

SUMMER 2023

WILDCAT NEWS

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



Administration

Lynn Halverson

Superintendent

p: 608.989.2881

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Dana T. Eide

Middle-High Principal

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Beth Lisowski

Elementary Principal

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Blair-Taylor
School District

United Campus
N31024 Elland Road
Blair, WI 54616

www.btsd.k12.wi.us

A Message From Our Superintendent, Mr. Lynn Halverson

The summer months between school years create lots of change. One of the most significant changes include the retirements of key contributors to the school district. At the conclusion of the 2022-23 school year, we had four retirees. Together, these four retirees had a combined 121 years of service to the Blair-Taylor School District. I would like to congratulate and thank Sue Waldera (Elementary Administrative Assistant), Al Austad (Head Maintenance), Ned Laughery (Middle School Science), and Marie Nyen (Food Service) on your retirements. The experience and knowledge that these four possessed will be difficult to replace but we will do our best. Thank you for your service to our students, families, and the community. Enjoy retirement!

The second most significant change going into the 2023-24 school year will be the new hires that fill the shoes of our retirees and other staff members that chose other opportunities. New faces in the building next year include Mara Windjue (English Language Arts and Middle/High Art), Patrick Sullivan (Elementary Art), Michael Lampman (Elementary Physical Education), Brian Rogers (Middle School Science), Alexa Brenner (Middle School Special Education), Mike Johnson (Maintenance), and Rebecca Brouillet (Special Education Director).

With the 2023-24 school year, it will not only bring change regarding staff, it will also bring change regarding our student population. Our graduating Class of 2023 will be off to various locations throughout the United States and abroad to gain life experiences, education, and employment opportunities. The Class of 2024 will fill their shoes as Seniors during the 2023-24 school year; our incoming Kindergarteners will fill the shoes of our incoming 1st graders.

Change regarding staff, student population, and life is constant. Our ability to make the best of constant change is a key to success personally and professionally. As our students experience change and don't always know how to handle it, it's important for all of us to model positive responses to change and growth. With that said, I enthusiastically look forward to an amazing 2023-24 school year, changes and all!

Please note that our district Annual Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 23rd. The budget review will start at 6:30 pm., and our annual meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the United Campus Board Room (I-109). Prior to the annual meeting, we will have our regular school board meeting beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,
Lynn Halverson
Superintendent
Blair-Taylor School District

From the desk of Mrs. Eide



Mrs. Dana T. Eide
Middle-High School Principal
eided@btsd.k12.wi.us
608-989-2525



Thursday, 8/24
In-Person Orientation
1:00 - 7:00

Tuesday, August 29
First Day of School

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Dear Wildcat Families,

I hope this newsletter finds you well! This summer is flying by. I hope you are able to find some time to enjoy it!

BACK TO SCHOOL ORIENTATION

We look forward to welcoming everyone to the 2023-24 School Year with "Orientation." Parents and guardians will be receiving information toward the end of July about the online portion of orientation through our student information system, Skyward. Completing this information online prior to the day of the in-person portion of orientation will allow families to sail through the in-person orientation smoothly. We ask that all students along with parents/guardians attend the **in-person orientation** at a time that is convenient for you **between 1:00-7:00pm on Thursday, August 24th**. While at school, you will receive valuable information from your child's homeroom teacher about things that will help your child or children be successful throughout the year. Also, at orientation, you will have the option of receiving your child's school-issued electronic device, a Chromebook. School pictures will be taken as well. Money can be put in your child's meal account, too. Please see the letter that will be sent separately for more details about online and in-person orientation.

GETTING INVOLVED = STRONG SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

Studies show that there is a correlation between students who are involved in extra- and co-curricular activities and student success in school (King et al., 2021). In addition, involvement in these activities helps students' mental health, organization, and other employability skills. Many of our sports, especially for high school students, start in early August. Most of our co-curricular organizations, like those associated with our career technical courses, begin when school starts. Feel free to reach out to the school if you or your child have questions about any of the extra- and co-curricular activities offered at BT.

King, A., McQuarrie, F. & Brigham, S. (2021). Exploring the relationship between student success and participation in extracurricular activities, *SCHOLE: A Journal of Leisure Studies and Recreation Education*, 36:1-2, 42-58.

We are really looking forward to diving into new learning opportunities in the fall and working hard together to learn, grow, and have some fun!

A copy of middle school and high school student fees and school supply lists for the 2023 - 2024 school year can be found on our website.



From the desk of Mrs. Lisowski

BACK TO SCHOOL ORIENTATION

We look forward to seeing everyone at our back-to-school orientation day on Thursday, August 24, 2023. The school will be open from 1:00 pm. to 7:00 pm. During that time, you can:

- Meet your teachers
- Fill out necessary forms
- Pay school fees (breakfast, milk, and lunch money & \$15 classroom supply fee)
 - The school purchases all the necessary school supplies the students will need for a fee of \$15. All you need to provide is a backpack.
- Have your annual school picture taken
 - **All students will need to have their picture taken whether they are ordering pictures or not. School pictures are used for identification in the school.**

DAILY ELEMENTARY SCHEDULE

7:45 a.m. - doors open

7:45-8:00 a.m. - breakfast is served

8:00 a.m. - school begins

3:25 p.m. - student dismissal

3:35 p.m. - buses leave the school

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Please recall that every Wednesday of the school year, students will be released from school one hour earlier (2:25). This early release time allows for staff and teachers to discuss and improve our instructional practices to ensure students' success.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Elementary parent-teacher conferences will be held twice throughout the school year:

Fall Conferences

Thursday, October 19, 2023 - from 4:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Friday, October 20, 2023 - from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Spring Conferences

Monday, February 19, 2024 - from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Please note that this will be a regular school day for students in the middle school and high school but elementary students will have the day off.*

ATTENDANCE

We place a high priority on regular school attendance. Loss of classroom time can never be replaced. Regular attendance at school is not only critical to a student's academic success, but it is required by state law (WI 118.15). Research has shown us that chronic absences for any reason, excused or unexcused – have a significant impact on student achievement.

Students who regularly miss school are:

- More likely to miss early learning milestones
- Less likely to graduate on time
- More likely to drop out of school
- More likely to experience poor outcomes in adulthood

We ask that you call school before 9:00 a.m. when your child is going to be absent due to an illness, a family situation, or an emergency. We would also ask that you try to plan vacations that coincide with school vacation periods.



Mrs. Beth Lisowski

Elementary School Principal

lisowb@btsd.k12.wi.us

608-989-9835



Thursday, 8/24

In-Person Orientation
1:00 - 7:00 pm

Tuesday, August 29

First Day of School

Thursday, October 19

Parent/Teacher Conferences
4:00 - 9:00 pm

Friday, October 20

Parent/Teacher Conferences
9:00 - 1:00 pm

Monday, February 19

Parent/Teacher Conferences
11:00 - 7:00 pm

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From the desk of Mrs. Lisowski, continued...

MEDICATION

In order for a student to take any form of medication at school, a signed note from a parent/guardian stating dose, time, and the necessity of taking the medication plus a written order from the physician prescribing the medication must be presented to the office. All medication, including over-the-counter drugs, will be kept in and dispensed through the school office or nurse's office. Students cannot keep any such medication in their lockers or share medication with other students, i.e., aspirin, etc. Students must also have a note from the doctor if the doctor requires the student to be on crutches, use a wheelchair, or carry a backpack. Please contact Mrs. Jenny Semb, school nurse, with any questions.
sembj@btsd.k12.wi.us



From the Student Services Team:

SUMMER BREAK LITERACY DIP

Over a long break, students can lose some of the progress they made in literacy skills if they do not practice reading. There are some great things kids can do to practice reading over the summer. The public libraries have summer reading programs that inspire reading throughout the summer! Setting a reading routine can help such as reading 15 minutes before bed every night. Starting a family book club could be fun for the whole family. Pick out a book that everyone will like. PBS Kids also has some suggestions for summer reading activities. Get online and see if any of your children's favorite shows have any summer activities. Have fun and continue to read!

SUMMER ROUTINES ARE IMPORTANT

Children do their best when they have a routine. Having reliable schedules for mornings, evenings, and bedtime help children know when to expect and reduce behavior outbursts. Many families know how important the routines are during the school year, but it is important to keep in mind routines during the summer. A summer schedule does not need to be as rigid as the school year routine, but predictability and expectations help children have smooth summer days. This can include having a regular bedtime, wakeup time, and mealtimes. Remember to include lots of physical activity and reading as part of your summer routine.



Ms. Katie Belitz

Elementary School Psychologist
Special Education Director
belitk@btsd.k12.wi.us

Summer Contacts



NON-EMERGENCY

School Phone Number: 608-989-2881

MRS. ANDERSON, School Social Worker

Email: andere@btsd.k12.wi.us Phone: ext. 251

MS. BAURES, Elementary School Counselor

Email: baureb@btsd.k12.wi.us Phone: ext. 300

MRS. STEARNS, School Psychologist

Email: stearc@btsd.k12.wi.us Phone: ext. 352

Call or text (Google Voice): 715-255-0238

MR. VAN SCHYNDEL, MSHS School Counselor

Email: vanscc@btsd.k12.wi.us Phone: ext. 301

Staff will be working limited hours over the summer, but will get back to you as soon as they can.

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

If you need to talk to someone right away, the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is available 24/7 by calling or texting **988** or chatting online at <https://988lifeline.org/talk-to-someone-now/>

EMERGENCY

In an emergency, call **911**

TITLE I Reading Corner with Mr. Nelson

Dear Families –

I trust your summer routine is in full swing and your days are filled with sunshine and smiles. Summer is a great time for some well-deserved R & R – read & relax. Have you checked out the libraries in Blair or Taylor? Great! Then you are aware of the fabulous summer reading programs for kids and adults and you are no doubt on your way to fulfilling your goal. If you have yet to check out a book from the library, today is a great day to stop by. Not sure what to check out? I'm sure the librarians would be eager to help you in finding a perfect book for you.



