Valedictorian

Joseph Vehrenkamp is the son of Steven and Tammy Vehrenkamp.  Joe has been very active in extra-curricular activities during his high school career. He has been involved in the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Belltallica (high school handbell group), High Quiz Bowl, National Honor Society (NHS), Teen Court, pep band, B-T Club, football, and baseball.  In addition, he has participated in Forensics, drama club, and basketball.  While in these groups, Joe has held leadership positions that included FBLA chapter president, captain of the High Quiz Bowl team, NHS chapter president, B-T Club president, and captain of the football team.  He has also been a three-time state qualifier and a one-time national qualifier in FBLA, a two-time state solo ensemble qualifier, and he received a perfect score at state Forensics.  Outside of school, Joe works for B-T Cleaning Service, plays the piano, is an active member of North Beaver Creek Lutheran Church, and enjoys watching the Wisconsin Badgers, Green Bay Packers, and Chicago Cubs.  In the fall, Joe plans on attending UW-Whitewater and majoring in accounting.

Salutatorian

Matt Massman is the son of Joseph and Jan Massman. Matt has been involved with FFA since middle school. His involvement began because he is a Junior Livestock exhibitor at the Jackson County Fair, where he shows market hogs and steers. He has competed in the Career Development Event of Livestock Judging at the regional and state levels. He is currently the chapter President and served as Treasurer last year. Matt is also a member of the National Honor Society (NHS). Matt is an athlete and has competed in wrestling, cross country, track, and baseball throughout his high school career. He has qualified for state multiple times in cross country and wrestling and once in track. Matt grew up on his family's dairy farm, where he spends many hours working and has a rich background in agriculture because of this. He is currently planning to attend UW-Madison this fall and to pursue a major in Chemical Engineering.

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United Campus Project Update

If you have had occasion to visit the 7-12 site recently, you have seen that work is progressing on our United Campus building. Although progress has been slowed by the harsh winter weather, the building is starting to take shape as the walls continue to rise. At the present time, the band and choir rooms, library, auditorium, and the 7-12 commons walls are being erected. Site work that has been put in place includes a temporary bus loop, parking areas, and a new shot-discus area north of the existing track.

We have been assured that all areas will be completed by the start of the school year, with the exception of some interior finishing work that will need to be completed the first few weeks of school. After school is dismissed in the spring, construction will pick up when the interior remodeling starts and the elementary additions proceed as planned. Other exterior work, including the playgrounds, landscaping and paving, will commence as the weather permits.

Mid-point construction tours will be set up at a future date once the site is deemed safe and the weather warms up. Watch the website and local newspapers for more information.

When this United Campus building project is complete, the Blair-Taylor School District will have a beautiful educational facility that will make our school community proud.

Think spring!!

Dennis F. Dervetski, Superintendent

![C:\Users\Kim\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\CTVP244J\MC900071357[1].wmf]()Grant Recognition for Blair-Taylor High School

The Exxon Mobil Educational Alliance program has nominated Blair-Taylor High School to receive a $500.00 grant from the local Exxon/Mobil location, which is the Taylor Corner Store. This gift will be used for the technology and student materials in the math and science areas. Thank you for this generous donation!

Teacher Wins State-Level Recognition

Agriculture teacher Andrea Hanson was recently selected as a state winner of the Agriculture Teacher Award. This award was presented at the 34th State Convention of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association, Inc., in Elkhart Lake, WI.

The Agriculture Teacher Award is given to an oustanding instructor of agriculture education, who is also the advisor of an FFA chapter. Hanson was nominated by the local FFA Alumni Affiliate. This award evaluated the instructor on her alumni membership, participation level of local-state-national alumni activities, her ability to promote the FFA alumni, and the instructor’s level of recruitment for the local FFA Alumni Affiliate.

For more information about the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association, please visit their website at [www.wisconsinffaalumni.org](http://www.wisconsinffaalumni.org) or become a fan of Wiconsin FFA Alumni Association, Inc. (Official Site) on Facebook.

Congratulations to Andrea Hanson for earning this distinction!

Upcoming Events:

FAFSA Completion Night: March 5

Elem. Fine Arts Fair: March 11

Elem. Spring Concert: March 28

HS Spring Concert: April 14

No School-April 18 and April 21

5-8 Spring Concert: April 22

4K/Head Start Registration: April 24

Junior Prom: April 26

Senior Awards Night: May 4

Last Student Day: May 9 (tentative due to weather)

Middle School Recognition: May 9

Graduation: May 10

![C:\Users\jotenk\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\13KE1M4O\MC900030254[2].wmf]()From the Desk of the High School Principal…

**Graduation**

Graduation will come sooner than you think.  **Graduation is in the high school gymnasium at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 10th.**  I know seniors and parents are gearing up for this event, but I encourage you to take some time to reflect on your children’s accomplishments, enjoy what they are doing now, and support them in their future goals.  Good luck to all graduating seniors.

**Middle School Recognition Day**

Our 8th Grade Recognition / Honor Day will be in the 7-12 gym at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, May 9th.   Family members and friends are invited to come and share in this special event.

