

## LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The holidays are a great time for everyone to reconnect with family and friends. I sincerely hope your holiday season was enjoyable and relaxing. As we move into the second half of the school year, basketball and wrestling are in full swing, and academically, we are gearing up for the end of first semester and the beginning of second semester.

### **Trempealeau Valley Consortium:**

The Consortium with Blair-Taylor, Arcadia, Independence, and Whitehall is going well. Next year's juniors and seniors will continue to have the opportunity to take classes in the career technology areas of Agriculture Science, Business Education, Family and Consumer Science, and Technology Education. We are looking to expand these opportunities as we work together to create a better educational system for our students. Please pay attention to the paper and our Blair-Taylor website, as we see some great things happening within our consortium for our kids.

### **Wildcat Way and Wall of Inspiration:**

The Wall of Inspiration and the Wildcat Way Wall have become reality. Students of the month are being recognized on our Wildcat Way Wall. We need to begin the process of recognizing current or past residents of the Blair-Taylor School District who have demonstrated excellence in service/contribution, leadership and character, and impact on others. The nomination criteria are listed below.

#### **Nomination Criteria:**

Nominee can be living or deceased.

Must be a past or present resident of Blair-Taylor School District.

Nominee does not have to be a graduate of Blair-Taylor Schools (Blair or Taylor).

Nomination form must be completed and submitted to the Blair-Taylor District Office or online between January 1st and April 1st. No verbal nominations will be accepted.

Nominations are unlimited.

No self nominations.

Nomination forms can be found in the elementary office, middle/high school office, or the district office. Nominations can be done online through our district website.

### **Nature Case:**

I hope everyone has had the opportunity to see the great progress of our Nature Case near the united campus library. We cannot thank Wava Jacobchick enough for her hard work and dedication to this outstanding project. The funding for this endeavor continues to come in, and we sincerely thank everyone for their support of this incredible project.

Wava has created a website where you can see all the progress made on the nature display. The website is <http://btnaturecase.wixsite.com/btnaturecase>.

Have a great New Year!

Sincerely, Jeffrey S. Eide, Superintendent



## From the Desk of the 7-12 Principal...

Winter has finally found us, but before we know it, spring will be here. Among other things, it will be time for the spring state assessments. The state of Wisconsin requires all students to be evaluated using state or nationally normed assessments. The following provides some information about these assessments.

The **Wisconsin Forward Exam** was developed to replace the Badger Exam, which replaced the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam, to assess English language arts and mathematics skills for students in grades three through eight, science knowledge and skills for students in grades four and eight, and social studies knowledge and skills for students in grades four, eight, and 10. The testing window for all students in Wisconsin to be evaluated using the Wisconsin Forward Exam is March 19th through May 4th. We will establish an assessment schedule for students based on several factors, such as optimal testing times of the day, comfortable settings for testing, adequate breaks between assessments, minimal impact on instruction, and individual student needs. Once the schedule is set, we will send information home, so that you can help prepare your child to do his or her best.

The **ACT Aspire** assessment is given to ninth and tenth grade students to assess their knowledge and skills in the areas of English, reading, math, science, and writing. A student's performance on this assessment will help predict how he or she will perform on both the ACT and ACT WorkKeys when he or she reaches 11th grade. These early high school assessments will help identify students who need extra help to learn skills they will need for the ACT and, more importantly, for career and college experiences after graduating. The ACT Aspire test window is April 9th to May 11th.

The **ACT Plus Writing** exam is given to all eleventh-grade students in Wisconsin to assess reading, math, English, science, and writing. The **ACT** can be used by students for a variety of purposes, including college admission, scholarships, course placement, and NCAA eligibility. Eleventh grade students also will take The **ACT WorkKeys**, which contains the following subtests: Applied Mathematics, Locating Information, and Reading for Information. The **ACT WorkKeys** helps students identify areas of strength that may be applied to future careers. **ACT Plus Writing** will be given statewide on February 27th. **ACT WorkKeys** will be on February 28th.

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

Our student handbook, found on the middle and high school pages of the Blair-Taylor website, provides details about the attendance expectations for students. Unexcused absences result in detention time. In addition, a student who has five or more unexcused absences in a semester may be referred to social services for "truancy." *Please remember to call the office (989-2525) or send a note when your child is unable to attend school, so that he or she will not be recorded as unexcused.* Excused absences in excess of 15 days may result in the requirement of doctors' notes to excuse further absences.

**Senior Graduation:** Mark your calendar, if you haven't already! Graduation will take place on **Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00PM** in the middle/high school gymnasium. Doors will be opened at 11:00AM. Everyone is welcome to attend. Seats are reserved for graduates, staff, and school board members only. Graduates receive their gowns when they arrive at the school and turn them in before receiving their diplomas. Families are welcome to take pictures at school with their graduate before he or she returns the gown.

**Senior Awards Night** takes place the Sunday before graduation. This year it will take place on May 20th. The time will be determined. Traditionally, it follows the baccalaureate service in the auditorium. All seniors and their families are invited to attend.

**8th Grade Recognition:** Another important event is the Recognition Event held in honor of the eighth-grade students as they prepare to transition to high school. This event will take place on Friday, May 18th at 2:00 in the auditorium. Students are asked to dress in formal attire. Clothing must meet the school's dress code. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Dana Eide, Middle/High School Principal





## From the Desk of the Elementary Principal...

Welcome to 2018! I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday and that you were able to spend quality time with family and friends. As we enter the new year, I find myself reflecting on the progress that I've seen from our students this year. As you know, we have been putting a lot of emphasis on positive student behaviors to increase academic success. I'm proud of our entire staff, students, parents, and community for the following statistics. As always, it takes consistency and teamwork from all adults in our students' lives to see change for the better.