Have you tried out the app called Libby? With a current library card, Libby allows you access to thousands of online books – digital and audio. I choose to read the print version of books; however, I equally enjoy an audio book. Audio books seem to make the car miles effortless go by. Road construction and detours are an added bonus when listening to an audio book.

Research is clear on the importance of reading over the summer break. Students who routinely read maintain their progress from the previous grade level. Students who take an extended break from academics (June through August) begin the school year at a level lower than where they were in May. Reading is important. The information you gain from a book can never be taken away from you.



Mr. Scott Nelson
Title One / Reading Specialist
nelsos@btsd.k12.wi.us

From the desk of Mrs. Semb



VERY BERRY SMOOTHIE

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup frozen strawberries
- 1 cup frozen raspberries
- 1 cup pineapple chunks
- 1 banana
- 1 cup skim milk (or almond milk)
- 1 1/2 cups ice

optional: 1 cup of spinach or kale

DIRECTIONS

1. Peel and slice the banana.
2. Gather all ingredients and combine in a blender.
3. Cover and blend until smooth.
4. Serve right away or pour into ice cube trays and freeze. During the week, pop out the cubes for a quick on-the-go breakfast.



Mrs. Jenny Semb
School Nurse
sembj@btsd.k12.wi.us

2023 Recommended Immunizations for Children from Birth Through 6 Years Old

VACCINE	Birth	1 MONTH	2 MONTHS	4 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	15 MONTHS	18 MONTHS	19-23 MONTHS	2-3 YEARS	4-6 YEARS
HepB Hepatitis B	HepB	HepB				HepB					
RV* Rotavirus		RV	RV	RV	RV*						
DTaP Diphtheria, Pertussis, & Tetanus		DTaP	DTaP	DTaP	DTaP	DTaP	DTaP	DTaP			DTaP
Hib* Haemophilus influenzae type b		Hib	Hib	Hib	Hib*	Hib					
PCV13, PCV15 Pneumococcal disease		PCV	PCV	PCV	PCV	PCV	PCV				
IPV Polio		IPV	IPV	IPV	IPV	IPV	IPV	IPV			IPV
COVID-19** Coronavirus disease 2019						COVID-19**	Flu (One or Two Doses Yearly)*				
Flu† Influenza											
MMR Measles, Mumps, & Rubella						MMR	MMR				MMR
Varicella Chickenpox						Varicella	Varicella				Varicella
HepA† Hepatitis A						HepA†	HepA†	HepA†			

FOOTNOTES

- RV*** Administering a third dose at age 6 months depends on the brand of Hib or rotavirus vaccine used for previous dose.
- Hib*** Administering a third dose at age 6 months depends on the brand of Hib or rotavirus vaccine used for previous dose.
- COVID-19**** Number of doses recommended depends on your child's age and type of COVID-19 vaccine used.
- Flu†** Two doses given at least 4 weeks apart are recommended for children age 6 months through 8 years of age who are getting an influenza (flu) vaccine for the first time and for some other children in this age group.
- HepA†** Two doses of Hep A vaccine are needed for lasting protection. The 2 doses should be given between age 12 and 23 months. Both doses should be separated by at least 6 months. Children 2 years and older who have not received 2 doses of Hep A should complete the series.
- HepB** 1. If your child misses a shot recommended for their age, talk to your child's doctor as soon as possible to see when the missed shot can be given.
2. If your child has any medical conditions that put them at risk for infection (e.g., sickle cell, HIV infection, cochlear implants) or is traveling outside the United States, talk to your child's doctor about additional vaccines that they may need.
- MMR** Talk with your child's doctor if you have questions about any shot recommended for your child.
- Varicella** Talk with your child's doctor if you have questions about any shot recommended for your child.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- MMR** Talk with your child's doctor if you have questions about any shot recommended for your child.
- Varicella** Talk with your child's doctor if you have questions about any shot recommended for your child.
- HepA†** Talk with your child's doctor if you have questions about any shot recommended for your child.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Call toll-free: 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)
Or visit: cdc.gov/vaccines/parents



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Diseases and the Vaccines that Prevent Them

BIRTH–6 YEARS OLD

DISEASE	VACCINE	DISEASE SPREAD BY	DISEASE SYMPTOMS	DISEASE COMPLICATIONS
Hepatitis B	HepB vaccine protects against hepatitis B.	Contact with blood or body fluids	May be no symptoms, fever, headache, weakness, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), joint pain	Chronic liver infection, liver failure, liver cancer, death
Rotavirus	RV vaccine protects against rotavirus.	Through the mouth	Diarrhea, fever, vomiting	Severe diarrhea, dehydration, death
Diphtheria	DTap* vaccine protects against diphtheria.	Air, direct contact	Sore throat, mild fever, weakness, swollen glands in neck	Swelling of the heart muscle, heart failure, coma, paralysis, death
Pertussis (whooping cough)	DTap* vaccine protects against pertussis (whooping cough).	Air, direct contact	Severe cough, runny nose, apnea (a pause in breathing in infants)	Pneumonia (infection in the lungs), death
Tetanus	DTap* vaccine protects against tetanus.	Exposure through cuts in skin	Stiffness in neck and abdominal muscles, difficulty swallowing, muscle spasms, fever	Broken bones, breathing difficulty, death
Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)	Hib vaccine protects against <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b.	Air, direct contact	May be no symptoms unless bacteria enter the blood	Meningitis (infection of the covering around the brain and spinal cord), intellectual disability, epiglottitis (life-threatening infection that can block the windpipe and lead to serious breathing problems), pneumonia (infection in the lungs), death
Pneumococcal disease (PCV13, PCV15)	PCV vaccine protects against pneumococcal disease.	Air, direct contact	May be no symptoms, pneumonia (infection in the lungs)	Bacteremia (blood infection), meningitis (infection of the covering around the brain and spinal cord), death
Polio	IPV vaccine protects against polio.	Air, direct contact, through the mouth	May be no symptoms, sore throat, fever, nausea, headache	Paralysis, death
Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)	COVID-19 vaccine protects against severe complications from coronavirus disease 2019.	Air, direct contact	May be no symptoms, fever, muscle aches, sore throat, cough, runny nose, diarrhea, vomiting, new loss of taste or smell	Pneumonia (infection in the lungs), respiratory failure, blood clots, bleeding disorder, injury to liver, heart or kidney, multi-system inflammatory syndrome, post-COVID syndrome, death
Influenza (Flu)	Flu vaccine protects against influenza.	Air, direct contact	Fever, muscle pain, sore throat, cough, extreme fatigue	Pneumonia (infection in the lungs), bronchitis, sinus infections, ear infections, death
Measles	MMR** vaccine protects against measles.	Air, direct contact	Rash, fever, cough, runny nose, pink eye	Encephalitis (brain swelling), pneumonia (infection in the lungs), death
Mumps	MMR** vaccine protects against mumps.	Air, direct contact	Swollen salivary glands (under the jaw), fever, headache, tiredness, muscle pain	Meningitis (infection of the covering around the brain and spinal cord), encephalitis (brain swelling), inflammation of testicles or ovaries, deafness, death
Rubella	MMR** vaccine protects against rubella.	Air, direct contact	Sometimes rash, fever, swollen lymph nodes	Very serious in pregnant women—can lead to miscarriage, stillbirth, premature delivery, birth defects
Chickenpox	Varicella vaccine protects against chickenpox.	Air, direct contact	Rash, tiredness, headache, fever	Infected blisters, bleeding disorders, encephalitis (brain swelling), pneumonia (infection in the lungs), death
Hepatitis A	HepA vaccine protects against hepatitis A.	Direct contact, contaminated food or water	May be no symptoms, fever, stomach pain, loss of appetite, fatigue, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), dark urine	Liver failure, arthralgia (joint pain), kidney, pancreatic and blood disorders, death

