high school as a Blair Cardinal. She went to college at UW-Stevens Point and earned a teaching degree in elementary education, with a minor in coaching athletics. She taught in the Amherst School District for one year, while continuing to further her education—adding special education to her licensure. After that, she taught special education and 7th grade in the Arbor Vitae-Woodruff School District for five years. During that time, she continued her education and added middle school to her licensure. Following that, she moved back to the area and taught special education and 4th grade in the Black River Falls School District.

She enjoys spending time with family, golf, volleyball, and travel. She says that she is off to a great start and really appreciates the warm and friendly welcome she has received from the fine people of this district and the community in general.

She and her husband, Scott, have one daughter, Abbie, who is a freshman at BT.

Melissa Massman, a Blair-Taylor High School alumna and 2015 graduate of UW-River Falls, teaches agriculture.

Mac Bowen originally hails from Alma Center. He graduated from UW-Stout in December of 2014 with a Bachelor of Science degree, having majored in technology education. He has worked in welding/metal fabrication at Nick's Welding in Hixton. His hobbies include hunting, fishing, and woodworking, and he is a big fan of the Green Bay Packers. He is also a newlywed! He and his wife just got married in August.

Jared Peterson teaches high school math. He is thrilled to be working for his alma mater, Blair-Taylor School District! After graduating from BT, he went to college at St. Mary's University in Winona, MN. He graduated with a degree in mathematics and earned his teaching certification in that field. Approximately five years after attaining his bachelor's degree, he earned a graduate degree in instructional technology from Cardinal Stritch University. He taught for eight years before coming to the Blair-Taylor School District—spending two years at Birchwood High School and six at Lincoln High School in Alma Center.

He is married to his high school sweetheart, Danielle, and they have three beautiful little girls: Avery (5), Quinn (4), and Bailey (1). His hobbies include reading, following the Packers, and spending time with family.

Kris McNamer is a part-time library media assistant. She is originally from Sparta. She majored in English at UW-La Crosse. Previously, she has been an aide/sub for the Blair-Taylor Elementary School. In addition to being the part-time library media assistant at BT, she is also the director/librarian at Blair-Preston Public Library. Her hobbies and interests include reading, photography, hiking, and looking for bears. She and her husband, Jeff, have three sons—Mason, Logan, and Landon.

Julie Nehring is a part-time special education administration assistant and part-time Title I aide. She grew up on a dairy farm near Strum, WI. She has one sister and three brothers. She attended several different colleges, including: Association Free Lutheran Bible School (AFLBS) in the Twin Cities; Chippewa Valley Tech in Eau Claire; Winona Tech in Winona, MN; and Oak Hills Christian College in Bemidji, MN.

She worked as a nurse's aide for a few years and also went to the state of Washington and worked with a church plant for 9 months. For the past 7 ½ years, she has worked as an assistant librarian at the Whitehall Public Library. Before that, she was a stay-at-home mom and subbed for teachers' aides at BT.

She and her husband, Andy, have been married for the past 13 ½ years. They have 3 boys—Micah, who is in 7th grade; Evan, who is in 5th grade; and Matthew, who is in 4th grade. The family is always busy with all kinds of sports and music.

When she has time, Julie likes to do counted cross-stitch, read, watch movies, play games with the boys and Andy, and she likes many other activities.

Cindy Schein is working part-time in the school's library. She has lived in Galesville for the past 38 years. She is the former Blair-Taylor LMC Director, who retired in 2001. She has two children, Jeffrey and Jennifer. She also works at the Galesville Public Library as a librarian. In her free time, she enjoys reading, cooking, and playing with her cats.



School Counseling News

Hilary Walters, 7-12 Counselor
989-2525, ext. 204; walteh@btsd.k12.wi.us

Wisconsin Students Go 2 College

On **Tuesday, November 3**, from 2-5 p.m., we will be sponsoring Wisconsin Students Go 2 College. On this date, all seniors will be encouraged to apply for admission to a post-secondary institution (college, university, technical college, etc.), if they have not already done so. This event is possible due to the collaborative efforts of the administration, faculty and staff at the Blair-Taylor School District, as well as students, their families, and volunteers across the community. The purpose of this day is to acquaint students with the college application process and to communicate the importance of applying to college. In addition to college applications, students can also take this time to work on scholarship applications. We are looking forward to a great turnout!