**Attendance**

Attendance continues to be very important for success in school and on the job.It is nearly impossible for a student to succeed in middle/high school without maintaining regular attendance. Truancy is the major cause of failure and of students not successfully completing high school.  Truancy is defined by Wis. Statue. #118.16 (c), which states, "Truancy means any absence of part or all of one or more days from school during which the school attendance officer (principal) has not been notified of the legal cause of such absence by the parent or guardian of the absent pupil."  Truancy includes leaving school during the day without checking out through the 7-12 office and missing all or part of a day or an individual class period without a legitimate excuse.  Parents are notified by mail and/or telephone if possible.  Consequences of habitual truancy may include a fine (of approximately $50)—depending on the county—and may include driver’s license suspension.  The consequence may be repeated several times during the school year if the problem with truancy continues.

Students may not be absent from school more than ten (10) days per school year.

1.  Absences excused within 5 days per semester/ ten (10) day limit per year are:

a. An advance request by a parent/guardian for a reason they deem appropriate and which is approved by the principal, or

b.   An illness verified by a parent/guardian.

2. Absences excused outside the ten (10) day limit per year are:

a.    Illness or medical appointments excused by medical documentation,

b.   Court or legal procedure excused by legal documentation,

c.    Death or major illness in the immediate family, or

d.   Long term illness excused by medical documentation or verified by the school.

e.   Medical/dental examinations should be scheduled after school or during student study hall periods.

Note: The office will ask for a doctor's note.

Note: A school letter may be sent home to inform parents of the excused and/or unexcused absences.

**e-NEWSLETTER**

Beginning in the 2015-16 school year, Blair-Taylor School District will have an electronic newsletter. Both the electronic and paper versions will be available for the start of the 2014-15 school year, but after June of 2015, hard copies will only be printed and mailed if personally requested. We are starting to let you know now to ease the transition.

Below are some reasons why we are moving in this direction:

1. Times are certainly changing, and we must move with the technology, which will complement our website. Most people do the majority of their reading online. This will create a very effective medium to reach you.

2. E-mail newsletters are more cost-effective than print newsletters. For example, a normal newsletter costs over $700 per publication.

3. E-newsletters are interactive. In a printed newsletter, you can refer to our website, but you have to hope you don’t mistype that URL when you go to your browser, assuming you even do. With an e-newsletter, we can make sure our site, or any information available on the web, is just a click away.

4. E-newsletters will encourage word-of-mouth information exchange. It will be easy for you to forward your email to a friend. It’s also a great way for people to quickly learn about the exciting things happening in our school district.

5. With email, you will be able to receive the newsletter wherever you are located, from Blair to anywhere in the world.

Moving Forward,

D.F. Dervetski, Superintendent

![C:\Users\jotenk\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\O8MY5X5X\MC900212797[1].wmf]()School Counseling News

Hilary Walters, 7-12 Counselor

989-2525, ext. 204; walteh@btsd.k12.wi.us

**Financial Aid**

On **Wednesday, March 5th,** from **5:00 - 7:00 p.m.,** Blair-Taylor will be offering a FAFSA Completion Event in the high school computer lab 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.

You will need to refer to the following information to complete your FAFSA:

* Your social security number
* Your driver’s license (if any)
* 2013 Federal tax returns (student & parent)
* 2012 Federal tax returns if 2013 returns are not
* complete (student & parent)
* Knowledge of current savings and checking
* balances

**Post-Secondary Application Deadlines**

Seniors should be completing college applications.  Deadlines for fall 2014 admissions are as early as December 1, 2013, and some admissions remain open until all spaces are full.

To apply to Wisconsin Technical Colleges ([www.witechcolleges.org/apply/apply\_now.php](http://www.witechcolleges.org/apply/apply_now.php)), the fee is $30, and for the UW System, (apply.Wisconsin.edu) it is $44.  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 for up-to-date scholarship information.  **NEVER** pay for a scholarship search!! Go to:

<http://www.cms4schools.com/btsd/high/scholarships.cfm>

**2013-14 ACT Schedule**

All four-year college-bound juniors should be registering to take the ACT.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Test Date | Registration Deadline, Fee:  $36.50 | Late Registration, Fee: **additional** $23.00 |
| April 12 | March 7, 2014 | March 8–21, 2014 |
| June 14 | May 9, 2014 | May 10–23, 2014 |

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

Students need to login to www.actstudent.org to register for the ACT. Students planning to apply to UW Madison, 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 the admissions guidelines of their particular colleges.  Free ACT Prep is available:

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

[www.number2.com](http://www.number2.com)

[www.knowhow2gowisconsin.org](http://www.knowhow2gowisconsin.org)

[www.march2success.com](http://www.march2success.com)

**Compass Testing**

Students planning to attend a technical college should be registering to take the Compass test.

The Compass offers placement and diagnostic testing in reading, writing, and mathematics.   All testing will be conducted on the computer without a time limit. Please make sure you take your time and answer all questions carefully. We will begin testing promptly at 8:00 a.m. The test itself will take anywhere between 1-2 hours. After testing, you will receive feedback on your results.

Blair-Taylor will be offering the Compass on **March 19th** from **8:00 – 11:00 a.m.** in the HS computer lab.  Interested students need to register with Mrs. Walters by March 10th.