DTap*

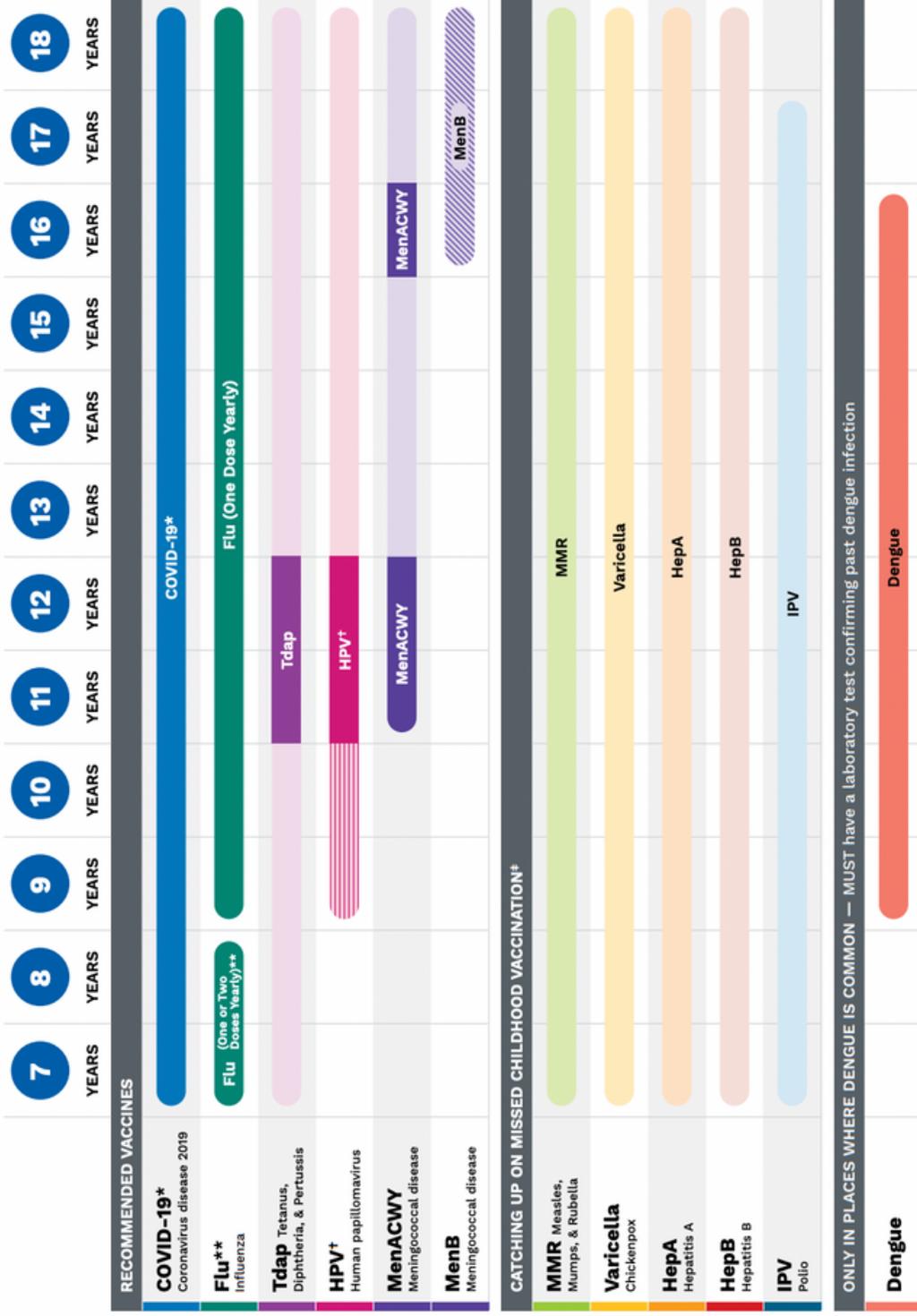
DTap* combines protection against diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis.

MMR**

MMR** combines protection against measles, mumps, and rubella.

Last updated December 2022 • CS322257-A

2023 Recommended Immunizations for Children 7–18 Years Old



KEY



Indicates when the vaccine is recommended for all children unless your doctor tells you that your child cannot safely receive the vaccine.



Indicates the vaccine series can begin at this age.



Indicates the vaccine **should** be given if a child is catching up on missed vaccines. A vaccine series does not need to be restarted, regardless of the time that has elapsed between doses.



Indicates children not at increased risk **may** get the vaccine if they wish after speaking to a provider.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. If your child misses a shot recommended for their age, talk to your child's doctor as soon as possible to see when the missed shot can be given.
2. If your child has any medical conditions that put them at risk for infection or is traveling outside the United States, talk to your child's doctor about additional vaccines that they may need.

Talk with your child's doctor if you have questions about any shot recommended for your child.

FOOTNOTES

COVID-19* Number of doses recommended depends on your child's age and type of COVID-19 vaccine used.

Flu** Two doses given at least 4 weeks apart are recommended for children age 6 months through 8 years of age who are getting an influenza (flu) vaccine for the first time and for some other children in this age group.

HPV† Ages 11 through 12 years old should get a 2-shot series separated by 6 to 12 months. The series can begin at 9 years old. A 3-shot series is recommended for those with weakened immune systems and those who start the series after their 15th birthday.

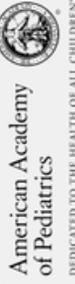
Originally recommended age ranges for missed childhood vaccinations: 2-dose series of **MMR** at 12–15 months and 4–6 years; 2-dose series of **Varicella** at 12–15 months and 4–6 years; 2-dose series of **HepA** (minimum interval: 6 months) at age 12–23 months; 3-dose series of **HepB** at birth, 1–2 months, and 6–18 months; and 4-dose series of **Polio** at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 6–18 months, and 4–6 years.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



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FOR MORE INFORMATION
Call toll-free: 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)
Or visit: cdc.gov/vaccines/parents

Diseases and the Vaccines that Prevent Them

7-18 YEARS OLD

DISEASE	VACCINE	DISEASE SPREAD BY	DISEASE SYMPTOMS	DISEASE COMPLICATIONS
Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID 19)	COVID-19	Air, direct contact	May be no symptoms, fever, muscle aches, sore throat, cough, runny nose, diarrhea, vomiting, new loss of taste or smell	Pneumonia (infection in the lungs), respiratory failure, blood clots, bleeding disorder, injury to liver, heart or kidney, multi-system inflammatory syndrome, post-COVID syndrome, death
Influenza (Flu)	Flu	Air, direct contact	Fever, muscle pain, sore throat, cough, extreme fatigue	Pneumonia (infection in the lungs), bronchitis, sinus infections, ear infections, death
Tetanus	Tdap*	Exposure through cuts in skin	Stiffness in neck and abdominal muscles, difficulty swallowing, muscle spasms, fever	Broken bones, breathing difficulty, death
Diphtheria	Tdap*	Air, direct contact	Sore throat, mild fever, weakness, swollen glands in neck	Swelling of the heart muscle, heart failure, coma, paralysis, death
Pertussis (whooping cough)	Tdap*	Air, direct contact	Severe cough, runny nose, apnea (a pause in breathing in infants)	Pneumonia (infection in the lungs), death
Human papillomavirus	HPV	Direct skin contact	May be no symptoms, genital warts	Cervical, vaginal, vulvar, penile, anal, oropharyngeal cancers
Meningococcal disease	MenAcWY MenB	Air, direct contact	Sudden onset of fever, headache, and stiff neck, dark purple rash	Loss of limb, deafness, nervous system disorders, developmental disabilities, seizure disorder, stroke, death
Measles	MMR†	Air, direct contact	Rash, fever, cough, runny nose, pink eye	Encephalitis (brain swelling), pneumonia (infection in the lungs), death
Mumps	MMR†	Air, direct contact	Swollen salivary glands (under the jaw), fever, headache, tiredness, muscle pain	Meningitis (infection of the covering around the brain and spinal cord), encephalitis (brain swelling), inflammation of testicles or ovaries, deafness, death
Rubella	MMR†	Air, direct contact	Sometimes rash, fever, swollen lymph nodes	Very serious in pregnant women—can lead to miscarriage, stillbirth, premature delivery, birth defects
Chickenpox	Varicella	Air, direct contact	Rash, tiredness, headache, fever	Infected blisters, bleeding disorders, encephalitis (brain swelling), pneumonia (infection in the lungs), death
Hepatitis A	HepA	Direct contact, contaminated food or water	May be no symptoms, fever, stomach pain, loss of appetite, fatigue, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), joint pain	Liver failure, arthralgia (joint pain), kidney, pancreatic and blood disorders, death
Hepatitis B	HepB	Contact with blood or body fluids	May be no symptoms, fever, headache, weakness, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), joint pain	Chronic liver infection, liver failure, liver cancer, death
Polio	IPV	Air, direct contact, through the mouth	May be no symptoms, sore throat, fever, nausea, headache	Paralysis, death
Dengue	Dengue*	Bite from infected mosquito	May be no symptoms, fever, headache, pain behind the eyes, rash, joint pain, body ache, nausea, loss of appetite, feeling tired, abdominal pain	Severe bleeding, seizures, shock, damage to the liver, heart, and lungs, death

Tdap* Tdap combines protection against diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis.

Td** Td combines protection against diphtheria and tetanus.

MMR† MMR combines protection against measles, mumps, and rubella.

Dengue* Recommended where dengue is common.

Last updated December 2022
CS32257-B

**World
Drowning
Prevention
Day 25 July**

Anyone can drown,
no one should.



Globally, **more than 235,000** people die from drowning annually

91% of drownings occur in low- and middle-income countries

Males are **2 times as likely** to drown than females



Children ages 1 to 4 have the **highest rate of drowning**

3rd leading cause of unintentional injury death



The World Health Organization has developed **drowning prevention** resources.

What can we do?

- Install barriers around water sources
- Improve swimming and water safety skills
- Supervise children near water
- Develop a national water safety plan
- Increase life jacket use on boats
- Improve flood warning and response systems
- Raise public awareness for safe rescue and resuscitation measures



TO LEARN MORE, VISIT

www.who.int/health-topics/drowning

SOURCES:
Drowning: World Health Organization, <https://www.who.int/health-topics/drowning>
Global Report on Drowning: Preventing a Leading Killer. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organization; 2014. Preventing Drowning: An Implementation Guide. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organization; 2017.

CDC Foundation
Together our impact is greater

LIBRARY MATTERS

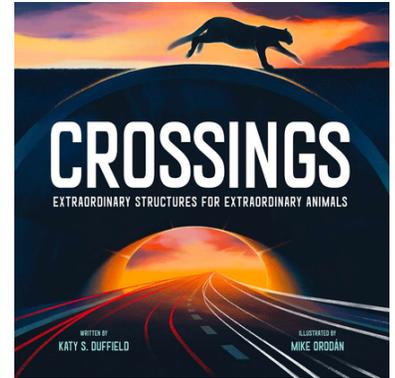
Greetings, Wildcat families & community! I hope you are having a wonderful summer!

B-T Kids' Choice Book Award

This was our third year running the B-T Kids' Choice Book Award contest. Grade levels are separated into divisions: lower and upper elementary. We share a number of books (typically 4-5) with students during Library Skills Class, and then they vote on which one they think is the best.