Financial Aid

On **Tuesday, November 3**, Blair-Taylor will be hosting Ms. Ellen Krieger, a college access advisor from the Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Co. Ms. Krieger will be meeting with **11th and 12th grade students and parents at 5:00 p.m. in the high school** to give an overview of the financial aid process for all college bound students. The 45-minute presentation will provide a comprehensive look at what financial aid is and the responsibilities that come with it. It will include information on the types of financial aid available, how to apply for financial aid, and how financial aid is awarded. I encourage both parents and students to attend the informational meeting.

Dreaming Big: How College Can Shape Your Future

On **Tuesday, November 3**, Blair-Taylor will be hosting Ms. Ellen Krieger, a college access advisor from the Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Co. Ms. Krieger will be meeting with **9th & 10th grade students and parents at 6:00 p.m. in the high school**. Any education beyond high school, whether it's a program certificate, associate's degree, or bachelor's degree, can improve a student's life, from job prospects to earning potential. The key to getting students to go to college is planting the seed early. In this workshop, we help students see the need and understand the benefits of college, as well as how to overcome the barriers to getting there.

Students will learn how to:

- Turn their interests into a college major and ultimately to a job after college
- Recognize that good jobs increasingly require a college education
- Overcome obstacles to going to college
- Prepare for college success each year of high school

FAFSA Completion Event

On **Monday, March 2**, from **5:00 - 7:00 p.m.**, Blair-Taylor will be offering a FAFSA Completion Event at the high school for **senior students and parents**. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is used to apply for federal student aid programs such as grants, work-study, and loans. It is also used to determine some state aid and financial aid offered by colleges and universities. A college access advisor from Great Lakes will be on hand to answer questions and help students and parents complete their FAFSA applications. Try to have your taxes filed by this date if you plan to attend the FAFSA Completion Event.

Post-secondary Application Deadlines

Seniors should be working on college applications. Deadlines for fall, 2016, admissions are as early as December 1, 2015, and some admissions remain open until all spaces are full.

To apply to Wisconsin Technical Colleges (<http://www.wistechcolleges.org/>), the fee is \$30, and for the UW System (apply.wisconsin.edu), it is \$44 (UW-Madison is \$50). If you participate in the free and reduced lunch program, please see Mrs. Walters for an application fee waiver.

Scholarships

Seniors are encouraged to check the Blair-Taylor High School website (<http://www.cms4schools.com/btsd/high/scholarships.cfm>) for up-to-date scholarship information. **NEVER** pay for a scholarship search!!

2016-17 Student Scheduling

I will be meeting with 8-11th grade students in November to go over next year's scheduling. The course description booklets will be in the form of a Google Doc this year. We encourage parents to be active in the scheduling process. Please look over the course descriptions with your child and find classes that best meet his or her needs.

If you are a 4 year college bound student, please keep in mind that most universities are expecting that students take 3-4 years of math and science, along with 2 years of a foreign language. Check with Mrs. Walters to make sure you are meeting admissions requirements for your future college!

Junior Planning

Juniors should be spending time this year exploring college and career options. We have a resource program for this at www.wiscareers.wisc.edu. Students have their own login and password to access this site. If you have trouble logging in, please see Mrs. Walters for assistance. Juniors are encouraged to participate in job shadows and go on college visits. If students need assistance with these opportunities, they are encouraged to ask Mrs. Walters for help. Juniors should also be preparing for assessments necessary for future educational opportunities. Students planning to attend technical college will need to take the Compass Test, and students planning to attend a 4 year university will need to take the ACT. I will be setting up individual meetings with all juniors and their parents during the month of November.

2015-16 ACT Schedule

Test Date	Registration Deadline \$39.50	(Late Registration) + \$25.00
December 12, 2015	November 6, 2015	November 7-20, 2015
February 6, 2016	January 8, 2016	January 9-15, 2016
April 9, 2016	March 4, 2016	March 5-18, 2016
June 11, 2016	May 6, 2016	May 7-20, 2016

Students need to log in to www.actstudent.org to register for the ACT. Students planning to apply to Marquette or University of Minnesota-Twin Cities will need to take the writing portion of the ACT as well. Students applying out of state are encouraged to check with admissions guidelines of their particular colleges.

