

BMS Board Report
12/11/23

Hello Board Members,

The month of November was a very busy month scheduling around Thanksgiving break and really implementing restorative practices and trauma informed strategies to challenge students while also supporting their whole child education. In November we also emphasize Indian education For All as it is Native American Heritage month. An example of the celebration of Native and Blackfeet culture was a pow wow put on by the staff of BMS that included BHS staff and students as well. BMS is also participating in developing a discussion guide for the film Native Ball starring Malia Kipp. There is a group from the University of Montana who has selected BMS to participate and provide the middle school perspective. BMS students and staff also participated in the annual BPS Griz/Cat Brawl of the Wild celebration, BMS students had to earn the privilege to attend and over 90% of our students met the minimum threshold requirements for behavior, academics, and SEL. In November we also have Parent-Teacher conferences and our annual 1st quarter awards. The PT conferences were very well attended both evenings as students not only met with their teachers with their families, they also gave a tour of their school building. On Thursday a bouncy house was provided to help with families attending with everyone if needed. We want to provide a learning environment that families feel connected to because they are being fair and being treated with care. Our honor roll numbers were the highlight of the quarter awards. 186 total BMS students earned the honor roll. This is truly an opportunity to shine a light and give a shout out to the relationships being built by the teachers with the students. The teachers have created a learning environment where expectations are going to be high for the learning and their behavior but that they are also going to provide students with the social emotional learning needed to develop their whole child skills and characteristics. It is this balance of providing a challenging yet caring learning environment for students to focus on learning everyday and become better students and better young adults. Teachers have met the main goal of the 1st quarter which is to move from compliance to performance and the instructional coaches and administration have selected collaboration, time keeping, and targeted individual teacher support as the next steps of our focused implementation of our instructional framework. The coaches have done a great job in getting us to this point in regards to implementation of the instructional framework. A valuable asset that they both possess is they understand that there is a bigger picture that surrounds instruction and they work very diligently on balancing the tasks and support for teachers to improve individually as well as within the whole group. BMS also pulled together for a fellow staff member and provided a fundraising activity for the family. I point this out as an example of the BMS staff going above and beyond for each other. There are actually numerous examples of the BMS staff being a very strong support system for their fellow colleagues when their life out of the building collides with their focus and ability at school. BMS also hosted a book fair which was highly successful due to the tireless efforts of our librarian Alysa Arrotwop. Alysa not only put on the book fair, she also ensured that every student who wanted a book but didn't have the means still got a book. BMS athletics also placed all boys basketball teams into their final four tourneys and there are two 8th grade girls on the BHS wrestling team which are both great accomplishments by our student/athletes. Our band and choir students have also been diligently practicing for the Christmas concerts where they will play with the BHS students. The BMS student council has also been formed and they have participated in the Superintendent's Student Advisory. The goal for the BMS student council will be helping all BMS students learn and practice the connection between positive choices and the attainment or earning of privileges based upon their daily choices and decisions at school. An example is the hat procedure at BMS in which hats are not allowed except outside at recess, however, the student council will propose an offer where if all the BMS students meet

a behavioral or academic goal then they can earn the privilege of wearing their hats. The council will also be taking the lead on incentives in both the planning of the activities and the types of awards given to students. Students and staff will also be working on our building led initiatives of Vanquish Vaping at BMS and Banning Bullying at BMS in addition to our commitment to being Tardy No More. These major initiatives will include education and support in addition to the consequences of violating the expectations of these initiatives. Individual classroom advisory projects include a Santa Hat giveaway by Margaret Tailfeathers' class. They work in conjunction with the retirement center to provide the elders support and inspiration.

A final shout out to the team that makes it happen behind the scenes- Sarah, Edna, Keven, Steven, Faddy, Carole, Stacy, Kim, Arlan, Brittany, Heidi, Pat, and Angie. This group of staff members go above and beyond on a daily basis and we could not get to the business of education without these staff members doing their job. Usually for this group of staff members they only get noticed when things aren't going right, so I want to notice them and shout them out for the awesome job that they are doing. Thank you Board of Trustees for your time and for your ongoing support. Have a great month of November.

Coaches Corner Update By Heidi DuBray-Burns & Brittany Burns

This month we had 3 consultant visits to help support instruction in a variety of ways. During Terri Barclay's visit this month we were able to break down ELA Aimsweb data, and use focus folders to help create and implement instruction that is more tailored to meeting the needs of all students. Professional development was presented to ELA teachers to help support them in their understanding of focus folders and using them with intention. She will be back in December to follow up and continue supporting BMS. We also had a HMH consultant come into the building and was able to provide training for our teachers who are new to using System 44 in their classrooms, and answering questions for those that have been implementing the program. Lastly, we had Debbie Hunsaker visit to help support coaches. Based on walkthrough data, we were able to create a focus folder for teachers, and use this folder to help differentiate our coaching with teachers. We have created a plan for the differentiated coaching, and set goals for the month.

BMS by the numbers:

November Behavior Report

Attendance (Skipping): 2

Assault (Verbal/Physical): 3

Bullying: 8

Drugs: 3

Fighting: 5

Insubordination: 6

Overt Defiance: 1

Recording a Fight: 7

Sexual Harassment: 1
Threat: 2

Mediations: 18

Perfect Attendance for November:

November 1-3

6th: 14

7th: 16

8th: 16

November 6-10

6th: 17

7th: 28

8th: 31

November 13-17

6th: 13

7th: 26

8th: 21

November 27-30

6th: 16

7th: 22

8th: 15

Student Attendance for the month of November:

6th Grade: 78.32%

7th Grade: 76.92%

8th Grade: 77.28%

Total: 80%

6th grade- 100

7th grade- 142

8th grade- 128

Dropped- 6 from November 1, 2023 to December 11, 2023. One has re enrolled as of this morning, 12/11/23.

Home visits- 6

Food Baskets- 5 for December, (I forgot to do this for Oct. & Nov., sorry.)

Aug. 22- Sept. 1st

6th- 96 with 81.29%

7th-135 with 80.84%

8th- 126 with 79.12%

Sept. 1st- Oct. 2nd

6th- 101 with 86.05%

7th- 142 with 81.95%

8th- 133 with 77.81%

Oct. 2nd- Nov. 1st

6th- 101 with 82.12%

7th- 141 with 77.49%

8th- 133 with 74.72%

Nov. 1- Dec. 11th

6th- 100 with 78.32%

7th- 142 with 76.92%

8th- 128 with 77.28%

Referrals to Truancy Court (7): 2-failure to register; 5 for 10 consecutive day drop

Staff attendance:

Classified: 93%

Certified: 90%





