Winner for 2023 (grades K-2)



Winner for 2023 (grades 3-5)



Professional Development

This spring, I completed the final requirements in order to earn my certification as a K-12 library media specialist and to graduate from UW-Whitewater with a Master's of Science in Education - Professional Studies with an Emphasis in Information, Technology, and Libraries. Whew! It's been a long haul, but it feels so good to be done!

Book Check-Outs	As of Sept. 20:	As of Dec. 20:	As of March 16:	End of School Year Totals:
Middle/High School Library	665	1,356	3,270	3,865
Elementary School Library	1,383	7,423	10,659	13,870



LIBRARY MATTERS

District Library Recap for 2022-2023:

Here are highlights of some of our accomplishments in the district library during the 2022-2023 school year:

- Facilitated/supervised nearly 80 different distance learning, virtual co-op, and/or independent courses and study halls at the high school level (an increase from the “over 50 classes” that I reported in my yearly recap last summer).
- Taught almost 500 lessons and/or read-alouds at the elem./MS level (Grades K-6, Early Learning Center, Childcare Center)
- Taught a high-school level Video Editing & Production Class each day (two trimesters)
- Facilitated library visits/check-out times each week for 7th and 8th grade homerooms and a couple high school homerooms, on a rotating basis
- At the MS/HS level, provided support/supervision for students needing a space to come and work due to 504 plans, alternative school (on a limited basis), students needing an alternative to learning in the regular classroom, or due to MS/HS teacher absences with no sub coverage
- Ensured that nearly 140 events were live streamed (sports, musical events, school board meetings, etc.)
- Added over 1,200 new books to the library collection (district-wide)
- Discarded/removed over 2,100 books/items from the library collection (district-wide) due to age (outdated), condition, lack of interest/relevance, an item being lost, etc.
- Implemented & promoted the change from CCC Streaming! to ClickView!, providing access to thousands of educational videos online
- Added & promoted the CultureGrams database in order to ensure students and staff have up-to-date & accurate information when doing research on states & countries (geography, culture, politics, etc).
- Engaged in projects to improve the layout in the library, including rearranging a significant portion of the furniture & shelving in the elementary library & moving the nonfiction and graphic novels sections in the MS/HS library
- Worked to improve ease of access for elementary students by collecting more books together in bins, mainly based on topic or series, rather than shelving by the alphabet or reading level
- Continued to assist with I.T. needs/Chromebook management, helping to navigate as our district moved to a new I.T. company in the summer/fall of 2022, successfully advocating for additional I.T. support in the fall of 2022, and assisting with the transition as we moved to a different I.T. solution about halfway through the school year
- Completed a full inventory of all items in the district library
- Conducted a successful Scholastic Book Fair, resulting in raising \$2500 for the library
- Created and administered a survey regarding library services for MS/HS students
- Started a MS/HS Library Advisory Group, to allow those students to have more input when it comes to our MS/HS library & programming
- As always, helping individuals who came in to get books or do research; managing AV equipment, the school cable station, our social media archiving solution (PageFreezer) and MS/HS Renaissance Place (necessary for STAR testing); serving as webmaster; gathering resources for staff and students upon request; providing basic tech troubleshooting/help to those seeking help; helping with district social media posts, etc.

This level of activity is thanks in no small part to the support of our administration, school board, and staff, not to mention the reading culture promoted among our staff, parents/guardians, and community.

Our students also deserve a shout out for their support and patronage of our school district library!

We could not support this level of activity were it not for our library staff: in addition to myself (Kimberly Joten, K-12 library media specialist), we have a full-time library media aide (Stacy Armitage) and a half-time library paraprofessional (Kris McNamer--who works at the school in the morning and then heads to her job as the library director at Blair-Preston Public Library).



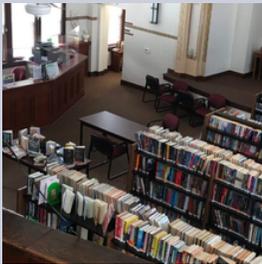
LIBRARY MATTERS

Summer Reading

While the school library is closed during the summer, it is important that students keep reading! Here are some tips/resources for students to continue to read over the summer:

Public Libraries

We are fortunate to have a number of local public libraries that provide quality programming and access to resources all summer long, including, but not limited to:



[The Blair-Preston Public Library](https://blairlibrary.wrlsweb.org/)

<https://blairlibrary.wrlsweb.org/>
Monday & Tuesday: 12:30-7:00
Wednesday-Friday: 12:30-6:00
Saturday: 9:00-Noon



[Taylor Memorial Library](https://taylorlibrary.wrlsweb.org/)

<https://taylorlibrary.wrlsweb.org/>
Monday & Tuesday: 10:00-4:00
Thursday: 12:00-6:00
Friday: 10:00-2:00

BookFlix

Our library spends a portion of the profits from the annual Scholastic Book Fair in order to subscribe to BookFlix, an online resource that pairs elementary-level fiction and nonfiction texts.

If your child has used BookFlix already, they may have the username & password saved to their school Google account. If you need to know the username & password, please reach out to your child's classroom teacher or to myself, Kim Joten, at jotenk@btsd.k12.wi.us.

Sora/OverDrive

Every Blair-Taylor student & staff member has access to thousands of eBooks for free, thanks to our school district library's subscription to WSDLC (Wisconsin Schools Digital Library Consortium). Students just need to have an internet connection and a device in order to keep reading with Sora all summer long.

They will need to be logged in to their school Google account. From there, they should be able to find Sora in their Google apps (available under the "waffle" icon-upper right).

After selecting Sora, by OverDrive, students will need to select Blair-Taylor School District from the drop-down menu, and then select their school Google account from the options given.



LIBRARY MATTERS

PebbleGo and PebbleGoNext

For those who are particularly interested in nonfiction topics: thanks to the Blair-Preston Public Library, our students enjoy free access to PebbleGo and PebbleGoNext. Technically, PebbleGo is intended for students in grades K-2 and PebbleGoNext is designed for students in grades 3-6, but I have found these to be rough guidelines. Often, students beyond 3rd grade still benefit from using PebbleGo, and individuals past 6th grade find PebbleGoNext to be accessible and beneficial. It really depends on the individual.



To access these databases, Blair-Taylor students need only go to the [Blair-Preston Public Library website](#). Just scroll down a little and then click on the PebbleGo/Pebble GoNext icon.

These databases allow students to read various articles, but they also include a number of other activities related to the specific topic being covered.

Other Options

While discussing summer reading with elementary students, we came up with several other options as well:

- Reading books that you have in your personal library at home.
- For some, it may be an option to purchase books to read, whether at stores, yard sales, auctions, online, etc.
- Enjoying on-line read alouds.
- Writing your own stories/books to read and share with family members & friends.
- For those with a public library card, accessing eBooks via OverDrive.

Keep reading, Wildcats!

–Kimberly Joten, District Library Media Specialist

15 BENEFITS OF READING TO YOUR CHILD



Improves concentration skills.	1	
Helps with reading comprehension.	2	Creates a curiosity of the world.
	3	
Improves language skills.	4	Broadens vocabulary.
	5	
Promotes ease in learning.	6	Helps with pronunciation of words.
	7	
Inspires.	8	Develops an imagination.
	9	
Assists in cognitive development.	10	Entertains.
	11	
Teaches empathy.	12	Creates bonding time with parents.
	13	
Expands their attention span.	14	Encourages strong listening skills.
	15	



ANNUAL NOTICES



HOMELESS CHILDREN

The McKinney-Vento Act defines children and youth who are homeless (twenty-one years of age and younger) as:

- Children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including children and youth who are:
 - sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (sometimes referred to as double-up);
 - living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
 - living in emergency or transitional shelters;
 - abandoned in hospitals;
 - awaiting foster care placement.
- Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
- Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.
- Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above. If you are personally aware of or are acquainted with any children who may qualify according to the above criteria, the Blair-Taylor School District provides the following assurances to parents of homeless children:
 - There shall be immediate enrollment and school participation, even if educational and medical records and proof of residency are not available.
 - All educational opportunities and related opportunities for homeless students (preschool to age 21), including unaccompanied youth, shall be the same as for the general student population.
 - Enrollment and transportation rights, including transportation to the school of origin. "School of origin" is defined as the school the child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled.
 - Written explanation of a child or youth's school placement, other than school of origin or the school requested by the parent, with the right to appeal within the local dispute resolution process.
 - Meaningful opportunities for parents to participate in the education of their children. These shall include: special notices of events, parent-teacher conferences, newsletters, and access to student records.

Please contact Lynn Halverson, homeless liaison for the Blair-Taylor School District, for additional information about homeless issues. Mr. Halverson can be reached at (608) 989-2525 or halv@btsd.k12.wi.us.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

In compliance with Executive Order 11246; Title II of the Education Amendments of 1976; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Employment Amendments of 1972; Title IX Regulation Implementing Education Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and S.118.13 Wisconsin Statute; The Age of Discrimination Act of 1975; and all other federal, state, schools rules, laws, regulations, and policies, The School District of Blair Taylor shall not discriminate on the basis of sex, age, race, color, national origin, religion, or handicap in the educational programs or activities which it operates, or in employment.

It is the intent of the School District of Blair Taylor to comply with both the letter and spirit of the law in making certain discrimination does not exist in its policies, regulations, and operation. Grievance procedures for Title IX and Section 504 and S.118.13 Wisconsin Statute have been established for students, their parents, and employees who feel that discrimination has been shown by the School District. They are as follows:

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

1. An earnest effort shall first be made to settle the matter informally with the building principal.
2. If the matter in (1) is not resolved within ten working days, the grievance shall be presented in writing to the district administrator, including a statement of facts comprising the alleged non-compliance issue. The grievance shall be signed and dated. An earnest effort shall be made to settle the matter informally between the employee or student and the administrator.
3. If not settled in (2) within 10 days, the grievance may be appealed to the Board of Education.
4. Any person who receives a negative determination relating to S.118.13 Wisconsin Statute may appeal to the State Superintendent of Schools within 30 days of the Board's decision.
5. Complaints may be made to the Office of Civil Rights either before or following the exhaustion of local grievance procedures.