Free ACT Prep is available at the following sites:

www.number2.com www.knowhow2gowisconsin.org
www.march2success.com

In accordance with state testing requirements, all juniors will be taking the ACT on March 1st, 2016. This exam will take place at the school during the school day. Students should put forward their best effort on this exam, as it can be used as an official score for both 2 and 4 year college options. On March 2nd, all juniors will take the ACT WorkKeys assessment, which will measure foundational work skills essential to career success.

Compass Testing

COMPASS Testing is available at the following locations (call to make an appointment):

LA CROSSE

400 Seventh St. N., Acad. Resource Center, Rm. 200, La Crosse
Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., 9:00 a.m.
Tues., Wed., Thurs., 1:00 p.m.
Wed., 3:30 p.m.

INDEPENDENCE

36084 Walnut Street, Independence, WI 54747 715.985.3392
1st Thursday of the month 1:00 p.m.
3rd Monday of the month 6:00 p.m.

BLACK RIVER FALLS

24 Fillmore Street, Black River Falls, WI 54615 715.284.2253
1st Thursday of the month, 5:00 p.m.
3rd Thursday of the month, 9:00 p.m.

Practice Compass can be found at:

www.compasstestquestions.com www.act.org/compass/sample

**Students who participate in the free and reduced lunch program are encouraged to see Mrs. Walters for a fee waiver for the ACT and Compass.

Special Education Services

The Blair-Taylor School District's 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 608-989-9835. 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 who 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 608-989-9835.

Child Development Day Screening

Each year, the special education department, in conjunction with Western Dairyland Head Start and various agencies, conducts 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. This year's Child Development Day will be held on February 25th, 2016. For further information on the pre-school screening process, please contact 608-989-9835.

Upcoming Events ~ Nov., 2015-Jan., 2016

Sun., Nov. 1	03:00 PM - 05:00 PM: 8th grade girls NWL basketball practice 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym
Mon., Nov. 2	05:00 PM - 06:00 AM: Open Weight Room 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: 7th Grade Girls BB Northwest Tournament 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: Booster/PTO Club Meeting
Tues., Nov. 3	03:30 PM - 07:30 PM: Parent/Teacher Conferences K-12 3:30-7pm
Wed., Nov. 4	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball
Thurs., Nov. 5	VB State 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: BT 7th Grade Girls NW BB
Fri., Nov. 6	No School In-Service Day
Sat., Nov. 7	09:00 AM - 04:00 PM: CWDC 1 day camp
Sun., Nov. 8	03:00 PM - 05:00 PM: 8th grade girl's NWL basketball practice 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym
Mon., Nov. 9	GBB Starts 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: BT 7th Grade Girls NW BB
Tues., Nov. 10	MSBBB Home vs Alma 4:30 HS Dairyland Rehearsal @ WHTL
Wed., Nov. 11	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball
Thurs., Nov. 12	06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: BT 7th Grade Girls NW BB
Fri., Nov. 13	06:00 PM - 10:00 PM: Craft Fair Setup
Sat., Nov. 14	Dairyland Rehearsal & Concert @ WHTL 07:00 AM - 06:00 PM: Craft Fair
Sun., Nov. 15	03:00 PM - 05:00 PM: 8th grade girl's NWL basketball practice 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym
Mon., Nov. 16	WR Starts BBB Starts MSBBB Home vs BRF 4:30 05:30 PM - 08:00 PM: School Board Meeting 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: BT 7th Grade Girls NW BB
Wed., Nov. 18	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball
Thurs., Nov. 19	GBB @ BRF 6pm State Football MSBBB Home vs Indee 4:30
Fri., Nov. 20	Winter Sports Picture Day
Sun., Nov. 22	03:00 PM - 05:00 PM: 8th grade girl's NWL basketball practice 05:00 PM - 06:00 PM: BT 7th Grade Girls NW BB 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym
Mon., Nov. 23	MSBBB @ CFC 4:30 BBB @ Fall Creek 5pm Scrimmage