Blair-Taylor Elementary students are making behavioral improvements. In comparison to last year, we have:

- 32% fewer minors and majors.
- 31% fewer minors
- 36% fewer majors

During the 2017-18 school year:

- 93% of our students have received zero to one major
- 79% of our students have received zero to one minor

The reason behind The Wildcat Way is to promote a school environment that is conducive to all students' learning. In many cases, there is a direct correlation between behavioral success and academic success. Students who are behaviorally successful have a higher chance for academic success. Therefore, on January 4th and 5th, all students were given a booster lesson with examples of how to properly respond to various situations in different environments. Students also modeled expected behavior in each of the following environments or situations: hallway/sidewalk, lunchroom/ commons, LMC, restrooms, events in the gym, bus, auditorium, offices, playground, and all technology. Please take time to talk to your child about what they learned on January 4th and 5th regarding the Wildcat Way.

### Milk Moola and Box Tops for Education

Did you know that you can help raise money for Blair-Taylor Elementary by collecting milk caps and box tops? Please consider collecting and help your local school. Milk Moola Caps and Box Tops for Education can be dropped off at Blair-Taylor Elementary.



### Wisconsin Forward Exam

The testing window for our 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students will be March 19<sup>th</sup> - May 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be additional information sent home in student communication folders regarding specific testing dates and times for each grade level. Students in 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6<sup>th</sup> grades will be tested in the areas of math and English language arts. Students in 4th grade will also be tested in the areas of science and social studies. As always, we want our students to do their very best on this assessment. Following are some suggestions to help increase student success during the Wisconsin Forward Exam:

- Make sure your child gets to school regularly throughout the entire school year.
- Read or promote independent reading with your child every night (including the summer months).
- Ask your child about their school day every day. What did they learn today?
- Have your child eat breakfast at school or at home.
- Have a bedtime to ensure your students are well rested and ready to learn each and every day.
- Practice discipline and respect in all environments.
- Create routines.

### Elementary Report Cards

Blair-Taylor Elementary teachers have been working very hard over the past year to simplify the elementary report card for each grade level, K-6. Blair-Taylor Elementary will continue teaching all standards but only report out on the "high leverage" standards that are especially critical for future success. Parent-teacher conferencing will continue to be the most critical form of communication regarding the academic, social, and emotional success of our students.

**Elementary Report Cards will be sent home on January 25th.**

**Parent/Teacher Conferences will be on February 20th and 22nd.**

Have a great 2018!

Lynn Halverson, Elementary Principal



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## Child Development Day

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 1st, 2018, with appointment times starting at 8:30 and ending at 5:00. This is open to children ages birth to 5 who have never been screened before. To set up a screening time, please contact 608-989-9835.

## Special Education Webpage

The special education link on the district webpage is being updated monthly with family engagement newsletters. The newsletters are filled with resources, activities, and information to help students across all ability levels. Please take a look at them by following: <http://www.btsd.k12.wi.us/parents/specialeducationseries/vices.cfm>



## Non-Discrimination Policy

Blair-Taylor Schools (Policy #112) does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, religion, pregnancy, marital or parental status,

sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability in educational programs or school activities. Discrimination will not be present in rules of appearance, in standards of compliance with the rules, nor in disciplinary measures, including suspension and expulsion. The district encourages informal resolution of complaints under this policy; however, a formal complaint resolution procedure is available to address allegations of policy violations. See School Board of Education Policy # 112 for details.

**Any questions concerning this policy should be directed to: Mr. Jeffrey Eide, Superintendent, Blair-Taylor School District, N31024 Elland Road, Blair, WI 54616, (608) 989-2881.**

## Blair-Taylor School Board Members

### President

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***The school board meets at 5:30 on the third Monday of each month, alternating between the community center in Taylor and the board room in the K-12 building.***

# You may apply for **open enrollment** from **February 5-April 30, 2018**

## What is Public School Open Enrollment?

Wisconsin's inter-district public school open enrollment program allows parents to apply for their children to attend school districts other than the one in which they live.

Applications may be submitted to up to three nonresident school districts.

## Who may participate in open enrollment?

Pupils in 5-year-old kindergarten to grade 12 may apply to participate in open enrollment.

Open enrollment for prekindergarten, 4-year-old kindergarten and early childhood education is limited. Parents should call their resident school districts to find out if their preschool-aged children qualify for open enrollment.

## How and when may parents apply?

The open enrollment application period for the 2018-19 school year is from February 5-April 30, 2018. **The application period closes at 4:00 p.m. on April 30, 2018. Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.**

Parents may apply online at <https://dpi.wi.gov/oe>.

## Can I apply to a virtual charter school under open enrollment?

A pupil may only open enroll to an online/virtual school if: (1) the school has been created as a virtual charter school that meets the requirements of the charter school law [Wis. Stats. 118.40 (8)] or (2) the pupil is required to physically attend school in the nonresident school district every day that school is in session. Other important things to know about applying to virtual charter schools:

- A virtual charter school is not homeschooling. Pupils attending virtual charter schools are public school pupils.

- You must know the nonresident school district in which the virtual charter school is located. If you have any questions about this, call the virtual charter school.
- You must know your resident school district in order to apply.
- A list of virtual charter schools may be found at <https://dpi.wi.gov/sms/charter-schools/virtual-charter-schools>.

## Can an application be rejected?

Yes. Nonresident school districts may deny an application if regular or special education *space is not available* for the pupil; *special education or related services* are not available; or if the pupil has been *referred for a special education evaluation* but has not yet been evaluated. Nonresident school districts may also deny an application if the pupil has been *expelled* during the current or preceding two years for certain violent conduct or if the pupil was *habitually truant* from the nonresident school district during any semester in the current or previous school year.

If there are more applications than spaces, pupils must be selected randomly, after giving preference to pupils already attending school in the nonresident school district and siblings of currently-attending pupils.

Some school districts establish waiting lists to fill unused spaces, but others do not.

## Can a resident district prevent a pupil from leaving?

Yes, in limited circumstances. A resident district can deny a pupil's application for an invalid application (early or late application or missing information), ineligibility due to age (too young or too old), or if the resident district does not

offer the same type of prekindergarten, four-year-old kindergarten, or early childhood program as the nonresident district or the pupil is not eligible for the program in the resident district. These are also reasons that a nonresident district can deny an application.