Specific complaints of alleged discrimination under Title IX (sex) and Section 504 (handicap) should be referred to:

District Administrator - School District of Blair Taylor
Title IX Coordinator
Section 504 Coordinator
N31024 Elland Road Blair, Wisconsin 54616

Complaints may be filed with the OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS:

Office of Civil Rights, Region V
300 South Wacker Drive
Eighth Floor
Chicago, IL 60606 (312) 353 2520



ANNUAL NOTICES



NOTICE OF RELEASE OF DIRECTORY DATA

The Blair-Taylor School District, pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, and State Statute 118.125, has declared the following information contained in a student's education record as "directory information" and may disclose that information without prior written consent:

1. The student's name
2. The student's address
3. The name of the parent or guardian of the student
4. The student's phone number (unless unlisted)
5. The student's date of birth
6. The student's current grade level in school
7. Weights and heights of members of athletic teams
8. Participation in officially recognized activities & sports
9. Dates of attendance [i.e. (2016-2020)]
10. Student photographs
11. Degrees, awards, and honors received

After the parents and eligible students have been notified, they will have two weeks to advise the school district in writing (to the respective building principals) of any or all the items about their child they refuse to permit the district to designate as directory information.

For students enrolling after the notice is published, the list will be given to the student's parent or the eligible student at the time of enrollment.

At the end of the two-week period, each student's records will be appropriately marked by the record's custodians to indicate the items the district will designate as directory information about the student. This designation will remain in effect until it is modified by the written direction of the student's parent or the eligible student.

Any parent, guardian, or eligible student must complete the District's *REQUEST TO WITH-HOLD DIRECTORY INFORMATION* form at the school in which said student attends, indicating their desire that all or any part of the directory information may not be disclosed without the parent's, guardian's, or eligible student's consent, provided that such notification is given to the district within two weeks of this published notice.

Blair-Taylor School District, Lynn Halverson, District Administrator

TRANSFER OF RECORDS

Student records relating to a specific student shall be transferred to another school or school district upon receipt of written notice from an adult student or the parent or guardian of a minor student that the student intends to enroll in the other school or school district, or upon written notice from the other school or school district in which the student has enrolled.

BULLYING

The Blair-Taylor School District strives to provide a safe, secure, and respectful learning environment for all students, staff, and others in school buildings, on school grounds, on school buses, and at school-sponsored activities. Bullying has a harmful social, physical, psychological, and academic impact on bullies, victims, and bystanders. The school district consistently and vigorously addresses bullying so that there is no disruption to the learning environment, learning process, and school climate.

Definition

Bullying is deliberate or intentional behavior, using words or actions, intended to cause fear, intimidation, or harm. Bullying may be repeated behavior and involves an imbalance of power. The behavior may be motivated by an actual or perceived distinguishing characteristic, such as, but not limited to: age, national origin, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, and social, economic, or family status.

Bullying behavior can be:

1. Physical (e.g. assault, hitting or punching, kicking, theft, threatening behavior)
2. Verbal (e.g. threatening or intimidating language, teasing or name-calling, racist remarks)
3. Indirect (e.g. spreading cruel rumors, intimidation through gestures, social exclusion and sending insulting messages or pictures by mobile phone or using the internet – also known as cyber bullying)

Prohibition

Bullying is prohibited in all schools, buildings, property, and educational environments, including any property or vehicle owned, leased, or used by the school district. This includes public transportation regularly used by students to go to and from school. Educational environments include, but are not limited to, every activity under school supervision.

Procedure for Reporting/Retaliation

All school staff members and school officials who observe or become aware of acts of bullying are required to report these acts to the building principal. If the building principal is the bully, it should be reported to the superintendent.

Any other person, including a student who is either a victim of the bullying or is aware of the bullying or any other concerned individual, is encouraged to report the conduct to the building principal.

Reports of bullying may be made verbally or in writing and may be made confidentially. All such reports, whether verbal or in writing, will be taken seriously and documented. A written record of the report, including all pertinent details, will be made by the recipient of the report.

The school official receiving a report of bullying will immediately notify the school district employee assigned to investigate the report, which is the building principal.

How To Apply for Free and Reduced Price School Meals

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

The application must be filled out completely to determine the eligibility of your child(ren) for free or reduced price school meals. Please follow these instructions in order! Each step of the instructions is the same as the steps on your application. If at any time you are not sure what to do next, please contact Jessica Lien at 608-989-2881 option 7 or lienjes@btsd.k12.wi.us.

Please use a pen (not a pencil) when filling out the application and do your best to print clearly.

Step 1: List ALL children, infants, and students up to and including grade 12

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

Who should I list here? When filling out this section, please include ALL members in your household who are:

- Children age 18 or under AND are supported with the household's income;
- In your care under a formal foster arrangement through a court or state/local agency, or qualify as homeless, migrant, or runaway youth;
- Students attending (regardless of age) Blair-Taylor

A) List each child's name. Print each child's name. Use one line of the application for each child. When printing names, write one letter in each box. Stop if you run out of space. If there are more children present than lines on the application, attach a second piece of paper (or a second application if completing electronically) with all required information for the additional children. This also applies to adults in Step 3. "MI" is short for middle initial. Print the first letter of each child's middle name in the box.

B) Is the child a student? If "Yes," write the grade level of the student in the "Grade" column to the right.

C) Do you have any foster children? If any children listed are foster children, mark the "Foster Child" box next to the child's name. If you are ONLY applying for foster children, after finishing Step 1, go to Step 4.

Foster children who live with you may count as members of your household and should be listed on your application. If you are applying for both foster and non-foster children, go to Step 3. Note: Adopted children are not considered foster children. A foster child is a minor child who has been taken into state custody and placed with a state-licensed adult, who cares for the child in place of their parent or guardian.

D) Are any children homeless, migrant, or runaway? If you believe any child listed in this section meets this description, mark the "Homeless, Migrant, Runaway" box next to the child's name and complete all steps of the application. Homeless, Migrant, Runaway status must be confirmed with the appropriate program staff. If the school district cannot confirm your student's homeless, migrant, or runaway status, then the school district will contact you to complete an income-based application. You may choose to provide income information now in order to prevent the school district from potentially needing to contact you later.

Step 2: Do any household members currently participate in SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR?

If anyone in your household (including you) currently participates in one or more of the assistance programs listed below, your children are eligible for free school meals:

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

A) If no one in your household participates in any of the above listed programs:

- Check "No" in Step 2 and go to Step 3.

B) If anyone in your household participates in any of the above listed programs:

- Write a case number for SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR. You only need to provide one case number. If you participate in one of these programs and do not know your case number, contact: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forwardhealth/imagency/index.htm>
- Go to Step 4.

Step 3: List ALL household members and income for each member

How do I report my income?

- Use the lists titled "Sources of Income" & "Examples of Income for Children," on the back side of the application form to determine if your household has income to report.
- Report all amounts in GROSS INCOME ONLY. Report all income in whole dollars. Do not include cents.
 - Gross income is the total income received **before** taxes and deductions.
 - Many people think of income as the amount they "take home" and not the total, "gross" amount. Make sure that the income you report on this application has NOT been reduced to pay for taxes, insurance premiums, or any other amounts taken from your pay.
- Write a "0" in any fields where there is no income to report. Any income fields left empty or blank will also be counted as a zero. If you write "0" or leave any fields blank, you are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. If local officials suspect that your household income was reported incorrectly, your application will be investigated.
- Mark how often each type of income is received using the check boxes to the right of each field.

3.A. Report income earned by adults

Who should I list here?

- When filling out this section, please include ALL adult members in your household who are living with you and share income and expenses, even if they are not related and even if they do not receive income of their own.
- **Do NOT include:**
 - People who live with you but are not supported by your household's income AND do not contribute income to your household.
 - Infants, children and students already listed in Step 1.

Step 3: List ALL household members and income for each member

1) List adult household members' names.

Print the name of each household member in the boxes marked "Names of Adult Household Members (First and Last)." Include college students, unless they are declared independently on taxes (all college students are considered adults). Do not list any household members you listed in Step 1.

2) List earnings from work.

List all income from work in the "Earnings from Work" field on the application. This is usually the money received from working at jobs. If you are a self-employed business or farm owner, you will report your net income. Net income is your income after taxes and deductions have been subtracted.

- **What if I have multiple jobs?** List each job separately by entering your name and income from each job on a new line. Add an additional sheet of paper if necessary.
- **What if I am self-employed?** List income from your business as a net amount. This net amount is calculated by subtracting the total operating expenses of your business from its gross receipts (revenue). Gross receipts or revenue are all the income earned from the sale of any products or services offered.

If a child listed in **Step 1** has income, follow the instructions in **Step 3, Part B.**

3) List income from public assistance/child support/alimony.

List all income that applies in the "Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony" field on the application. Do not report the cash value of any public assistance benefits NOT listed on the chart. If income is received from child support or alimony, only report court-ordered payments. Informal but regular payments should be reported as "other" income in the next part.

4) List income from pensions/retirement/all other income.

List all income that applies in the "Pensions/Retirement/All Other Income" field on the application.

- **What if I receive income from multiple sources in this category?** List each source separately by entering your name and income from each source on a new line. Add an additional sheet of paper if necessary.