Students need to bring the following items on the day of the test:

* social security number
* $20 check made out to Western Technical College.  *If you receive free or reduced lunch, your fee will be waived.*
* picture ID

COMPASS Testing is also available at the following locations, call to make an appointment:

LA CROSSE

400 7th Street N, Academic Resource Ctr, Rm 200, La Crosse, WI 54602; 608.785.9566

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., 9:00 am ~ Tues., Wed., Thurs., 1:00 pm ~ Wed., 3:30 pm

INDEPENDENCE

36084 Walnut Street, Independence, WI 54747; 715.985.3392

1st Thursday of the month 1:00 pm ~ 3rd Monday of the month 6:00 pm

BLACK RIVER FALLS

24 Fillmore Street, Black River Falls, WI 54615; 715.284.2253

1st Thursday of the month 5-8 pm ~ 3rd Thursday of the month 9-12 pm

Practice Compass can be found at:

[www.compasstestquestions.com](http://www.compasstestquestions.com)

[www.act.org/compass/sample](http://www.act.org/compass/sample)

**8th Grade Conferencing**

I’m very excited to meet with all students and parents during 8th Grade Individual Planning Conferences (IPC’s)!  IPC’s are specially designed conferences for parents and their children to gain insight into where their children currently are, the direction they are headed in the future, and how we can help them to get to where they want to go.  IPC’s focus on children’s strengths and provide an opportunity to discuss their progress toward personal/social, academic, and career development.  We will spend a great amount of time looking to the future as they transition to high school and eventually into a career.  Eighth grade conferencing that was scheduled to take place in February has been changed to August.  I will contact parents at a later date to set up their conference appointment.

**Senior Exit Interviews**

All seniors graduating in May will participate in a Senior Exit Interview, where they will showcase their portfolio and share their high school experience.  **We are looking for 10-15 community members to sit in on the interview process.**The interviews are tentatively scheduled for the week of May 5th and will primarily be conducted during the school day.  Please contact Hilary Walters, school counselor, if you are interested in participating in this experience.

**Senior Awards Night**

Senior Awards Night is scheduled for Sunday, May 4th, at 6:30 p.m. in the high school commons.  Awards Night is a special night at Blair-Taylor High School.  In 2012, Blair-Taylor High School seniors earned over $70,000 in local, state, and University scholarships.  Several non-monetary awards are also presented at this event as well.  This is a chance to recognize those who put forth their talents in the classroom and in other activities. Seniors should notify Mrs. Walters of any awards, scholarships, or grants they have received no later than April 17th if they want them to be recognized at the banquet.

![C:\Users\Kim\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\GSVW7LUR\MC900045109[1].wmf]()Early Learning Center News

**Registration for 2014-2015 School Year**

On **Thursday, April 24, 2014,** we will be having four-year-old kindergarten (4K) registration and Head Start registration for the 2014-2015 school year.

For parents of 4K children, there will be one session in the morning **at 9:00 a.m.** and sessions in the afternoon at **3:30 and 5:00 p.m.**

Head Start will have two sessions available on the same day (April 24, 2014)—at **10:30 a.m.** and at **1:30 p.m.** A Head Start staff member will be contacting you for this appointment if you qualify for this program.

This is a time to come in to the Blair-Taylor Early Learning Center, which is located in the elementary building in Blair, to see the rooms, talk with the teachers, and fill out paperwork for the fall. If you have a child who is four years old before Sept. 1, 2014, your child will be able to come to school next year for four half-days a week. All families with four-year-old children will be receiving information about 4K registration in the mail. If you have not received information by mid-April, please call the school (608-989-9835) and set up a time for registration.

Head Start is also taking applications for the 2014-2015 school year. At registration, your 4K child may also apply for Head Start. Head Start serves children who are three to five years old. Your child must be three years old or four years old by September 1st to attend Head Start.Please come in and check out these great programs! If you have any questions, please call the elementary office at 608-989-9835 and ask for Kim Nehring (4K teacher) or call Deb Misch (Head Start) at 608-989-9860.

***Underage Drinking in Wisconsin***

* Underage drinking costs Wisconsin approximately $1.6 billion each year including:
* Youth Violence:  $570.8 million
* Youth traffic crashes:  $302.2 million
* Youth Property Crime $41.7 million
* Youth Injury as a result of alcohol $59.7 million

*(Source: Underage Drinking in Wisconsin, prepared by the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE) October 2006.)*

* It is estimated that 94,465 youth in Wisconsin have a serious alcohol problem and only 15% receive treatment.

*(Source: The Alcohol Cost Calculator for Kids, Ensuring Solutions to Alcohol Problems, the George Washington University Medical Center, accessed May 2008.)*

* Alcohol dependence and abuse among Wisconsin youth results in an estimated 17,092 additional visits by young people to emergency rooms at an average cost of $985 each.

*(The Alcohol Cost Calculator for Kids, Ensuring Solutions to Alcohol Problems, the George Washington University Medical Center, accessed May 2008.)*

* 26% of 655 teens surveyed indicated that they have attended a party where alcohol is served to underage youth in the past two months, while parents thought the number was closer to 18%; 14% of the youth maintained that they drank alcohol at the party or they would have drunk if they had attended a party.

