

PARENT COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

132 1st Ave SW

https://www.bps.k12.mt.us/programs_departments/parent_community_outreach

T: (406) 338-5025

The Holidays are just around the corner! Please contact us if you would like to sponsor a child for Christmas.

CHILD CARE



Child Care was all abuzz during Red Ribbon Week and into the Halloween festivities. We had many activities for the children centered around the daily theme of each Red Ribbon day. Our Halloween party was especially fun and treat filled!

The infant room has been teaching the children their colors, numbers, and babies also love their reading time. We continue to focus on social-emotional attendance declined due to a few children catching hand, foot and mouth. continues to disinfect daily to prevent the spread of illness.

Overall enrollment in the toddler room has significantly declined. We currently have one full time child. After the winter break, we will transition 2 year olds to will increase. In the meantime, the staff are working on trainings in oral health, healthy nutrition, and planning activities for the incoming children.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Winter Coat Give Away-date TBA

CHILDCARE HAS OPENINGS FOR 2-5 YEAR OLDS!



TEEN PARENT PROGRAM

We continue to participate with the Blackfeet Teen Parent Coalition to receive new referrals. JoRae Rattler is now sitting on the Coalition as a BPS/PCOP representative. She is also participating in the weekly teen parent class at Buffalo Hide Academy. We are expecting one new teen parent to enroll her child in the toddler room within the week.

HI-SET

The Hi-Set program continues to focus on recruitment and retention of students. We have also re-connected with Opportunities Inc of Great Falls for referrals and collaboration of services. Our tutor, Jerelyn Gobert, is cross-trained with the āisspoōmmoōtsiiyō•p̄ program so that she is able to coordinate services with JoRae. In this way, Jerelyn has been able to bring new clients to the program and assist in removing barriers to their HiSet education.

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The FIT program has not yet reached our goal to collect #500 winter coats for our 2nd annual Oo ts stoyii wa “When the Cold Comes” Winter Clothes Giveaway. We have been filling requests for winter apparel as they come in so we haven’t set a date for the official giveaway. We have also been able to purchase numerous hats and gloves thanks to the previous donation made by BTBC. There was also a lady in Missouri that hand-crocheted about 50 hats and sent those our way.

Clothing Closets

Our recent shipment of donations has been brought to each school’s Clothing Closet. I have included a picture here of the shed that is located at the Heart Locker in Kalispell. This shed was built specifically for our program to store the donations they set aside for us each month.



Food Pantries~ I am excited to share that, for the third year in a year, we have been awarded the Town Pump grant. This year we received \$10,000 which (we hope!) will keep us stocked in food until next fall. We continue to look at other funding sources and partnerships to sustain the pantries long-term. We also continue to refer families to the Oyop Food Pantry located at the Medicine Bear shelter. We want to give a shout out to Joey Hall and Sheila Rutherford for keeping the BMS Food Pantry in top-notch shape!



Browning Middle School Food Pantry (pictured above)

Addressing Homelessness

I will provide a verbal report in an upcoming school board meeting to share all the planning taking place and my experience presenting at the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

The attendance committee has begun to dig in to the Hot List and how that will be supported by the committee through incentives and common practices. The general consensus is to use gift cards for students and parents to incentivize improved attendance. Our next step is to promote the incentives to both students and parents on a case by case basis.