5) List total household size.

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

6) Provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number.

An adult household member must enter the last four digits of their Social Security Number in the space provided. You are eligible to apply for benefits even if you do not have a Social Security Number. If no adult household members have a Social Security Number, leave this space blank and mark the box to the right labeled "Check if no Social Security Number."

3.B List income earned by children

List all income earned or received by children.

List the combined gross income for ALL children listed in **Step 1** in your household in the box marked "Child Income." Only count foster children's income if you are applying for them together with the rest of your household.

- **What is Child Income?** Child income is money received from outside your household that is paid **DIRECTLY** to your children. Many households do not have any child income.

Step 4: Contact information and adult signature

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

A) Provide your contact information. Write your current mailing address in the fields provided, if this information is available. If you have no permanent address, that is okay. Sharing a phone number, email address, or both is optional, but helps us reach you quickly if we need to contact you.

B) Print and sign your name and write today's date. Print the name of the adult signing the application and that person signs in the box "Signature of adult."

C) Mail completed application to:
Jessica Lien
Blair-Taylor School District
PO Box 107
Blair, WI. 54616

Optional

Share children's racial and ethnic identities (optional). On the back of the application, we ask you to share information about your children's race and ethnicity. This field is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price school meals. This information is requested solely for the purpose of determining the State's compliance with Federal civil rights laws, and your response will not affect consideration of your application, and may be protected by the Privacy Act. By providing this information, you will assist us in assuring that this program is administered in a nondiscriminatory manner.

Please return the application directly to your child's SCHOOL. DO NOT mail, fax, or email completed applications or questions about applications to the USDA Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights or your child's eligibility for free or reduced-price meals will be delayed.

SOURCES AND EXAMPLES OF INCOME

For additional information on income, please refer to the instructions that accompany this application.

Sources of Income		Examples of Income for Children
Earnings from Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salary, wages, cash bonuses, tips, commissions Net income from self-employment (farm or business) If you are in the U.S. Military: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA, or privatized housing allowances) Allowances for off-base housing, food, and clothing 	Public Assistance/Alimony/Child Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unemployment benefits Workers' compensation Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Cash assistance from State or local government Alimony payments Child support payments Veterans benefits Strike benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wages A child is blind or disabled and receives Social Security benefits A parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefits A friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending money A child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust
Pensions/Retirement/All other sources of income <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Security/Disability (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits) Private Pensions or disability benefits Income from trusts or estates Annuities Investment income Earned interest Rental income Regular cash payments from outside household 		

OPTIONAL Children's ethnic and racial identities. This information is kept confidential and may be protected by the Privacy Act of 1974.

We are required to ask for information about your children's race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

Ethnicity (check one): Hispanic or Latino (A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish Culture or origin, regardless of race) Not Hispanic or Latino

Race (check one or more): American Indian or Alaska Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander White

Return this completed form to your child's school. *Do not mail, fax, or email completed applications to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.

DO NOT FILL OUT For school use only. If all students listed on this application attend CEP schools, the processing of this application cannot be paid for by the nonprofit school food service account.

Annual Income Conversion: Weekly x 52, Every 2 Weeks x 26, Twice a Month x 24, Monthly x 12. Do not annualize income to determine eligibility unless more than one income frequency is listed.

Total Income

<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Weekly</td> <td>Every 2 Weeks</td> <td>2x/Month</td> <td>Monthly</td> <td>Annual</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/></td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> </tr> </table>	Weekly	Every 2 Weeks	2x/Month	Monthly	Annual	<input type="radio"/>	Household size <input type="text"/>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Free</td> <td>Reduced</td> <td>Denied</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/></td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> <td><input type="radio"/></td> </tr> </table>	Free	Reduced	Denied	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				
Weekly	Every 2 Weeks	2x/Month	Monthly	Annual														
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>														
Free	Reduced	Denied																
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>																

Categorical Eligibility

Determining Official's Signature Date

Confirming Official's Signature Date

Verifying Official's Signature Date

Use of Information Statement

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires that we use information from this application to see who qualifies for free or reduced price meals. We can only approve complete forms. We may share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them deliver program benefits to your household. Inspectors and law enforcement may also use your information to make sure that program rules are met. Please be sure to provide the last four numbers of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application. If the adult does not have one, check if no Social Security Number' Applications for a foster child do not need to list a Social Security number. Applications for children in households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) do not need to list a Social Security number. Some children qualify for free meals without an application. Please contact your school to get free meals for a foster child, and children who are homeless, migrant, or runaway.

The contact information below is solely to file a complaint of discrimination

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

*MAIL: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

FAX: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
EMAIL: program.intake@usda.gov

***Do not mail applications to this address, only complaints of discrimination.**

Return completed form to your child's school.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

SCHOOL NEWS



 Check out these Wildcats enjoying their summer!

THANK YOU

Blair-Taylor FFA and the Agriculture Department would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who has supported us this year through fundraising and following along with our activities. Events such as Cheese Fest, Taylor Pull, Elementary Agriculture Day and many others have been successful due to the members, parents, and community members. We are excited to continue to promote the agriculture industry and bring the Blair-Taylor Community more events next year!

ELEMENTARY CONCERT DATES

The Blair-Taylor Music Department would like to extend an invitation to you for our concerts this next school year. Make a note of the following dates so you do not miss the wonderful performances from our students:

- December 15 - Elementary Holiday Concerts
 - The Kindergarten Program begins at 1:00 pm
 - The 1st and 2nd Grade Program begins at 2:00 pm
- May 24 - Elementary Spring Concert
 - The 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade Program begins at 2:00 pm

All concerts will be held in the United Campus Auditorium. We look forward to seeing you at our elementary music concerts this next school year!

DISTRICT GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM

Philosophy

The Blair-Taylor School District recognizes that all students have talents and/or gifts. Some students, however, possess these talents and gifts to an exceptional degree. The district recognizes the right of these gifted students to receive opportunities that will meet their educational needs. Therefore, differentiated programming and specific services shall be provided to help develop the cognitive, creative, and affective skills of these students.

Definition

Gifted and talented students are those individuals who, because of outstanding abilities, are capable of high performance. Giftedness falls into one or more of the following areas: intellectual, academic, creative, artistic, and leadership. A student may be **intellectually (cognitively) gifted** if he or she uses advanced vocabulary, readily comprehends new ideas, thinks about information in complex ways, or likes to solve puzzles or problems. A student may be **academically gifted** if he or she shows unusual abilities in one or more area (math, reading, etc.), has exceptional memorization ability, acquires knowledge quickly, or enjoys talking with experts in the field of his or her interest. A student may be **creatively gifted** if he or she comes up with several solutions to a given problem, creates and invents in unusual and imaginative ways, or has a vivid imagination. A student may be **gifted in the area of leadership** if he or she assumes responsibility and follows through, uses judgment in decision making, sets goals and accomplishes them, can organize self and others, and has self-confidence. A student may be **artistically gifted** if he or she has an unusual ability for expressing self, feelings, or moods through art, dance, drama, or music, exhibits creative expression, or has an unusual ability for seeing and observing things in detail.

Identification

Students are identified for services by the gifted and talented program through a number of ways, including performance on standardized tests (scoring above the 95 percentile) and/or individual assessment tools. Student, teacher, and parent referrals are also considered an important part of the identification process. In addition, participation in programming options can be used to help with identification.

If you have additional questions about identification or program options for gifted students, please contact your child's principal.



COACH STORLIE SELECTED AS WBCA PRESIDENT

Randy Storlie will start his 42nd year as a boys' basketball coach, but he will also have extra duties next year in the state as he has been selected as the President of the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association. Coach Storlie will represent all basketball coaches in the state of Wisconsin, which includes high school, and college coaches.

"This is a great honor and responsibility, but I am looking forward to the challenge that this office represents," stated Coach Storlie. "I will work closely with the WIAA and other organizations in the state to help keep basketball in Wisconsin at a high standard." Coach Storlie will have a three-year term as President. He has been on the Executive State Basketball board for the past 15 years.

STEVE RANDALL AWARD WINNER

Steve Randall was a top high school basketball coach in the state of Wisconsin and well respected until his untimely death 20 years ago. His sons are currently basketball coaches in colleges throughout the country and each year they select one high school coach for this award. This year's winner is Blair-Taylor's Head Coach Randy Storlie. This award is given to a coach who exemplifies: Integrity-Passion-Sportsmanship-Professionalism.

"I am so honored to have been selected for this once-in-a-lifetime award," commented Coach Storlie. Coach Storlie will be presented the award at the WBCA's Hall of Fame banquet held in late September. Coach Storlie was inducted into the WBCA Hall of Fame back in 2017.



MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL REMINDERS

We will be starting before we know it and here are some important dates and information:

Equipment Handout - August 17th from 5:30 - 7 pm in Mr. Bratina's room.

Practices will start on August 21 from 3:30 - 5:30. There are no practices on Wednesdays. These practices will be just Helmets, t-shirts & shorts (at least for the first 2 practices)

Before they can practice, students need to have turned in a Physical or Alternate year card, Concussion & Head Injury form, and signed MS Athletic Code.

Remember there is NO late bus on Fridays, so you will need to make arrangements to get your child home.

Coach Justin Shramek and I are looking forward to a great season.

- Mr. Bratina

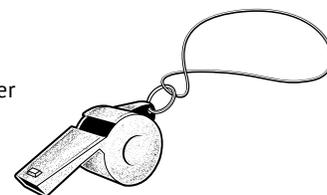
COACHES FOR FALL SPORTS AT BLAIR-TAYLOR

HIGH SCHOOL:

- Football – Andy Nehring
- Volleyball – Greta Monson
- Cross Country – Andrew Scheller
- Cheer- Robin Seddon

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

- Football – Greg Bratina
- Volleyball – Whitney McDougall-Saxe
- Cross Country – Lindsay Bryhn



Blair-Taylor Fall Sport Schedule as of June 30th

Please remember that spring sports are scheduled to change due to weather conditions. So please check with the school, or your child's coaches, if sport activities are still on when the weather becomes questionable.