*(Source: “Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don’t be a party to teenage drinking” Evaluation Report, Dec. 2005)*

* 65% of 1,115 parents surveyed and 53% of 655 teens surveyed said that it is generally easy for underage youth to get alcohol*.*

*(Source: “Parents Who Host, Lose The Most: Don’t be a party to teenage drinking” Evaluation Report, Dec. 2005)*

* 7,000 young people under 16 have their first drink of alcohol every day.

*(Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2000)*

* If drinking is delayed until age 21, a child’s risk of serious alcohol problems is decreased by 70 percent.

*(Source: Calculated from information contained in: Grant BF, Dawson DA. 1997, Age at onset of alcohol use and its association with DSM-IV alcohol abuse and dependence. Results from the National Longitudinal Alcohol Epidemiologic Survey. Journal of Substance Abuse 9:103-110.)*

* Studies reveal that alcohol consumption by adolescents results in brain damage - possibly permanent -and impairs intellectual development.

*(Source: Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research (Volume 24, Number 2 National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Feb. 2000)*

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**For more information see:** [**www.DrugFreeAlliance.org**](http://www.DrugFreeAlliance.org) **or** [**www.allwisyouth.org**](http://www.allwisyouth.org)**.**

What is a Professional Learning Community?

It is just as the name implies: a group of professionals working as a community to focus on learning. Of course, it isn’t quite as simple as that. Richard DuFour, the “father” of professional learning communities (PLC), believes that there are three *big ideas* that encompass the concept of the PLC.

First of all, the professionals in the learning community must believe that their job is not simply to ensure that students are taught but to ensure that they learn. This simple shift—from a focus on teaching to a focus on learning—has profound implications for schools and the students within them. Several years ago, educators in the Blair-Taylor School District developed the mission statement “to educate all learners to reach their potential as productive citizens.” This focus on the learner impacts student success currently, as well as in their future. From a strong mission, a vision is developed that indicates what the school will look like when the mission is achieved. Achieving that mission requires a commitment by all members of the organization.

In the Blair-Taylor School District, professional learning communities are formed by teachers who all teach at a specific grade level or all teach a shared discipline, such as social studies. The PLCs regularly discuss four important questions:

1. What do we want students to learn?

2. How will we know when students have learned it?

3. What do we do for the students who have learned it?

4. How will we respond when a student experiences difficulty in learning?

The second big idea is collaboration. There is compelling evidence to show that when teachers collaborate to analyze student results and improve their classroom practice, student learning increases dramatically. This is quite a paradigm shift from teachers working in isolation. Teachers need to collaboratively discuss the questions listed above in order to identify challenges that students may be having and develop strategies for how to alleviate these challenges.

Finally, the work that teachers do must be based on results. It is not enough to think that all students understand what has been taught; there must be evidence to show that learning has taken place— learning by all students, not just the few who regularly contribute the answers.

The Blair-Taylor School District is committed to equipping all teachers with the knowledge and skills to be productive members of a professional learning community. Over the past two summers, large groups of Blair-Taylor educators have attended a PLC Institute in Minneapolis where the most well-known PLC experts in the country have provided excellent professional development on all aspects of successful professional learning communities. Attending this institute has been quite life changing for many of our educators. They have come away from that experience understanding deeply the meaning of focusing on the learning of ALL of our students. By the end of the summer in 2015, all BT educators will have attended the institute. Time and effort to sustain the PLCs will continue to be a priority as student learning grows.

![C:\Users\jotenk\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\OIQBLKPR\MC900384038[1].wmf]()Technology Today

Chris Stalheim, Ed.S

Technology Integrator

**Protecting your Child**

Blair-Taylor takes measures to ensure the safety of students as they use the Internet to enhance their learning experience at school. We have CIPA (Child Internet Protection Act) Certified filtering software and teach digital citizenship skills as well. Digital citizenship is a skill that we need parent help with at home. The Internet is a public place and students need to understand what they post on-line can easily be passed on or saved in this digital environment. It is important that we monitor how students are using their technology devices. We are not saying that students cannot be on Facebook or FaceTime, but they need to understand that school rules apply at home, too. All language and research content has to be school appropriate. It is your **right as a parent to monitor the device** and see what your child is doing. If you feel your child is hiding things or you would like to learn how to monitor use of the device, please feel free to contact me by phone or email.

**Help Create Balance**

The iPad or AirBook technology devices have the ability to become a family distraction.  We encourage parents to set limits on the amount of time students use technology. Our staff has yet to ask a student to complete an assignment that would take hours at a time to do.  If homework is lasting more than an hour every night, please let your teacher know. It is your right as a parent to monitor your child’s technology use. Please feel free to take the device away from your child if the device is being misused.  With freedom comes responsibility.  Let’s help our students become responsible learners and time managers.  If you have concerns with tech use at home, contact your child’s classroom teacher and work together to balance out learning and free time.

![C:\Users\Kim\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\ONZAEESW\MC910217623[1].wmf]()There’s a New Assessment in Town

There is a great movement underway, moving American education away from the “one-size-fits-all” approach to instruction and assessment toward more personalized teaching and learning. For most teachers, this is not new, but it is becoming more widely recognized as best practice for educators. In order to make the best use of the students’ learning time, teachers need to know what each student knows and is able to do, so that he or she can meet the students where they are and move them forward.