## Can parents appeal if an application is denied?

Parents whose applications are denied may appeal to the DPI within 30 days of the denial. State law requires the DPI to uphold the school district's decision unless DPI finds that the decision was arbitrary or unreasonable. The DPI's decision may be appealed to circuit court.

## Must pupils reapply every year?

Once a pupil is accepted into a nonresident school district, the pupil may continue to attend that district without reapplication except that:

- The nonresident district may require a pupil to reapply one time—at the beginning of middle school, junior high or high school.
- A pupil may be returned to the resident school district if the special education required in a new or revised IEP is not available in the nonresident district or there is no space.
- A pupil who has become habitually truant in the nonresident district may be returned to the resident district.

## Is there a cost to parents for open enrollment?

There is no tuition cost to parents for participation in open enrollment. Parents of open enrolled pupils may be charged the same fees as resident pupils.

## Who is responsible for transportation?

*Parents are responsible for transporting their children to and from school.*

If transportation is required in the individualized education program (IEP) for a child with a disability, it must be provided by the nonresident district.

School districts *may* provide transportation to open enrollment pupils if they wish. Usually, if transportation is provided, parents must transport the pupil to a location in the nonresident district.

Low-income parents may apply to the DPI for partial reimbursement of their transportation costs.

## Can a parent select a specific school in the pupil's *nonresident* school district?

Yes. A parent may request a specific school or program in the nonresident district. However, assignment to the requested school or program *is not guaranteed* and your pupil may be assigned to a different school other than the one requested. It is up to each nonresident district to determine a pupil's school assignment.

## Can an open enrolled pupil participate in sports and other extra-curricular activities in the nonresident school district?

Open enrolled pupils have the same rights and responsibilities as resident pupils.

Inter-scholastic athletics are governed by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (*WIAA*), which has rules concerning transfer pupils. Parents should check with the school district's athletic director about eligibility.

## Important open enrollment dates

**February 5 – April 30, 2018** – Parents must submit applications online or directly to the nonresident school district.

**June 8, 2018** – Nonresident school districts must mail notices of approval or denial. If the application is approved, the school district must notify the parents of the specific school or program to which the pupil is assigned. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.

**June 15, 2018** – Resident districts must notify applicants if the application is denied. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.

**June 29, 2018** – Parents of accepted applicants must notify the nonresident district if the pupil will attend the nonresident district in the 2018-19 school year. If the parent fails to make this notification, the nonresident district may refuse to allow the pupil to attend the district.

### For more information contact:

Public School Open Enrollment Program  
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction  
P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841

Toll-free: 888-245-2732

Email: [openenrollment@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:openenrollment@dpi.wi.gov)

Web site: <https://dpi.wi.gov/oe>



2018-19

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, or disability.



## 2018-19 School Year

**Full-Time  
Inter-District**

# Open Enrollment

**In Wisconsin Public  
Schools**

(Information for Parents)

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction  
Tony Evers, PhD, State Superintendent