Tues., Nov. 24	GBB Home vs Viroqua 6pm
Wed., Nov. 25	No School 06:30 PM - 08:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball
Thurs., Nov. 26	Thanksgiving No School
Fri., Nov. 27	No School
Sun., Nov. 29	03:00 PM - 05:00 PM: 8th grade girl's NWL basketball practice 04:00 PM - 07:00 PM: Dress Rehearsal 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym
Mon., Nov. 30	07:45 AM - 12:00 PM: Christmas Concert Rehearsal 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: 7th Grade Girls BB Northwest Tournament
Tues., Dec. 1	GBB @ WHTL 6pm MSBBB Home vs Gilmanton 4:30 End 1st Trimester 07:45 AM - 12:00 PM: Christmas Concert Rehearsal
Wed., Dec. 2	07:45 AM - 12:00 PM: Christmas Concert Rehearsal 04:00 PM - 07:00 PM: Team Building Event 06:30 PM - 08:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball
Thurs., Dec. 3	WR Home vs Arcadia 7:30 07:45 AM - 12:00 PM: Christmas Concert Rehearsal
Fri., Dec. 4	BBB @ Bangor 6pm GBB @ Augusta 6pm 07:45 AM - 12:00 PM: Christmas Concert Rehearsal
Sat., Dec. 5	MSBBB Tourney @ WHTL WR @ Royall 9:30 08:00 AM - 06:00 PM: 6th Grade Boys Northwest Tournament 07:00 PM - 09:30 PM: Musical
Sun., Dec. 6	01:00 PM - 03:30 PM: Musical 03:00 PM - 05:00 PM: 8th grade girl's NWL basketball practice 05:00 PM - 06:30 PM: 7th Grade Girls BB Northwest Tournament 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym
Mon., Dec. 7	5-8 Christmas Concert 6pm 9-12 Christmas Concert 7:30 07:45 AM - 12:00 PM: Christmas Concert Rehearsal 05:00 PM - 10:00 PM: Christmas Concerts 05:00 PM - 06:00 AM: Open Weight Room
Tues., Dec. 8	BBB Home vs WHTL 6pm MSBBB @ WHTL 4pm WR @ Sparta 7pm
Wed., Dec. 9	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball
Thurs., Dec. 10	GBB Home vs MM 6pm MSBBB @ Indee 4:30
Fri., Dec. 11	BBB @ Augusta 6pm

Sat., Dec. 12	GBB @ EC Immanuel 1:30 /3pm WR @ EC North 10am 07:00 AM - 06:00 PM: 7th Grade Girls BB Northwest Tournament 07:00 AM - 06:00 PM: 7th Grade Girls BB Northwest Tournament 07:00 AM - 06:00 PM: 7th Grade Girls BB Northwest Tournament
Sun., Dec. 13	03:00 PM - 05:00 PM: 8th grade girl's NWL basketball practice 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym
Mon., Dec. 14	Alternate date for Christmas Concerts 05:00 PM - 10:00 PM: Alternate Christmas Concert 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: 7th Grade Girls BB Northwest Tournament
Tues., Dec. 15	BBB @ Arcadia 6pm GBB Home vs ACLH 6pm MSBBB Home vs CFC 4:30
Wed., Dec. 16	Handbell Christmas Concert 6pm 04:00 PM - 06:00 PM: Handbell Christmas Warm-Up 06:00 PM - 08:00 PM: Handbell Christmas Concert 06:30 PM - 08:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball
Thurs., Dec. 17	BBB @ MM 6pm MCBBB @ Gilmanton 4:30 08:00 AM - 09:00 PM: Elementary Concert set-up
Fri., Dec. 18	GBB Home vs CFC 6pm WR @ Arcadia 4:30 01:30 PM - 03:00 PM: Elementary Concert
Sun., Dec. 20	03:00 PM - 05:00 PM: 8th grade girl's NWL basketball practice 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym
Mon., Dec. 21	05:30 PM - 08:00 PM: School Board Meeting 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: 7th Grade Girls BB Northwest Tournament
Tues., Dec. 22	GBB Home vs Bangor 6pm WR @ Osseo 7:30 Last student day before X-mas break.
Wed., Dec. 23	No School Winter Break 06:30 PM - 08:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball
Thurs., Dec. 24	Winter Break-No School
Fri., Dec. 25	Winter Break-No School
Sun., Dec. 27	07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym
Mon., Dec. 28	Winter Break-No School
Tues., Dec. 29	WR @ River Falls 8am Winter Break-No School
Wed., Dec. 30	Winter Break-No School 06:30 PM - 08:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball
Thurs., Dec. 31	Winter Break-No School
Fri., Jan. 1	Winter Break-No School
Sat., Jan. 2	07:00 AM - 07:00 PM: 7th Boys N.W. Basketball Tournament