Beginning in the 2014-15 school year, a new assessment tool will be used to evaluate how well students are acquiring the learning targets identified in the Common Core State Standards in grades three through eight. It is being developed by the **Smarter Balanced Consortium** and will replace the current Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examination (WKCE) assessment to evaluate the areas of English/ language arts and mathematics.

The assessment will be completed on the computer, and the questions will adjust depending on how the student performs on each item. In other words, if a student answers a question correctly, the next question will be more difficult; if he or she answers the question incorrectly, the next question will be easier. This is a change from the current assessment, WKCE, which is a “one-size-fits-all” assessment where all students must answer the same questions regardless of their personal skill level.

Another change from the current assessment is the quick turnaround in results. Unlike the WKCE, which requires teachers to wait approximately four months for their students’ results, because the Smarter Balanced assessment is computerized, results will be available immediately for most portions of the test. This will allow the teachers to know their students’ strengths and weaknesses right away, and as a result, they will be able to provide appropriate “just-in-time” instruction for each child.

The Smarter Balanced assessment, or portions of it, can be administered up to three times per year. This will help students and teachers to know whether or not the students are learning what they need to and to determine if changes in instruction need to take place.

Schools, including those in the Blair-Taylor School District, have been preparing the students for the new assessment by focusing learning on the new standards that will be evaluated and examining examples of questions that will be found on the new assessment. Students have begun to use their technology in ways similar to how they will be required to use it for the new assessment. In addition, the technology infrastructure in the district is being evaluated to ensure it is able to handle the level of technology needed for all students to take the assessments without disruption. If you would like more information about Smarter Balanced assessment, go to the following website:

<http://www.smarterbalanced.org/parents-students/>

![C:\Users\Kim\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\78U0HFOM\MC900251707[1].wmf]()

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

~Nelson Mandela~

![C:\Users\Kim\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\GSVW7LUR\MC900389106[1].wmf]()“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.”

~William Butler Yeats~

School Board Members

**Dave Smikrud**

608-989-2935 (home); 608-484-1055 (cell); 4smix@centurytel.net

**Fern Aleckson**

715-662-4295 (home); faleckson@yahoo.com

**Randi Arneson**

715-662-3205 (home); 715-299-5496 (cell)

**Dr. Blaine Koxlien**

715-984-2416 (home); 608-386-7931 (cell)

**Troy Tenneson**

608-525-5672 (home); 507-459-3451 (cell)

**Keith Lein**

715-662-2402 (home); 715-530-1143 (cell)-after 3 p.m.

**Open Seat** (vacated by Joe Clark; will be appointed in March)

**The next school board election is April 1, 2014.**

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BLAIR-TAYLOR**

**Blair, Wisconsin**

**Public Notice**

**Notice for Election of School Board Members**

**On First Tuesday in April, 2014**

**(S. 120.06(8)(c), Wis. Statutes)**

Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the School District of Blair-Taylor that on April 1, 2014, being the first Tuesday in April of 2014, the election of school board members will be held in the following polling places:

 City of Blair Blair City Hall

 Town of Preston Preston Town Hall

 Town of Ettrick Ettrick Community Hall

 Town of Pigeon Pigeon Town Garage

 Town of Curran Curran Town Hall

 Town of Arcadia Arcadia Town Hall

 Town of Franklin Franklin Town Hall

 Town of Springfield Springfield Town Hall

 Village of Taylor Taylor Municipal Building

 Town of Albion Albion Town Hall

The following is a facsimile of the official ballot:

**OFFICIAL BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT**

BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

APRIL 1, 2014

**NOTICE TO ELECTORS: THIS BALLOT MAY BE INVALID UNLESS INITIALED BY TWO (2) ELECTION INSPECTORS. IF CAST AS AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, THE BALLOT MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK OR DEPUTY CLERK.**

Election procedure in accordance with 120.02(4) Wis. Stats.

Mark with a cross (X) in square at the right of the name of the

candidate for whom you desire to vote, if it be there, or

write any name that you wish to vote for in the proper place.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **District Director At-Large** |  |
| Candidate: | Vote for One |
| Randi Arneson  |  |
|  |  |

The polls will be open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. The electors are directed to vote in their normal or regular polling place.

 Fern Aleckson, Clerk

**BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR THE 2014 - 2015 SCHOOL YEAR**

School Supply Lists Are Available On-Line:

* *Go to the school website* [*www.btsd.k12.wi.us*](http://www.btsd.k12.wi.us)

**Blair-Taylor Middle School Course Supply List**

**All 7th and 8th grade students need the following:**

Book covers, Trapper Keeper, 6 folders, 8 pencils per quarter, extra erasers, black or blue pens, pencil storage system (pouch or other), loose-leaf paper (for assignments), 3 spiral notebooks (narrow ruled), box of Kleenex, water bottle (clear plastic with sports top), gym gear: tennis shoes (no platform tennis shoes), shirt, shorts, towel, shampoo, deodorant (no glass containers), combination lock. Earbuds or earphones for computer devices.