# Upcoming Events

# February -March 2, 2018

Thurs., Feb. 1	Child Development Day WR Home 6:30 GBB @ Gilmanon 6pm MSGBB @ WHTL 4:30 Open weight room 3:30-4:10pm & 7-9:30 pm 8th Grade Northwest Basketball Practice 6-8pm Youth wrestling practice 6-8pm 7th Grade Boys NW Basketball Practice 6:30-8pm	Fri., Feb. 16	BBB Home vs Immanuel 6pm Open Weight Room 6:30-7:30am & 7-9:30pm
Fri., Feb. 2	BBB Home vs Indee 6pm Open Weight Room 6:30-7:30 am & 7-9:30pm	Sat., Feb. 17	GBB Cross Over @ WHTL
Sat., Feb. 3	BBB Varsity only @ Royall @ Just a Game Field House 12:30 GBB @ Royall 11am varsity only	Sun., Feb. 18	5th grade boys basketball practice 6-8pm Softball Open Gym 6-7:30pm Basketball Open Gym 7-9pm
Sun., Feb. 4	5th grade boys basketball practice 6-8pm Softball Open Gym 6-7:30pm Basketball Open Gym 7-9pm	Mon., Feb. 19	MSWR @ OF 5pm BBB Home vs Alma/Pepin 6pm Board Meeting 5:30 pm Youth wrestling practice 6-8pm Open Weight Room 6:30-7:30 am & 7-9:30pm
Mon., Feb. 5	MSGBB Home vs ACLH 4:30 Open weight room 6:30-7:30am, 3:30-4:10pm, 7-9:30 pm Youth wrestling practice 6-8pm	Tues., Feb. 20	GBB Regional Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:30 pm 8th Grade Northwest Basketball Practice 6-8pm 7th Grade Boys NW Basketball Practice 6:30-8pm
Tues., Feb. 6	MSWR @ WHTL 5pm MSGBB Home vs Indee 4:40 Open weight room 3:30-4:10 pm 8th Grade Northwest BB Practice 6-8pm 7th Grade Boys NW BB Practice 6:30-8pm	Wed., Feb. 21	National History Day Local Contest 5th grade boys basketball practice 6-8pm Open Weight Room 6:30-7:30am & 7-9:30pm Adult Basketball 7:30-9:30pm
Wed., Feb. 7	Open weight room 6:30-7:30am, 3:30-4:10, 7-9:30pm 5th grade boys basketball practice 6-8pm 3/4 Boys YMCA Basketball Practice 6:30-7:30pm Adult Basketball 7:30-9:30pm	Thurs., Feb. 22	No School: Teacher In-Service GBB Regional Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:30pm 8th Grade Northwest Basketball Practice 6-8pm Youth wrestling practice 7th Grade Boys NW Basketball Practice Open Weight Room
Thurs., Feb. 8	BBB Home vs Gilmanon MSGBB Home vs CFC 4:30 Open weight room 3:30-4:10pm & 7-9:30pm 8th Grade Northwest Basketball Practice 6-8pm Youth wrestling practice 6-8pm 7th Grade Boys NW Basketball Practice 6:30-8pm	Fri., Feb. 23	No School Open Weight Room 6:30-7:30 am & 7-9:30pm
Fri., Feb. 9	GBB Home vs Immanuel 6pm MS Bruce Mound Trip - Tubing only Open Weight Room 6:30-7:30am & 7-9:30pm	Sat., Feb. 24	GBB Regional BBB Cross Over @ MM
Sat., Feb. 10	5th Grade Girls NW BB Tournament 7am-7pm	Sun., Feb. 25	5th grade boys basketball practice 6-8pm Softball Open Gym 6-7:30pm Basketball Open Gym 7-9pm
Sun., Feb. 11	5th grade boys basketball practice 6-8pm Softball Open Gym 6-7:30pm Basketball Open Gym 7-9pm	Mon., Feb. 26	Youth wrestling practice 6-8pm Open Weight Room 6:30-7:30am & 7-9:30pm
Mon., Feb. 12	GBB @ Alma 6pm BBB @ Alma 6pm MSGBB Home vs WHTL Youth wrestling practice 6-8pm Open Weight Room 6:30-7:30am & 7-9:30pm	Tues., Feb. 27	BBB Regional 8th Grade Northwest Basketball Practice 6-8pm 7th Grade Boys NW Basketball Practice 6:30-8pm
Tues., Feb. 13	Forensics Sub Districts @ WHTL BBB @ Bangor 6pm MSGBB @ BRF 4:30 FFA District Speaking Contest 3:30-8:00 pm 8th Grade Northwest Basketball Practice 6-8pm 7th Grade Boys NW Basketball Practice 6:30-8pm	Wed., Feb. 28	Open Weight Room 6:30-7:30 am & 7:00-9:30pm Adult Basketball 7:30-9:30pm
Wed., Feb. 14	5th grade boys basketball practice 6-8pm Open Weight Room 6:30-7:30am & 7-9:30pm Adult Basketball 7:30-9:30 pm	Thurs., March 1	MSWR Home 4:30 GBB Sectional 8th Grade Northwest BB Practice (6-8 PM) Youth Wrestling Practice (6:00PM - 8:00 PM) 7th Grade Boys NW BB Practice (6:30PM - 8:00 PM) Open Weight Room (7:00 PM- 9:30 PM)
Thurs., Feb. 15	HS Solo Ensemble @ WHTL 8am-4pm MSWR @ Indee 5pm MSGBB @ Gilmanon 5:30 8th Grade Northwest Basketball Practice 6-8pm Youth wrestling practice 6-8pm 7th Grade Boys NW Basketball Practice 6:30-8pm Open Weight Room 7-9:30pm	Fri., March 2	Open Weight Room (6:30 AM - 7:30 AM) Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
<b>Check the calendar on the district website for the most up-to-date information.</b>			

# Upcoming Events

Sat., March 3	MS Couleeland Honors Band @ BT 8am-6:30pm GBB Sectional BBB Regional BT Youth Wrestling Tournament (6AM - 8PM) Couleeland Honors Rehearsal (7AM - 10PM)
Sun., March 4	Softball Open Gym (6:00 PM - 7:30 PM)
Mon., March 5	Open Weight Room 6:30-7:30AM & 7-9:30pm Youth wrestling practice (6:00 PM - 8:00 PM) Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Tues., March 6	8th Grade Northwest BB Practice (6 PM - 8 PM) 7th Grade Boys NW BB Practice (6:30 PM-8 PM)
Wed., March 7	Open Weight Room 6:30-7:30am & 7:00- 9:30 pm Adult Basketball (7:30 PM - 9:30 PM)
Thurs., March 8	MSWR @ Arcadia 5pm GBB State BBB Sectional 8th Grade Northwest BB Practice (6 - 8 PM) Youth wrestling practice (6:00 PM - 8:00 PM) 7th Grade Boys NW BB Practice (6:30- 8:00 PM) Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Fri., March 9	GBB State Open Weight Room (6:30-7:30 am & 7 - 9:30 PM)
Sat., March 10	GBB State BBB Sectional
Sun., March 11	Softball Open Gym (6:00 PM - 7:30 PM)
Mon., March 12	Youth wrestling practice (6:00 PM - 8:00 PM) Open Weight Room (6:30-7:30am & 7 - 9:30 PM)
Tues., March 13	8th Grade Northwest BB Practice (6 - 8 PM) 7th Grade Boys NW BB Practice (6:30 PM - 8:00 PM)
Wed., March 14	Open Weight Room (6:30-6:30 am & 7- 9:30 pm) Adult Basketball (7:30 PM - 9:30 PM)
Thurs., March 15	BBB State 8th Grade Northwest BB Practice (6 - 8 PM) 7th Grade Boys NW BB Practice (6:30 - 8 PM) Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Fri., March 16	BBB State Open Weight Room (6:30-7:30 am & 7 - 9:30 PM)
Sat., March 17	BBB State Odyssey of the Mind State Tournament @ MATC (6:30-9:30)
Mon., March 19	Board Meeting (5:30 PM - 8:30 PM) Open Weight Room (6:30-7:30 am & 7 - 9:30 PM)
Tues., March 20	Middle/High PT Conferences (3:30 PM - 7:30 PM) 8th Grade Northwest BB Practice (6:00 - 8:00 PM) 7th Grade Boys NW BB Practice (6:30 - 8:00 PM)
Wed., March 21	Open Weight Room (6:30-7:30 am & 7- 9:30 PM) Adult Basketball (7:30 PM - 9:30 PM)
Thurs., March 22	6th Grade Band Consortium Concert @ Arcadia Middle/High P-T Conferences (3:30-7:30 PM) 8th Grade Northwest BB Practice (6 PM - 8 PM) 7th Grade Boys NW BB Practice (6:30 - 8:00 PM) Open Weight Room (7:00 - 9:30 PM)
Fri., March 23	SB Home vs CFC Open Weight Room (6:30-7:30 AM & 7-9:30PM)
Sat., March 24	HS Solo Ensemble @ Indee (8am-4pm) Track @ UW LaX 7th Grade NW GBB Tourney (7:00AM-7:00 PM)
Mon., March 26	Open Weight Room (6:30-7:30 AM & 7- 9:30 PM)
Tues., March 27	End of 3rd Quarter 8th Grade NW BB Practice (6:00 PM - 8:00 PM)
Wed., March 28	Teacher In-Service Open Weight Room (6:30 - 7:30 AM & 7- 9:30 PM) Adult Basketball (7:30 PM - 9:30 PM)
Thurs., March 29	No School BB Home vs CFC 8th Grade NW BB Practice (6:00 PM - 8:00 PM) Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Fri., March 30	Open Weight Room (6:30 - 7:30 AM & 7- 9:30 PM)
Mon., April 2	No School Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Tues., April 3	BB @ Augusta SB @ Augusta Track @ Holmen 3:30 8th Grade NW BB Practice (6:00 PM - 8:00 PM)