Sun., Jan. 3	07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym
Mon., Jan. 4	School Resumes 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: 7th Grade Girls BB Northwest Tournament
Tues., Jan. 5	BBB Home vs ACLH 6pm
Wed., Jan. 6	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball
Fri., Jan. 8	BBB @ CFC 6pm
Sat., Jan. 9	07:00 AM - 07:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball Tournament
Sun., Jan. 10	07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym
Mon., Jan. 11	06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: 7th Grade Girls BB Northwest Tournament
Tues., Jan. 12	GBB @ Gilmanton 6pm BBB Home vs Greenwood 6pm
Wed., Jan. 13	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball
Thurs., Jan. 14	BBB Home vs EC Immanuel 6pm MSWR @ CFC 5pm
Fri., Jan. 15	GBB Home vs Alma/Pepin 6pm MSGBB Home vs Alma 4:30
Sat., Jan. 16	MSGBB @ WHTL Tourney WR @ Weston 9:30 07:00 AM - 07:00 PM: 5th Boys Northwest Basketball
Sun., Jan. 17	07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym
Mon., Jan. 18	GBB @ GET 6pm 05:30 PM - 08:00 PM: School Board Meeting
Tues., Jan. 19	BBB Home vs Gilmanton 6pm GBB @ Arcadia 6pm MSGBB Home vs BRF 4:30
Wed., Jan. 20	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball
Thurs., Jan. 21	MSGBB @ Indee 4:30 MSWR @ WHTL 5pm WR @ WHTL 7:30
Fri., Jan. 22	MS WR @ Arcadia 5pm No School In-Service Day BBB @ Alma/Pepin 6pm
Sat., Jan. 23	WR @ Sparta 9:30 07:00 AM - 06:00 PM: BT 7th Grade Girls BB 07:00 AM - 06:00 PM: 7th Grade Girls BB Northwest Tournament
Sun., Jan. 24	07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym
Mon., Jan. 25	BBB @ Loyal 6pm
Tues., Jan. 26	GBB Home vs Indee 6pm MSGBB @ CFC 4:30
Wed., Jan. 27	06:30 PM - 08:00 PM: 5th Girls N.W. Basketball
Thurs., Jan. 28	MSGBB @ Gilmanton 4:30 MSWR Home 5pm WR Home 6:30
Fri., Jan. 29	GBB @ ES 6pm MSWR @ MM 5pm
Sat., Jan. 30	MS Solo/Ensemble @ WHTL BBB Home vs Neillsville 1:30/3pm WR @ Indee 9:45
Sun., Jan. 31	07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: Open Gym

BLAIR-TAYLOR BOOSTER/PTO CLUB

PO BOX 295

BLAIR, WI 54616

Greetings Blair-Taylor School District Residents,

It is the time of year to start thinking about the community calendar for 2016. Last year, the Blair-Taylor Booster/PTO Club decided to try a new approach for ordering and sponsoring the Community Calendar. Since we are the Blair-Taylor Booster/PTO Club, in addition we picked up the Taylor Lions Club Community Calendar, which had not been in production since 2012.

In the past years, a block person would be calling or coming to your door to assist you in ordering your community calendar from the Blair-Taylor Booster/PTO Club. Prior to disbanding, the Taylor Lions Club used a mail order system for their community calendar, which we decided to do for both Blair and Taylor communities.

Again this year, we have included an order form on the back of this letter for your information/sponsors and ordering convenience.

Please fill out the enclosed order form on the back of this page and return it with payment to either the elementary, high school, or district offices in a clearly marked envelope: **B-T BOOSTER/PTO CLUB** or Mail it to: **BLAIR-TAYLOR BOOSTER/PTO CLUB, PO BOX 295, Blair, WI 54616.**

Calendars will be mailed to the address on the order form or delivered in December.

Community members and sponsors: be sure to fill out the order form entirely with all your information—even if it was on a past calendar—because we do not want anyone left out or forgotten.

For those of you not familiar with the community calendar, it is a yearly calendar produced by the B-T Booster/PTO Club for the communities, recognizing birthdays and anniversaries. You list the names and dates of your family members' birthdays and anniversaries on the order form, and we compile all the information into one community calendar. It also has the business names and phone numbers for all the sponsors on it, for your convenience.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Tammy Stensven at (608) 484-0001.

Please return the form by November 6, 2015.