**Elective Class Supplies needed**

Agriculture 8th Gr.: Notebook and writing utensil

Tractor Safety : Notebook and writing utensil

Wisconsin Wildlife: Notebook and writing utensil

ATV/ Snowmobile Safety: Notebook and writing utensil

8th Gr. Art Exploration: 1 inch binder and pencils

7th Gr. Art Investigation: 1 inch binder and pencils

Exploring Career Decisions: folder, writing utensil (pen

or pencil), other materials provided

FACS Meals 8th Gr.: folder, lined paper, dark blue or

black ink pen or pencil

FACS Fabrics 8th Gr.: folder, lined paper, dark blue or

black ink pen or pencil

7th grade Quest: folder, lined paper, dark blue or black

ink pen or pencil

Spanish: notebook or loose leaf paper, folder used just

for Spanish, pen or pencil, colored pencils and note

cards are recommended but not required

Band: Students must have a properly working musical

instrument or drum sticks for percussionists. Any

personally owned instruments must be play tested and

approved by the instructor. Rental fees and supply

fees may apply.

Choir:

Phy. Ed.: Tennis shoes, shorts, t-shirt and personal

care products,(No glass bottles). A combination lock.

Math 7th & 8th Grade: Single subject spiral notebook,

pencils

Tech. Ed. 7th and 8th Grade Safety glasses,

combination lock, 12 ft. tape measure, 3 ring binder,

loose leaf paper, calculator, folder, pencil(s), tennis

shoes.

**Blair-Taylor High School Course Supply List**

Agriculture: notebook and writing utensil for all

courses; $10 materials fee for Wildlife Mgmt.

Art: Studio I, II, and III: 1 3-ring binder; $5.00 materials

fee

Business Ed.:

Intro. to Business-book cover, folder

Desktop Publishing-3-ring binder with plastic sleeves

Financial Literacy-calculator, folder w/ 3 fasteners

Pers. Finance (full yr.), Accounting I and Accounting II-calculator, book cover, folder, if course is dropped, payment for workbook

Bus. Procedures-3-ring binder w/ plastic sleeves, folder

Computer Science: Notebook, folder, writing utensil

English 9 and 10: Paper, note cards, book cover, green pen(s) or colored pencil(s), folder, writing utensils, optional-book cover, markers and/or highlighters

English 11: note cards, paper, folder, book cover, glue sticks and colored pencils/markers are used on occasion

English 12: note cards, paper, folder, glue sticks and colored pencils/markers are used on occasion

Better Food Choices, Food & Family, Food Science, & Eating Right!, Family Issues, Family Life Skills, Intro. to Health Careers: pencil or blue/black pen, folder, paper or computer

Understanding Childhood: Pencil or blue/black pen, 3-ring binder, paper or computer

Careers in Design: Pencil or blue/black pen, folder, optional: some students may purchase additional fabric

Spanish: Folder, notebook, pen, pencil

Pre-Algebra & Algebra I: 3-ring binder, loose-leaf paper, notebook, pencils

Honors Alg. I/Alg. II: pencils, 3-subj. notebook or 3-ring binder w/ loose-leaf paper & dividers, graphing calculator is recommended for students who will be taking higher level courses

Geometry: multiple pencils, 3-ring binder (1 inch or more) w/ dividers

Honors Alg. II/Alg. III: pencils, 3-ring binder (1” or more) with dividers, calculator (T1-83 or higher graphing calculator is recommended)

Pre-Calculus & Calculus: pencils, 3-subj. notebook or loose-leaf paper; 3-ring binder (1” or more) with dividers; calculator (T1-83 or higher graphing calculator)

Band: properly working musical instrument or drumsticks for percussionists.  Any personally owned instruments must be play tested and approved by the instructor.  Rental fees and supply fees may apply.

Phy Ed.: Change of Phy. Ed. clothes:  T-shirt or sweatshirt, Tennis shoes, socks and shorts or sweatpants.  Also need: towel deodorant, shampoo (no glass bottles), combination lock.

Health: Notebook & pen

Physical Science, Chemistry I & II, Lab. Techniques: Notebook, pen, pencil, calculator

Biology, Zoology & Environmental Studies: Notebook just for this class, 3-ring binder

Anat. & Phys.: 3-ring binder, colored pencils, note cards, book cover

World Studies, World History, Am. Govt., Econ. Principles & WI History: Notebook, writing utensil

U.S. History: notebook, folder, blue/black pens

AP U.S. History, AP European Hist.: notebook, 3-ring binder, loose-leaf paper, index cards, pens & pencils

AP Govt.: Notebook, 3-ring binder, loose-leaf paper, pens & pencils

CAD& Drafting I/CAD I: 3-ring binder, loose-leaf paper, calculator, flash drive, pencils, if course is dropped payment for CAD software seat

Power Mechanics-Small Engines: Safety glasses, 3-ring binder, loose-leaf paper, pencil(s), calculator, combination lock, $15.00 materials fee

Wood Tech. I: Safety glasses Z87, 12’ tape measure, 3-ring binder, loose-leaf paper, calculator, pencils, $15.00 materials fee

Adv. Project Woods II: Safety glasses Z87, 12’ tape measure, 3-ring binder, loose-leaf paper, calculator, pencils

Basic/Adv. Welding: Safety glasses Z87, 12 ft. tape measure, 3-ring binder, loose-leaf paper, calculator, pencils, tennis shoes, combination lock, $15.00 materials fee

Automotive Tech. I: Safety glasses Z87, 3-ring binder, loose-leaf paper, calculator, pencils, work shirt, tennis shoes, combination lock

Building Construction: Safety glasses, 25 ft. tape measure, 3-ring binder, loose-leaf paper, pencil(s), calculator, tennis shoes, combination lock

Manufacturing: Safety glasses Z87, 12 ft. tape measure, 3-ring binder, loose-leaf paper, calculator, pencils, tennis shoes, combination lock, $15.00 materials fee

Updated elementary school supply lists are unavailable at this time.