# March 3, 2018- April, 2018

Wed., April 4	Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM) Adult Basketball (7:30 PM - 9:30 PM)
Thurs., April 5	8th Grade NW BB Practice (6:00 PM - 8:00 PM) Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Fri., April 6	BB Home vs ACLH Track @ Stout 3:30 Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Mon., April 9	BB Home vs Fall Creek SB Home vs Fall Creek Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Tues., April 10	BB @ ES SB @ ES B Golf @ Mondovi 4:30 8th Grade NW BB Practice (6:00 PM - 8:00 PM)
Wed., April 11	Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM) Adult Basketball (7:30 PM - 9:30 PM)
Thurs., April 12	Track @ Indee 4pm B Golf @ WHTL 4:30 8th Grade NW BB Practice (6:00 PM - 8:00 PM) Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Fri., April 13	BB Home vs Immanuel SB Home vs Immanuel Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Sat., April 14	SB Wildcat Invite 10am
Mon., April 16	MS Track @ CFC 4pm B Golf @ ES 4:30 Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Tues., April 17	BB Home vs Indee SB Home vs Indee Track @ Luther 4pm
Wed., April 18	HS Large Group @ WHTL 8-4 Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM) Adult Basketball (7:30 PM - 9:30 PM)
Thurs., April 19	MS Large Group @ WHTL 8-4 BB @ MM SB @ MM Track @ MM 5pm MS Track @ GET 4:15 B Golf @ CFC 4:30 Large Group (7:00 AM - 10:00 PM) Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Fri., April 20	BB Home vs WHTL SB Home vs WHTL Track @ Arcadia 4pm Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Sat., April 21	SB @ Cashton 10am Sheep Weigh-in for Trempealeau County Fair
Mon., April 23	SB @ Greenwood B Golf @ Mondovi 4:30 Board Meeting (5:30 PM - 8:30 PM) Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Tues., April 24	BB @ CFC SB @ CFC Track @ CFC 4pm B Golf @ WHTL 4:30
Wed., April 25	MS Track @ ACLH Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM) Adult Basketball (7:30 PM - 9:30 PM)
Thurs., April 26	Title 1 Spring Celebration (5:30-6:30 PM) BB @ Loyal SB @ Loyal Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Wed., April 27	BB Home vs Augusta SB Home vs Augusta Open Weight Room (7:00 PM - 9:30 PM)
Thurs., April 28	Prom Sheep Weigh-in Snow Date
Mon., April 30	Track @ ES Cty Meet (4PM) Open Weight Room (7:00-9:30 PM)

**Check the calendar on the district website for the most up-to-date information.**

# January 2018 - Breakfast

February ▶

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
A variety of fruit, juice, yogurt and muffins served daily and muffins served daily  Two choices of milk served daily.	<b>1</b> <small>New Year's Day</small>  	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  Cherry or Apple Frudals	<b>4</b>  Mini Pancakes	<b>5</b>  Breakfast Pizza	<b>6</b>	
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  Mini Bagels	<b>9</b>  Scrambled eggs Sausage Toast	<b>10</b>  Cinnamon Roll	<b>11</b>  Mini Waffles	<b>12</b>  Banana Bread & Cheese stick	<b>13</b>	
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <small>Martin Luther King</small>  Frudals	<b>16</b>  Omelet Toast	<b>17</b>  Cinnamon Roll	<b>18</b>  Pancake on a stick	<b>19</b>  In-Service	<b>20</b>	
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  Appleway Bar & Cheese stick	<b>23</b>  Mini Pancakes	<b>24</b>  Cinnamon Roll	<b>25</b>  Scrambled eggs Sausage Toast	<b>26</b>  Mini Bagels	<b>27</b>	
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  Mini Waffles	<b>30</b>  Frittata English Muffin	<b>31</b>  Cinnamon Roll	Notes:  Menu items may change without notice.			