Thank you for supporting the BLAIR-TAYLOR BOOSTER/PTO CLUB.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Blair-Taylor School District offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs: K-6 students-\$1.25 and 7-12 students-\$1.60; lunch costs: K-6 students-\$2.05 and 7-12 students-\$2.30. **Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals.** Reduced price is \$.30 for breakfast and \$.40 for lunch. This packet includes an application for free or reduced price meal benefits, and a set of detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?

- a. All children in households receiving benefits from FoodShare, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or W-2 Cash Benefits are eligible for free meals.
- b. Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- c. Children participating in their school’s Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
- d. Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
- e. Children may receive free or reduced price meals if your household’s income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART For School Year 2015-2016			
Household size	Yearly (\$)	Monthly (\$)	Weekly (\$)
1	21,775	1,815	419
2	29,471	2,456	567
3	37,167	3,098	715
4	44,863	3,739	863
5	52,559	4,380	1,011
6	60,255	5,022	1,159
7	67,951	5,663	1,307
8	75,647	6,304	1,455
Each additional person:	7,696	642	148

- 2. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven’t been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail the district office at 608-989-2881 or huletm@btsd.k12.wi.us.
- 3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. *Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household.* We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to any of the school offices.

4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No, but please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact the district office at 608-989-2881 or huletm@btsd.k12.wi.us immediately.
5. CAN I APPLY ONLINE? No. This is not possible at this time.
6. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.
7. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please send in an application.
8. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.
9. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
10. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: JEFFREY EIDE, N31024 ELLAND ROAD, BLAIR, WI 54616, 608-989-2881, eidej@btsd.wi.us.
11. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced price meals.
12. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
13. WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application, or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.
14. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, or receive Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance payments, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.
15. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper, and attach it to your application. Contact any of the school offices to receive a second application.
16. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for FoodShare or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call 1-800-362-3002.

If you have other questions or need help, call 608-989-2881.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Eide, Superintendent

HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Please use these instructions to help you fill out the application for free or reduced price school meals. You only need to submit one application per household, even if your children attend more than one school in Blair-Taylor School District. The application must be filled out completely to certify your children for free or reduced price school meals.

Please follow these instructions in order! Each step of the instructions is the same as the steps on your application. If at any time you are not sure what to do next, please contact the district office at 608-989-2881 or huletm@btsd.k12.wi.us.

PLEASE USE A PEN (NOT A PENCIL) WHEN FILLING OUT THE APPLICATION AND DO YOUR BEST TO PRINT CLEARLY.

STEP 1: LIST ALL INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND STUDENTS, UP TO AND INCLUDING GRADE 12, WHO ARE HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS.

Tell us how many infants, children, and school students live in your household. They do NOT have to be related to you to be a part of your household.

Who should I list here?

When filling out this section, please include **all** members in your household who are:

- Children age 18 or under **and** are supported with the household's income;
- In your care under a foster arrangement, or qualify as homeless, migrant, runaway youth, or Head Start;
- Students attending **Blair-Taylor School District** *regardless of age*.

A) List each child's name. For each child, print their first name, middle initial, and last name. Use one line of the application for each child. When writing names, print one letter in each box. Stop if you run out of space. If there are more children present than lines on the application, attach a second piece of paper with all required information for the additional children.

B) List the name of the school the child attends or N/A if the child does not attend school.

C) Do you have any foster children? If any children listed are foster children, mark the "Foster Child" box next to the child's name. Foster children who live with you may count as members of your household and should be listed on your application. If you are only applying for foster children, after completing STEP 1, skip to STEP 4 of the application and these instructions.

D) Are any children homeless, migrant, or runaway? If you believe any child listed in this section may meet this description, please mark the "Homeless, Migrant, Runaway" box next to the child's name and complete all steps of the application.

E) Are any children in Head Start? If any child is enrolled in a Head Start Program, check the Head Start box after the child's name and complete all steps of the application.

STEP 2: DO ANY HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (INCLUDING YOU) CURRENTLY PARTICIPATE IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS: FOODSHARE, W-2 CASH BENEFITS, OR FDPİR?