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District Calendar ~March, 2014

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| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
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| --- |
| 1 |
| GBB Conference Play Offs @ Alma |
| BBB Regional Final |
| 08:00 AM - 02:30 PM: 2014 Performing Arts Festival (Trempealeau County 4-H) |

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| --- |
| 2 |
| 05:00 PM - 06:45 PM: 7th grade girls basketball practice |
| 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: High School Open gym |

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| 3 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: Youth Wrestling |

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| 4 |
| GBB Regional |
| Casimir Pulaski Day |
| MVGTN 8th Gr. Quiz Bowl |
| 03:30 PM - 05:00 PM: 7th NW girls BB |

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| 5 |
| Zumba @ 6:30 in the 7-12 LMC |
| FAFSA Completion 5-7pm @ 7-12 Building |

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| 6 |
| BBB Sectional |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| MS WR @ Indee Tri Cty Tourney |
| 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: Youth Wrestling |

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| 7 |
| GBB Regional |

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| 8 |
| BBB Sectional Final |
| GBB Regional Final |
| MS Honors Band all day in WHTL. Concert @ 7pm |
| 06:00 AM - 04:00 PM: BT Youth Wrestling Tournament |

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| --- |
| 9 |
| 05:00 PM - 06:45 PM: 7th grade girls basketball practice |
| 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: High School Open gym |

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| 10 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: Youth Wrestling |

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| 11 |
| Talent Show @ K-6 from 6-8pmElementary Fine Arts Fair |

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| 12 |
| Zumba @ 6:30 in the 7-12 LMC |

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| 13 |
| BBB State |
| GBB Sectional |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| Handbells @ Barnes & Noble |
| 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: Youth Wrestling |

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| 14 |
| BBB State |

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| 15 |
| BBB State |
| GBB Sectional Final |
| HS District Forensics 8am @ UW-L |

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| 16 |
| 05:00 PM - 06:45 PM: 7th grade girls basketball practice |
| 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: High School Open gym |

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| 17 |
| Bd. Mtg. @ 7-12 5:30pm |
| "The Great Hunger" in Ireland |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: Youth Wrestling |

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| 18 |
| 6-8th Gr Art Fair @ Mel Min |

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| 19 |
| Zumba @ 6:30 in the 7-12 LMC |

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| 20 |
| GBB State |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM: Youth Wrestling |

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| 21 |
| GBB State |

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| 22 |
| GBB State |
| TR @ UWL 9am |

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| 23 |
| 05:00 PM - 06:45 PM: 7th grade girls basketball practice |
| 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: High School Open gym |

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| 24 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| TR @ St Marys 4:00 |

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| 25 |
| MVGTN 5th Gr Math Fair @ Holmen |

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| 26 |
| Zumba @ 6:30 in the 7-12 LMC |
| BTUEA General Mtg. 3:45 |
| Blood Drive @ 7-12 |

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| 27 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |

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| 28 |

Elementary Spring Concert |

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| 29 |
| TR @ UW Stout 9am |

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| 30 |
| 05:00 PM - 06:45 PM: 7th grade girls basketball practice |
| 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: High School Open gym |

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| 31 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |

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District Calendar ~ April, 2014

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| 1 |
| SB vs Immanual 5:00 |

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| 2 |
| Zumba @ 6:30 in the 7-12 LMC |

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| 3 |
| BB @ Augusta 5:00 |
| SB @ Augusta 5:00 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| MVGTN HS Creative Writing Fest |

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| 4 |
| SB vs WHTL 5:00 |

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| 5 |
| HS Solo Ensemble @ Alma |

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| 6 |
| 05:00 PM - 06:45 PM: 7th grade girls basketball practice |
| 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM: High School Open gym |

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| 7 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| FBLA State Leadership Conf/Competition @ Appleton |

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| 8 |
| BB vs ES 5:00 |
| SB vs ES 5:00 |
| FBLA State Leadership Conf/Competition @ Appleton |
| TR @ Holmen 3:30 |

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| 9 |
| Prisoners of War Remembrance Day |
| Zumba @ 6:30 in the 7-12 LMC |

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| 10 |
| TR @ Mondovi 4:00 |
| BB vs OF 5:00 |
| SB vs OF 5:00 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |

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| 11 |
| State Forensics in Madison 8am-10pm |
| BB @ ACLH 5:00 |
| SB @ ACLH 5:00 |

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| 12 |

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| 13 |

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| 14 |
| HS Spring Concert @ 7:30pm |
| American's Creed Day |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |

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| 15 |
| BB vs Mel Min 5:00 |
| SB vs Mel Min 5:00 |
| MVGTN Rebel Spelling Bee @ Bangor |

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| 16 |
| Large Group Contest @ Arcadia |
| Zumba @ 6:30 in the 7-12 LMC |