High School Volleyball

All JV and C teams begin at 6 pm unless otherwise communicated.

August 22	at Elmwood (varsity)	4:00 pm
August 31	at Osseo-Fairchild	7:30 pm
Sept 5	Loyal	7:30 pm
Sept 7	Independence	7:30 pm
Sept 12	at Whitehall	7:30 pm
Sept 18	Mel-Min	7:30 pm
Sept 19	at Eleva-Strum	7:30 pm
Sept 21	Lincoln	7:30 pm
Sept 26	at Alma/Pepin	7:30 pm
Sept 28	CFC	7:30 pm
Sept 30	at Eleva-Strum (jv)	6:00 pm
Oct 2	Durand	7:30 pm
Oct 3	at Immanuel	7:30 pm
Oct 7	at Cashton Tourney	8:00 am
Oct 9	Mondovi	7:30 pm
Oct 12	at Augusta	7:30 pm
Oct 17-21	Regional	
Oct 26-28	Sectional	
Nov 2-4	State	

Middle School Volleyball

Sept 7	at Lincoln	4:45 pm
Sept 11	at Mel-Min	4:30 pm
Sept 12	BRF	4:30 pm
Sept 18	at Independence	4:30 pm
Sept 19	at CFC	4:45 pm
Sept 21	Lincoln	4:30 pm
Sept 25	Gilmanton	4:30 pm
Sept 26	Whitehall	4:30 pm
Oct 2	at Whitehall	4:30 pm
Oct 3	Independence	4:30 pm
Oct 9	CFC	4:30 pm
Oct 10	at Gilmanton	5:30 pm

High School Cross Country

August 26	at Cashton	9:00 am
August 31	at CFC	5:15 pm
Sept 7	at GET	4:45 pm
Sept 11	at BRF	4:30 pm
Sept 19	Blair-Taylor	5:00 pm
Sept 21	at Durand	4:15 pm
Sept 25	at Mel-Min	4:45 pm
Sept 28	at Lincoln	4:30 pm
Oct 2	at Luther	4:30 pm
Oct 7	at Arcadia	9:00 am
Oct 12	Conference - Augusta	
Oct 21	Sectional	
Oct 28	State	

Middle School Cross Country

August 31	at CFC	4:45 pm
Sept 12	at CFC	4:45 pm
Sept 19	Blair-Taylor	4:30 pm
Sept 21	at Durand	4:15 pm
Sept 26	at BRF	4:15 pm
Sept 28	at Lincoln	4:15 pm
Oct 7	at Arcadia	10:00 am

High School Football

Aug 11	at Hillsboro (scrimmage)	5:00 pm
Aug 18	at Luther	7:00 pm
Aug 25	Elmood-Plum City	7:00 pm
Sept 1	at Mel-Min	7:00 pm
Sept 8	Whitehall	7:00 pm
Sept 15	at Augusta	7:00 pm
Sept 22	Alma/Pepin	7:00 pm
Sept 29	CFC	7:00 pm
Oct 6	at Eleva Strum	7:00 pm
Oct 13	Independence	7:00 pm

Middle School Football

Aug 31	at Whitehall (scrimmage)	5:30 pm
Sept 7	Eleva-Strum	5:00 pm
Sept 12	at CFC	5:00 pm
Sept 21	Whitehall	5:00 pm
Sept 28	Mel-Min	5:00 pm
Oct 3	at Eleva-Strum	5:00 pm
Oct 10	at Arcadia	5:00 pm

Passes for Athletic Events

Athletic Passes for the 2023-24 school year are available for purchase in the district office.

Adult Pass: \$40.00

Senior Pass (62 or older) - Free

2023 - 2024 BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Aug 2023							Sep 2023							Oct 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	X	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

Nov 2023							Dec 2023							Jan 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4						1	2		X	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16 (52)	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18 (88)	19	20
19	X	X	X	X	X	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	X	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	28	29	30	31			

Feb 2024							Mar 2024							Apr 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3						1	2		X	2	3	4	5	6
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	X	X	X	X	X	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
25	26	27	28	29 (82)			24	25	26	27	28	X	30	28	29	30				
							31													

May 2024							Jun 2024							Jul 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4						1								
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	X	28	29	30	31 (56) (85)		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
							30													

Teacher Inservice: August 21, 22, 23, 28 September 22, October 20, November 17, January 19,
 March 1, April 26, June 3 (½ day Inservice & ½ day checkout)
 Family Orientation – August 24 – 11:00am - 7:00pm
 X – No School for Staff and Students

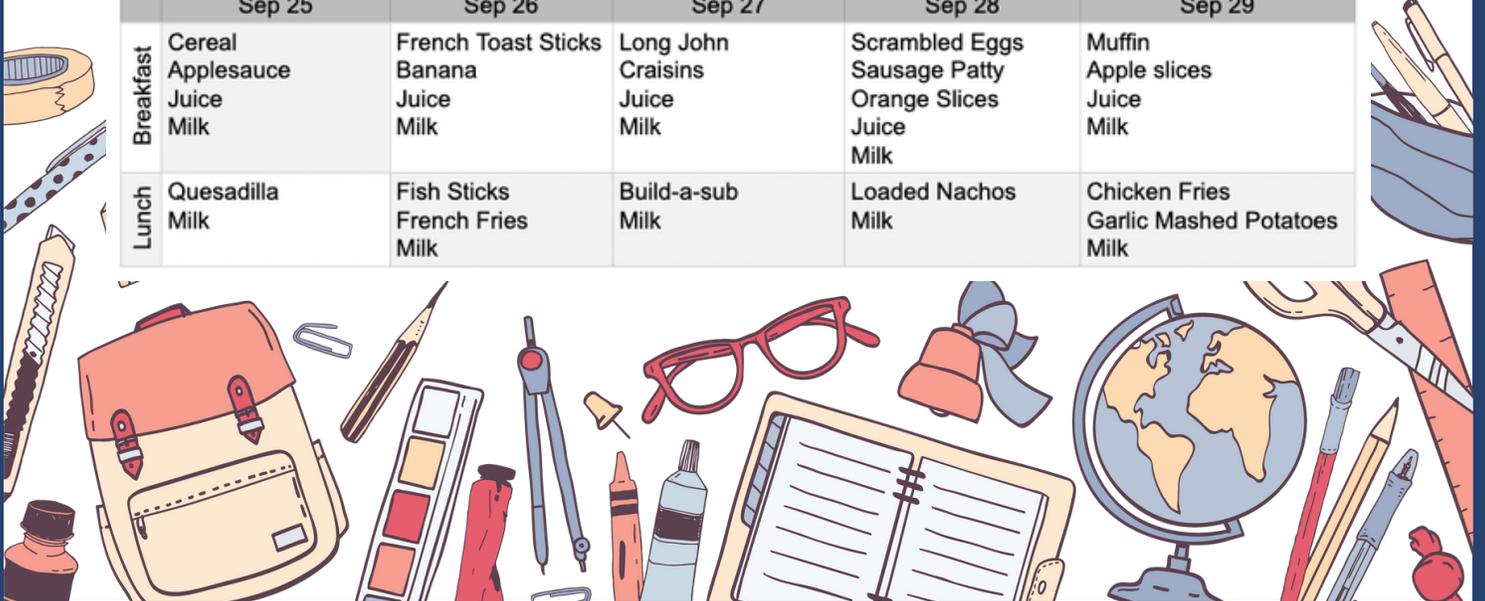
Parent Teacher Conferences
 Elementary - October 19, 20, February 28, March 1
 Middle High - October 19 (grade 6 only), October 24, February 5, April 29

- Transition Days – August 29, 30, and 31
- Last Day of Trimesters (Middle/High), Semesters (Elementary)
- Middle/High End Tri #1 – November 16, 2023 (52 days + 3 transition days)
 - Middle/High End Tri #2 – February 29, 2024 (62 days)
 - Middle/High End of Tri #3 – May 31, 2024 (56 days)
 - Elementary End of Semester 1 – January 18, 2024 (88 days)
 - Elementary End of Semester 2 – May 31, 2024 (85 days)

August and September 2023 Breakfast & Lunch Menu

As of June 30th. Meal offerings may change.