## January 2018-Lunch

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
All entrée' daily WG PB&J w/cheese stick & WG Crackers or Meat & Cheese sub	<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> 	<b>3</b> Cheeseburger Mac Hotdish Bread slice Peas Peaches	<b>4</b> Chicken Tenders Sweet potato fries California blend Pineapple Pudding cup	<b>5</b> Breaded pork chop Au Gratin Potatoes Carrots Applesauce Dinner roll	<b>6</b> 
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Meatball sub w/ marinara WG Sun Chips Green Beans Fruit Cocktail	<b>9</b> Chicken Filet / Bun Tater Tots Baked Beans Mandarin Oranges	<b>10</b> Meatloaf Garlic roasted potatoes Broccoli w/ cheese Breadstick Peaches	<b>11</b> Nachos Taco meat, Cheese sauce Com Blueberries Craisins	<b>12</b> Hamburger / bun French fries Carrots Banana	<b>13</b> 
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Mini Com dogs Mac & Cheese California blend Pears	<b>16</b> Popcom chicken Mashed potatoes / Gravy Com Strawberries Dinner roll	<b>17</b> BBQ Rib / bun Smiley Fries Broccoli Applesauce	<b>18</b> Pizza Bread Peas Pineapple	<b>19</b> In-service	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 	<b>22</b> Quesadilla Winterblend Apple slices	<b>23</b> Meatballs Penne Pasta, spaghetti sauce Breadstick Green Beans Peaches	<b>24</b> Chicken Nuggets Potato wedges Com Mandarin oranges	<b>25</b> Pizza Dippers / Marinara Carrots Pears	<b>26</b> Grilled cheese Tomato Soup Broccoli Applesauce Crackers	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b> Hot Ham & Cheese / bun Curly fries Peas Fruit Cocktail	<b>30</b> Omelet Sausage Patty Deli roasters Toast Banana , Orange juice	<b>31</b> Turkey/Gravy Mashed potatoes Com Dinner roll Strawberry cup	Notes: Three choices of milk served daily Garden bar served daily with meal. Menu items may change without notice.		

## February 2018 - Breakfast

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A variety of fruit, juice, yogurt and muffins daily.  Two choices of milk.				<b>1</b>  Cherry or Apple Fudels	<b>2</b>  Breakfast Pizza	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>  Mini Bagels	<b>6</b>  Scrambled eggs Sausage Toast	<b>7</b>  Cinnamon Roll	<b>8</b>  Pancake on a stick	<b>9</b>  Banana Bread Cheese Stick	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  Frittata English Muffin	<b>13</b>  Apple or Cherry Fudels	<b>14</b>  Cinnamon Roll	<b>15</b>  Breakfast Bake	<b>16</b>  Mini Waffles	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  Mini Bagels	<b>20</b>  Omelet Toast	<b>21</b>  Cinnamon Roll	<b>22</b>  In-Service	<b>23</b>  No School	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  Applewaf Bar Cheese Stick	<b>27</b>  Breakfast Pizza	<b>28</b>  Cinnamon Roll	Notes:  Menu items may change without notice.		

## February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Alternate entrée daily WG PB&J w/ cheese stick and crackers or Meat & Cheese sub	Three choices of milk served daily.	Garden Bar served daily with meal		<b>1</b> Pizza Green Beans Peaches Sidekick Slushy	<b>2</b> Chicken Patty / Bun Broccoli w/ cheese Sweet potato fries Apple slices	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Hot dog / Bun Baked Beans Chips Pears	<b>6</b> Calzone w/ Marinara Carrots Pineapple	<b>7</b> Salisbury Steak / Gravy Mashed potatoes California Blend Mandarin oranges Dinner roll	<b>8</b> Chicken fries Curly Fries Peas Fruit Cocktail	<b>9</b> Cheesy broccoli soup or Chicken noodle soup Breadsticks, Cheese stick Mixed Vegetables Applesauce	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Chicken Nuggets French fries Green Beans Strawberry Cup	<b>13</b> Taco Taters Corn Fiesta beans Craisins, Blueberries Corn chips	<b>14</b> Ravioli Breadstick Broccoli Pears	<b>15</b> Orange chicken Brown rice Peas Mandarin oranges Fortune cookie	<b>16</b> Fish sticks Sweet potato fries Coleslaw, Beets Dinner roll Apple slices	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Pulled pork / Bun AuGratin Potatoes Carrots Fruit Cocktail	<b>20</b> Chicken Tenders Garlic Pasta Broccoli w cheese Oatmeal bar Peaches	<b>21</b> BBQ Rib / Bun Doritos Baked Beans Pineapple	<b>22</b> In-service	<b>23</b> No School	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Pizza Dippers Marinara Corn Strawberry cup	<b>27</b> Chicken Alfredo Garlic bread Broccoli Pears	<b>28</b> Hamburger / Bun French fries Green Beans Mandarin oranges	Notes:  Menu items may change without notice.		

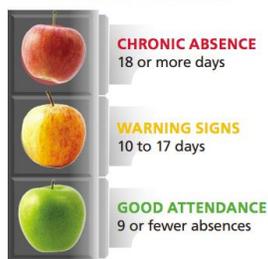
## March 2018 - Breakfast

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A variety of juice, fruit, yogurt & muffins served daily.	Two choices of milk served daily.	Menu items may change without notice.		<b>1</b> Scrambled eggs Sausage Toast	<b>2</b> Waffles	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Cherry or Apple Fudels	<b>6</b> Pancake on a stick	<b>7</b> Cinnamon roll	<b>8</b> Breakfast Pizza	<b>9</b> Mini Bagels	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Mini Pancakes	<b>13</b> Omelet Toast	<b>14</b> Cinnamon Roll	<b>15</b> Breakfast Bake	<b>16</b> Berry Bread Cheese Stick	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Mini Waffles	<b>20</b> Breakfast Sandwich	<b>21</b> Cinnamon Roll	<b>22</b> Pancake on a stick	<b>23</b> Cherry or Apple Fudels	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Breakfast Pizza	<b>27</b> Omelet Toast	<b>28</b> In-Service	<b>29</b> No School	<b>30</b> No School	<b>31</b>