If anyone in your household participates in the assistance programs listed below, your children are eligible for free school meals:

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or FoodShare
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or W-2 Cash Benefits
- The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPİR)

A) IF NO ONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD PARTICIPATES IN ANY OF THE ABOVE LISTED PROGRAMS:

- **Circle ‘NO’ and skip to STEP 3 on these instructions and STEP 3 on your application.**
- **Leave STEP 2 blank.**

B) IF ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD PARTICIPATES IN ANY OF THE ABOVE LISTED PROGRAMS:

- **Circle ‘YES’ and provide a case number for FoodShare, W-2 Cash Benefits, or FDPİR. You only need to write one case number. If you participate in one of these programs and do not know your case number, contact your case worker. You must provide a case number on your application if you circled “YES.” Please note: A BadgerCare case number cannot be used on this application; only the case number for programs listed above can be used.**
- **Skip to STEP 4; leave STEP 3 blank.**

STEP 3: REPORT INCOME FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

A) Report all income earned by children. Refer to the chart titled “Sources of Income for Children” in these instructions and report the combined gross income for ALL children listed in Step 1 in your household in the box marked “Child Income.” Only count foster children’s income if you are applying for them together with the rest of your household. It is optional for the household to list foster children living with them as part of the household.

What is Child Income?

Child income is money received from outside your household that is paid **directly** to your children. Many households do not have any child income. Use the chart below to determine if your household has child income to report.

Sources of Income for Children

Sources of Child Income	Example(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earnings from work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A child has a job where they earn a salary or wages.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Disability Payments ◦ Survivor’s Benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security benefits. • A parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives social security benefits.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income from persons <i>outside</i> the household 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A friend or extended family member <i>regularly</i> gives a child spending money.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income from any other source 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A child receives income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust.

FOR EACH ADULT HOUSEHOLD MEMBER:

Who should I list here?

When filling out this section, please include **all** members in your household who are:

- Living with you and share income and expenses, *even if not related and even if they do not receive income of their own.*

Do **not** include people who:

- Live with you but are not supported by your household's income **and** do not contribute income to your household.
- Children and students already listed in Step 1.

How do I fill in the income amount and source?

FOR EACH TYPE OF INCOME:

- Use the charts in this section to determine if your household has income to report.
- Report all amounts in **gross income** ONLY. Report all income in whole dollars. Do not include cents.
 - Gross income is the total income received before taxes or deductions.
 - Many people think of income as the amount they “take home” and not the total, “gross” amount. Make sure that the income you report on this application has NOT been reduced to pay for taxes, insurance premiums, or any other amounts taken from your pay.
- Write a “0” in any fields where there is no income to report. Any income fields left empty or blank will be counted as zeroes. If you write “0” or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. If local officials have known or available information that your household income was reported incorrectly, your application will be verified for cause.
- Mark how often each type of income is received, using the check boxes to the right of each field.

B) List adult household member's name. Print the name of each household member in the boxes marked “Names of Adult Household Members (First and Last).” Do not list any household members you listed in STEP 1. If a child listed in STEP 1 has income, follow the instructions in STEP 3, part A.

C) Report earnings from work. Refer to the chart titled “Sources of Income for Adults” in these instructions and report all income from work in the “Earnings from Work” field on the application. This is usually the money received from working at jobs. If you are a self-employed business or farm owner, you will report your net income.

What if I am self-employed?

If you are self-employed, report income from that work as a **net** amount. This is calculated by subtracting the total operating expenses of your business from its gross receipts or revenue.

D) Report income from Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony/SSI/VA Benefits. Refer to the chart titled “Sources of Income for Adults” in these instructions and report all income that applies in the “Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony/SSI/VA Benefits” field on the application. Do not report the value of any cash value public assistance benefits NOT listed on the chart. If income is received from child support or alimony, only court-ordered payments should be reported here. Informal but regular payments should be reported as “other” income in the next part.

E) **Report income from Pensions/Retirement/Social Security/All other income.** Refer to the chart titled “Sources of Income for Adults” in these instructions and report all income that applies in the “Pensions/Retirement/Social Security, Other Income” field on the application.

F) **Special Situations.** This section is for seasonal workers and others whose income fluctuates, and they usually earn more money in some months than others. In these situations, project the annual rate of income and report that. This includes workers with annual employment contracts who may choose to have salaries paid over a shorter period of time. This includes school employees.

G) **Report total household size.** Enter the total number of household members in the field “Total Household Members (Children and Adults).” This number **MUST** be equal to the number of household members listed in STEP 1 and STEP 3. If there are any members of your household that you have not listed on the application, go back and add them. It is very important to list all household members, as the size of your household determines your income cutoff for free and reduced price meals.