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| 17 |
| TR @ Indee 4:30 |
| BB @ CFC 5:00 |
| SB @ CFC 5:00 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |

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| 18 |
| Good Friday No School |

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| 19 |
| Patriot's Day |

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| 20 |

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| 21 |
| Bd. Mtg. @ 7-12 5:30pm |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| No School Teacher Inservice |

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| 22 |
| 5-8 Spring Concert @ 7:30pm at the 7-12 building |
| TR County Meet 4:30 |
| BB vs Indee 5:00 |
| SB vs Indee 5:00 |
| Environmental Awareness Day |

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| 23 |
| Zumba @ 6:30 in the 7-12 LMC |

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| 24 |
| TR @ CFC 4:30 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| 4K Registration for 2014-15 @ 9am, 3:30pm & 5pm |
| Head Start Registration for 2014-15 @ 10:30am & 1:30pm |

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| 25 |
| BB @ WHTL 5:00 |
| SB @ WHTL 5:00 (Pigeon Falls) |
| Arbor Day |
| MS Rollerskating |

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| 26 |
| Junior Prom |

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| 27 |

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| 28 |
| SB @ Immanual 5:00 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| TR @ WHTL Cty 4:00 |

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| 29 |
| BB vs Immanual 5:00 |
| MVGTN 4th Gr. Heritage Fair @ GET |

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| 30 |
| Zumba @ 6:30 in the 7-12 LMC |

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District Calendar ~ May, 2014

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| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
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| 1 |
| TR @ MM 4:40 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |

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| 2 |
| BB @ ES 5:00 |
| SB @ ES 5:00 |
| MVGTN 5-6th Gr, Kids College @ UW-L |

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| 3 |
| FFA Banquet @ 7:30pm |

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| 5 |
| JVTR @ Mel Min 4:30 |
| BB @ Arcadia 5:00 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| JV TR @ MM 4:30 |

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| 6 |
| TR Home 5:00 |
| BB vs ACLH 5:00 |
| SB vs ACLH 5:00 |
| 5-6th Gr. Battle of the Books @ Arcadia |

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| 7 |
| Zumba @ 6:30 in the 7-12 LMC |

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| 8 |
| TR Home 5:00 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| 7-8th Gr. Battle of the Books @ Indee Opera House |

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| 9 |
| BB @ Mel Min 5:00 |
| SB @ Mel Min 5:00 |
| Last Student Day |

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| 10 |
| GRADUATION |

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| 11 |

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| 12 |
| BB @ Fall Creek 5:00 |
| SB @ Fall Creek 5:00 |
| Zumba @ 4:15 in the 7-12 LMC |
| Teacher Inservice |

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| 13 |
| BB vs CFC 5:00 |
| SB vs CFC 5:00 |
| Teacher Inservice |

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| 14 |

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| 15 |
| TR @ WHTL 4:00 |

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| 16 |
| BB @ Indee 5:00 |
| SB @ Indee 5:00 |

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| 17 |
| SB Tourney @ West Salem |

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| 18 |

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| 19 |
| Bd. Mtg. @ 7-12 5:30pm |
| TR 9 & 10 Meet Home 4:00 |
| TR Rain Date for Conference Meet |

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| 20 |
| BB vs WHTL 5:00 |
| SB vs WHTL 5:00 |

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| 21 |
| 8th Gr. Leadership Impact @ Bangor |

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| 22 |
| BB @ Immanual 5:00 |
| SB Sectional |
| TR @ WHTL Invite 4:00 |

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| 26 |
| BB vs GET 5:00 |

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| 27 |
| TR Regional |
| SB Regional |

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| 29 |
| SB Regional |

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| 30 |
| TR Sectional |
| BB Regional |

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District Calendar ~ June, 2014

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| 3 |
| BB Regional |
| SB Sectional |

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| 4 |
| BB Regional |

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| 5 |
| SB Sectional |

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| 6 |
| TR State |

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| 7 |
| TR State |

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| 9 |
| State FFA Convention in Madison |

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| 10 |
| BB Sectional |
| State FFA Convention in Madison |

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| 11 |
| State FFA Convention in Madison |

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| 12 |
| SB State |
| State FFA Convention in Madison |

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| 13 |
| SB State |
| State FFA Convention in Madison |

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| 14 |
| SB State |
| Robert La Follette Sr. Day |
| State FFA Convention in Madison |

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| 15 |

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| 16 |
| Bd. Mtg. @ 7-12 5:30pm |

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| 17 |
| BB State |

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| BB State |

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| 29 |
| FBLA National Leadership Conf/Comp in Nashville |

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| 30 |
| FBLA National Leadership Conf/Comp in Nashville |

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In This Issue…

* ![C:\Users\jotenk\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\13KE1M4O\MC900198327[1].wmf]()Valedictorian & Salutatorian
* Teacher Honored with Award
* Blair-Taylor Receives Grant
* United Campus Update
* School Board Election
* 2014-2015 School Year Calendar
* What is a Professional Learning Community?
* There’s a New Assessment in Town
* Notes from the Desk of the High School Principal
* School Counseling News
* Underage Drinking in Wisconsin
* Technology Today
* Early Learning Center News
* Middle & High School Supply Lists for 2014-2015
* Breakfast & Lunch Calendars
* Event Calendars