## March 2018 - Lunch

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> Meatloaf Sweet Potato Fries Dinner roll Carrots Apple slices	<b>2</b> Cheese or pepperoni Pizza Peas Peaches Sidekick slushy	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Chicken Filet /Bun Potato Wedges Broccoli w/ Cheese Fruit cocktail	<b>6</b> Quesadilla Salsa, Sour Cream Refried Beans Corn Pineapple	<b>7</b> Breaded Pork Patty Garlic Parmesan Pasta California blend Blueberries	<b>8</b> Chicken Fries Smiley Fries Carrots Appleway bar Pears	<b>9</b> Grilled cheese Tomato soup Green Beans Applesauce Craisins	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Popcorn Chicken Mashed potatoes Corn Dinner roll Mandarin Oranges	<b>13</b> Philly Steak / Bun Sunchips Broccoli Apple slices	<b>14</b> Lasagna Roll-ups Breadstick Peas Peaches	<b>15</b> Mini Corn Dogs Sweet Potato Fries Baked beans Fruit Cocktail	<b>16</b> Fish Sticks Garlic Roasted Potatoes Coleslaw, Beets Dinner roll Banana	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Chicken Nuggets Tater Tots Carrots Bread slice Pineapple	<b>20</b> Meatball Sub Marinara Peas Pears	<b>21</b> Hamburger Gravy Mashed potatoes Corn Dinner roll Applesauce	<b>22</b> Calzone Marinara Baked beans Mandarin Oranges	<b>23</b> Cheesy Potato soup or Chili Breadsticks, Cheese stick Broccoli Strawberry Cup, Craisins	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Super Nachos Fiesta beans Green Beans Peaches Ice Cream Cup	<b>27</b> Turkey Gravy Mashed Potatoes Corn Dinner roll Apple slices	<b>28</b> In-Service	<b>29</b> No School	<b>30</b> No School	

### When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

## Attendance

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Your student can start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day, is important. Consistent attendance will help children do well in school, college, and at work.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences (excused and unexcused) can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent increases the chance that your child will not read or master math at the same level as their peers.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By being present at school, your child learns valuable social skills and has the opportunity to develop meaningful relationships with other students and school staff.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.

### SCHOOL POLICIES AND STATE LAWS

The school is required to take daily attendance and notify you when your student has an unexcused absence. If your student has 5 unexcused absences per semester or 10 unexcused in year, state law (118.16(2)(cg)3.) requires we schedule a conference with you and your student to identify the barriers and supports available to ensure regular attendance. The district is obligated to develop a plan that may require an assessment to determine how to best meet the needs of your student and reduce absenteeism.

If your student has five unexcused absences during the semester or ten unexcused absences within the school year, we are required to file a report to the State of Wisconsin, alleging a violation of 118.15(1)(a), the mandatory attendance laws. The report may be automatically stayed and your student and family may be referred to the Trempealeau County Circuit Court. At Blair- Taylor School District, we have established the aforementioned rules on attendance, which can help you ensure your student is attending regularly. You can locate more policy information by viewing Blair- Taylor Board Policy# 431 and Wisconsin State Statute 118.16.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Prepare for school the night before, finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the **required immunizations**. Failure to comply with State Statute (252.04(5)(b)4.) could result in suspension or expulsion.
- Don't let your student stay home unless they are truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- Avoid appointments and extended trips when school is in session.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent. **\*\*Your child will have ONE excused tardy for car troubles each school year\*\***
- Keep track of your child's attendance. Missing more than 9 days could put your student at risk of falling behind.
- Talk to your child about the importance of attendance. Attendance now goes onto the **high school transcript**.
- Talk to your child's building principal, school nurse, or counselor if you notice sudden changes in behavior. These could be tied to something going on at school.
- Encourage meaningful afterschool activities, including sports and clubs. **\*\*If students are absent for illness or an unexcused reason, they will not be able to participate in afterschool clubs or sports that day. If they receive a detention, they will not be able to participate until that detention is served.\*\***

### WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

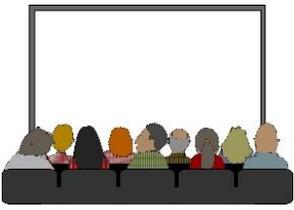
We would like you to help ensure that your student attends regularly and is successful in school. If your child is going to be absent, please contact the secretaries at **608-989-9835 for elementary or 608-989-2525 for middle/high school**. You can also write a note within two days of the absence before it turns unexcused. Please provide appropriate documentation such as medical excuse for our records.

### HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Kristy Benedict, District Health Aide



benedk@btsd.k12.wi.us  
608-989-9835



## **Blair-Taylor Has New Cable TV Station**

Last school year, Kim Joten, K-12 Library Media Specialist, had an idea. As the result of

months of preparation and extensive collaboration among multiple individuals and organizations, the Blair-Taylor School District launched a cable television station in late November.

There are multiple purposes for the station. First of all, it will offer another avenue to keep students, parents, and community members informed regarding events in the district. It will allow us to showcase the many outstanding opportunities and experiences that students in our district enjoy. In addition, students who help to create content will have the opportunity to hone many skills, including video editing and production, writing, and communication.

Area residents who have cable television can find the station at 881 (cable box) or 18-81 (no cable box). In an effort to provide equal access to this content for all of our students, regardless of whether their parents/guardians have cable television or not, several televisions were purchased and have been placed in strategic locations throughout the United Campus building.

An undertaking such as this cannot be accomplished by one person alone. Many individuals and organizations have helped. Here is a list of some of the people or entities who have helped to make this happen:

### **Tri-County Communications (TCC)**

*Provided a channel for the district to use, as well as essential equipment and guidance*

Special thank you to Jeff Norby for his help.

### **Trempealeau County Cable Television (TCCTV)**

*Providing expertise, guidance, and training for staff and students alike*

Special thank you to John Kelly and Rick Joten for their ongoing assistance.

### **Ryan Hanson, IT Consultant**

*Collaborating with TCC to manage the logistics of broadcasting on our station; providing tech support and advice throughout the process*

### **Blair-Taylor School District Library**

*Making funding available for several televisions to be placed throughout the school in order to provide equal access to information; spearheading this project as a part of its media program*

### **Al Austad & Lucas Solberg, Maintenance**

*Putting in new cable and installing new televisions*

### **Student Contributors (Media Club Participants & Student Volunteers Who Live Stream Events)**

*Providing content to broadcast on the station*

### **Blair-Taylor Teaching Staff**

*Offering pictures, video, and information to play on our station*

### **Blair-Taylor School Board and Administrators**

*Providing ongoing support of this endeavor*

### **Kim Joten, K-12 Library Media Specialist**

*Initiating the project; managing the station/broadcast*



### **1998 State Welcome Back**

There will be recognition of the Boys State Basketball team from 1998 as they celebrate their 20<sup>th</sup> year of achieving their outstanding accomplishment. The players and coaches will be recognized at the boys home basketball game on January 19, at the completion of the JV basketball game. We welcome all fans to attend this contest and say thank you to a group of young men who achieved their dream of making it to the state tournament and representing our communities, fans, and school.