H) **Provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number.** The household’s primary wage earner or another adult household member must enter the last four digits of their Social Security Number in the space provided. You are eligible to apply for benefits even if you do not have a Social Security Number. If no adult household members have a Social Security Number, leave this space blank and mark the box to the right labeled “Check if no SSN.”

Sources of Income for Adults

Earnings from Work	Public Assistance/ Child Support /Alimony	Pensions/Retirement/All Other Income
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salary, wages, cash bonuses Net income from self-employment (farm or business) Strike benefits <p>If you are in the U.S. Military:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic pay and cash bonuses (<i>do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances</i>) Allowances for off-base housing, food, and clothing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unemployment benefits Worker’s compensation Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Cash assistance from State or local government Alimony payments Child support payments Veteran’s benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Security (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits) Private pensions or disability Income from trusts or estates Annuities Investment income Earned interest Rental income <i>Regular</i> cash payments from outside household

STEP 4: CONTACT INFORMATION AND ADULT SIGNATURE

All applications must be signed by an adult member of the household. By signing the application, that household member is promising that all information has been truthfully and completely reported. Before completing this section, please also make sure you have read the privacy and civil rights statements on the back of the application.

A) **Provide your contact information.** Write your current address in the fields provided if this information is available. If you have no permanent address, this does not make your children ineligible for free or reduced price school meals. Sharing a phone number, email address, or both is optional, but helps us reach you quickly if we need to contact you.

B) **Sign and print your name.** Print your name in the box “Printed name of adult completing the form.” And sign your name in the box “Signature of adult completing the form.”

C) **Write today’s date.** In the space provided, write today’s date in the box.

D) **Share children’s racial and ethnic identities (optional).** On the back of the application, we ask you to share information about your children’s race and ethnicity. This field is optional and does not affect your children’s eligibility for free or reduced price school meals.

Christmas Project

The Blair-Taylor School District is gearing up for the holiday season. In preparation for the season, we want to let you know that we will be offering opportunities for families who may need a little additional support during this time.

Throughout this process, your family's information will be kept strictly confidential. We will work closely with you on when you can pick gifts up at the school in a discreet manner.

If you are interested in receiving any support, please fill out the information below and return it to Mrs. Heard at the K-6 or Mrs. Walters at the 7-12 by November 20th. You may also call by November 20th if you have an interest.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Heard, K-6 School Counselor
Mrs. Walters, 7-12 School Counselor

Name of parent: _____ Phone number: _____

Special information about the family situation (such as sickness, death, loss of job, etc.)

Children in the household:

Name	Age	Special Wish List Item(s)

My child(ren) need the following clothing items: (Include this information for each child separately)

Size	Item	What Dept?(Infant, Toddler, Boys/Girls, Juniors, Women's/Men's)
	Socks	
	Underwear	
	Pajamas	
	Jeans	
	Shirts	
	Shoes/boots	
	Winter coat	

School Board Members

President

Dave Smikrud
312 S. Peterson Ave.
Blair, WI 54616
E-mail: smikrd@btsd.k12.wi.us

Vice-President

Troy Tenneson
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Jeff Stalheim
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Taylor, WI 54659
Cell: 715-299-0459

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 5, 2016, to elect school board members to the seats currently held by Dave Smikrud as District 1 Director and Blaine Koxlien and Fern Aleckson as District 2 Directors, whose 3-year terms expire in April 2016. The incumbents are 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 Monday, December 1, 2015, and not later than Tuesday, January 5, 2016, 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 5, 2016. 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 16, 2016.

Dated this 18th day of November, 2015.

Fern Aleckson, Clerk
Blair-Taylor School District

School board meetings are held at 5:30 p.m., the third Monday of each month, with location alternating between the community center in Taylor and the board room of the K-12 building in Blair.

SCHOOL DELAYS & CLOSINGS

Student safety is the prime consideration in making a decision relating 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 these 'late start' days, there will be no morning Early Childhood, 4-year old kindergarten, or Head Start programs. The second decision we may take is to close school for the day. The third decision is an early release from school, normally at 1:00 p.m.

We realize that parents have to make childcare arrangements for the day. Therefore, we will try to make school delay or closing decisions by 6:00 a.m. if possible.

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

Listed below are names of the media stations that will be carrying our emergency school closings.

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

SCHOOL MESSENGER

A communication system (phone and/or email) used to deliver information to parents and/or guardians as soon as possible.