	Aug 28	Aug 29	Aug 30	Aug 31	Sep 1
Breakfast	No School	Yogurt & Granola Cereal Cheese Stick Blueberries Juice Milk	WG Long John Cheese Stick Banana Juice Milk	WG Pancakes Cheese Stick Orange Slices Juice Milk	Breakfast Pizza Apple Slices Juice Milk
Lunch		Corn Dog Baked Beans Deli Roasters Apple Slices WG Cheez-Its Milk	Chicken Alfredo WG Pasta WG Breadstick Broccoli Fruit Cocktail Milk	Pulled Pork WG Bun Curly Fries Green Beans Peaches Milk	Pizza Milk
	Sep 4	Sep 5	Sep 6	Sep 7	Sep 8
Breakfast	No School	Cereal Applesauce Juice Milk	Cinnamon Rolls Grapes Juice Milk	Cheese Omelet Juice Milk	Frudel Craisins Juice Milk
Lunch		Chicken Nuggets Deli Roasters Milk	Meatloaf Au Gratin Potatoes Milk	Calzone Marinara Milk	Sloppy Joe Sweet Potato Fries Milk
	Sep 11	Sep 12	Sep 13	Sep 14	Sep 15
Breakfast	Cereal Bar Apple Slices Juice Milk	Pancake on a Stick Banana Juice Milk	Donut Holes Melon Juice Milk	Mini Bagel Orange Slices Juice Milk	Breakfast Bagel Kiwi Juice Milk
Lunch	Hotdog Bun Milk	Spaghetti Milk	Chicken Tenders Smile Fries Milk	Breaded Pork Chop Tater Tots Milk	Tater Tot Hotdish Milk
	Sep 18	Sep 19	Sep 20	Sep 21	Sep 22
Breakfast	Yogurt & Granola Blueberries Juice Milk	Waffles Banana Juice Milk	Cinnamon Rolls Applesauce Juice Milk	Breakfast Sandwich Strawberry Cup Juice Milk	No School
Lunch	Pizza Dippers Marinara Milk	Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes Milk	BBQ Rib Bun Baked Beans Milk	Mac & Cheese Pretzel Milk	
	Sep 25	Sep 26	Sep 27	Sep 28	Sep 29
Breakfast	Cereal Applesauce Juice Milk	French Toast Sticks Banana Juice Milk	Long John Craisins Juice Milk	Scrambled Eggs Sausage Patty Orange Slices Juice Milk	Muffin Apple slices Juice Milk
Lunch	Quesadilla Milk	Fish Sticks French Fries Milk	Build-a-sub Milk	Loaded Nachos Milk	Chicken Fries Garlic Mashed Potatoes Milk



October 2023 Breakfast & Lunch Menu

As of June 30th. Meal offerings may change.

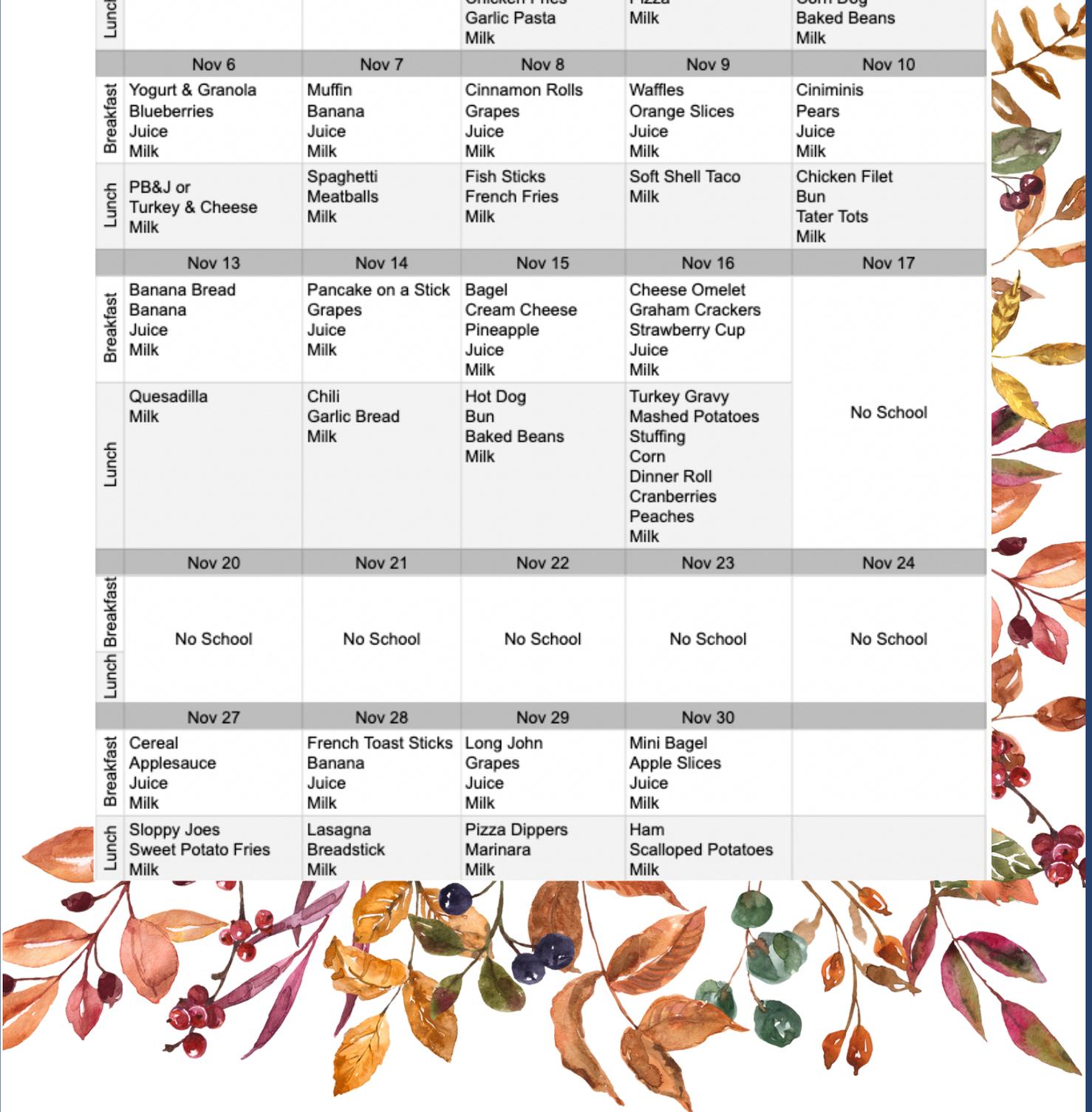
	Oct 2	Oct 3	Oct 4	Oct 5	Oct 6
Breakfast	Banana Bread Grapes Juice Milk	Mini Bagel Banana Juice Milk	Donut Holes Melon Juice Milk	Cheese Omelet Pineapple Juice Milk	Pancakes Craisins Juice Milk
Lunch	Hamburger Potato Chips Milk	Calzone Marinara Milk	Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Milk	BBQ Rib Bun Spiral Fries Milk	Pizza Milk
	Oct 9	Oct 10	Oct 11	Oct 12	Oct 13
Breakfast	Cereal Bar Apple Slices Juice Milk	Pancake on a Stick Banana Juice Milk	Cinnamon Roll Grapes Juice Milk	Mini Bagel Orange Slices Juice Milk	Breakfast Bagel Kiwi Juice Milk
Lunch	Pulled Pork Bun Sweet Potato Fries	Orange Chicken Brown Rice Milk	Corn Dog Baked Beans Milk	Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup Milk	Chicken Nuggets Deli Roaster Milk
	Oct 16	Oct 17	Oct 18	Oct 19	Oct 20
Breakfast	Yogurt & Granola Blueberries Juice Milk	Waffles Banana Juice Milk	Long John Craisins Juice Milk	Breakfast Sandwich Strawberry Cup Juice Milk	No School
Lunch	Chicken Patty Bun Milk	Ravioli Breadstick Milk	Pizza Dippers Marinara Milk	Hot Ham & Cheese Milk	
	Oct 23	Oct 24	Oct 25	Oct 26	Oct 27
Breakfast	Cereal Applesauce Juice Milk	French Toast Sticks Banana Juice Milk	Cinnamon Rolls Craisins Juice Milk	Scrambled Eggs Sausage Patty Juice Milk	Muffin Apple Slices Juice Milk
Lunch	Turkey Gravy Mashed Potatoes Milk	Meatball Sub Milk			
	Oct 30	Oct 31			
Breakfast	Appleway Oatmeal Bar Watermelon Juice Milk	Combo Bar Banana Juice Milk			
Lunch	Chicken Noodle Soup Garlic Knot Milk	Philly Steak Bun Deli Roasters Milk			



November 2023 Breakfast & Lunch Menu

As of June 30th. Meal offerings may change.

			Nov 1	Nov 2	Nov 3
Breakfast			Donut Holes Craisins Juice Milk	Pancakes Apple Slices Juice Milk	Breakfast Sandwich Grape Juice Milk
Lunch			Chicken Fries Garlic Pasta Milk	Pizza Milk	Corn Dog Baked Beans Milk
	Nov 6	Nov 7	Nov 8	Nov 9	Nov 10
Breakfast	Yogurt & Granola Blueberries Juice Milk	Muffin Banana Juice Milk	Cinnamon Rolls Grapes Juice Milk	Waffles Orange Slices Juice Milk	Ciniminis Pears Juice Milk
Lunch	PB&J or Turkey & Cheese Milk	Spaghetti Meatballs Milk	Fish Sticks French Fries Milk	Soft Shell Taco Milk	Chicken Filet Bun Tater Tots Milk
	Nov 13	Nov 14	Nov 15	Nov 16	Nov 17
Breakfast	Banana Bread Banana Juice Milk	Pancake on a Stick Grapes Juice Milk	Bagel Cream Cheese Pineapple Juice Milk	Cheese Omelet Graham Crackers Strawberry Cup Juice Milk	No School
Lunch	Quesadilla Milk	Chili Garlic Bread Milk	Hot Dog Bun Baked Beans Milk	Turkey Gravy Mashed Potatoes Stuffing Corn Dinner Roll Cranberries Peaches Milk	
	Nov 20	Nov 21	Nov 22	Nov 23	Nov 24
Breakfast	No School	No School	No School	No School	No School
Lunch	No School	No School	No School	No School	No School
	Nov 27	Nov 28	Nov 29	Nov 30	
Breakfast	Cereal Applesauce Juice Milk	French Toast Sticks Banana Juice Milk	Long John Grapes Juice Milk	Mini Bagel Apple Slices Juice Milk	
Lunch	Sloppy Joes Sweet Potato Fries Milk	Lasagna Breadstick Milk	Pizza Dippers Marinara Milk	Ham Scalloped Potatoes Milk	



School District of Blair-Taylor

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Wildcats

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