## 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.



Learning Knows No Bounds



## The Common Cold vs. The Flu... What You Need to Know

You wake up coughing, sneezing and congested and feel like you don't even have enough energy to get out of bed. You're sick!

But how sick are you? While many people are able to quickly recognize that something is going through their system, many people are unable to differentiate between a common cold and influenza. The common cold and flu are different types of viral infections of the respiratory system. Because they share similar symptoms and may feel the same, it can be hard to tell them apart.

Both cold and flu viruses spread from person to person. This means that getting either a cold or the flu may be prevented by washing your hands often and avoiding close contact with anyone with a cold or the flu. If you are infected with the cold or flu virus, get plenty of rest to help fight the infection. Drinking lots of fluids is also important to stay hydrated and loosen mucus.

**FACT: Antibiotics treat bacteria, not viruses. Since both the common cold and influenza are viral infections, antibiotics will not help.**

## Influenza vs. Common Cold

This chart features some tips to help you differentiate between the symptoms of influenza and the common cold.

Symptoms	Influenza	Cold
<b>Fever</b>	Usually present	Rare
<b>Aches</b>	Usual, often severe	Slight
<b>Chills</b>	Fairly common	Uncommon
<b>Tiredness</b>	Moderate to severe	Mild
<b>Symptom onset</b>	Appear within 3 to 6 hours	Symptoms appear gradually
<b>Coughing</b>	Dry, unproductive cough	Hacking, productive cough
<b>Sneezing</b>	Uncommon	Common
<b>Stuffy nose</b>	Uncommon	Common
<b>Sore throat</b>	Uncommon	Common
<b>Chest discomfort</b>	Often severe	Mild to moderate
<b>Headache</b>	Common	Uncommon



## 10 Tips for Reducing Homework Stress

By Lori Lite

- Purchase a second set of used textbooks to keep at home. This is especially helpful for children who have difficulty juggling assignments and organizing. It is also a healthy choice for your child's spine. *Amazon.com* makes it easy and affordable.
- Break it down. Set smaller goals to complete a portion of the assignment. Reward your child with a break. Let your child set a timer to alert them that their break is over. This eliminates power struggles and empowers children.
- Encourage children to review work each night so that when it is time for a test they are not overloaded with information.
- Use affirmations or positive statements like, "I can do it." This is a fun way to introduce positive statements.
- Set up an area in your home dedicated to homework and studying. An area clear of chaos makes it easier to focus and feel calm.
- Teach children relaxation techniques. Take a deep breath in and say "Ahhhhh" to release anger and frustration. Stress management should be introduced during calm moments so they can be implemented when needed.
- Have a healthy snack or even a meal before homework. It is difficult to concentrate and feel balanced when hungry or eating sugar. I actually served a full dinner at 3:30 when my kids got off the bus and before they sat down for homework. This adjustment made a huge difference.
- Brain breaks should be taken. Don't expect children to be able to sit still for long periods of time. Let them move as needed. Blow bubbles outside in the fresh air. Do jumping jacks, run, or have a good laugh. Exercising and deep breathing brings oxygen to your child's brain and reduces stress.
- Stay positive about and during homework. Children listen and internalize negative statements and movements. A positive hopeful attitude is contagious. If you believe they can do it...they will believe they can do it.
- Help your child understand directions, organize, and create a time management plan. Many children waste time by doing the homework incorrectly because they did not understand the directions. Going over them ahead of time saves time and frustration. Don't forget your teen. They have more on their plate and could use your guidance and experience.

- Ask your children what type of music helps them to feel more relaxed when they work. Allow them to find what works for them. *Indigo Dreams: Kid's Relaxation Music* was created specifically for children. It is relaxing and uplifting. Some children need complete quiet and some do better with background noise. Let them learn what works best for them and honor it.

<http://www.articlebiz.com/article/1051540414-1-reducing-homework-stress/>



## What Are the Benefits of Reading as a Teen?

Reading as a teen leads to success. When teens read more than just their classroom assignments, research clearly shows that they generally do well in school.

First of all, the extra reading expands their vocabularies. It also shows them how different writers put down their thoughts leading to better writing skills. And teens who read more serious literary works gain skills in handling complex ideas. The more teens read, the more information they pick up. This leads to a solid core of knowledge that is useful in a wide variety of classes. For example, the teen who reads biographies has a better understanding of prominent people studied in history classes.

Another big dividend of reading as a teen is a good score on the verbal section of a college admissions test. No other activity builds the vocabulary and comprehension skills needed to do well on these tests as well as reading.

Besides helping teens do well in school, reading also helps them expand their horizons as they learn more about people and the world. Plus, reading can show teens that everyone has problems in his or her life and may even help teens see solutions to their own problems. Finally, reading is enjoyable. It can bring a great deal of pleasure to teens.

Parents can encourage their children to stay involved with reading by expressing interest in what they are reading and tying it to other activities. If a teen is fascinated by racing stories, try to take the child to a race. If a teen likes a book that has been turned into a movie, make sure he or she sees the movie.

*Familyeducation.com*

**Official Ballot  
Nonpartisan Office  
Blair-Taylor School District**

**April 3, 2018**

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

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

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



<b>District 1 School Board Member</b>	
<b>Vote for 2</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Perry <u>Kujak</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Isaac H. Walters
<input type="checkbox"/>	Troy <u>Tenneson</u>
Write-in: _____	

Write-in: \_\_\_\_\_



<b>District 2 School Board Member</b>	
<b>Vote for 1</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Michele L. <u>Steien</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nathan S. Kling
Write-in: _____	

# 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.