

Attendance Matters

(Mr. H: School Leader)

April 2024

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Enrolled</u>	<u>Attendance %</u>
Early K	53	78.47%
Kindergarten	155	76.03%
<u>1st Grade</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>78.67%</u>
Total	342	78.00%

April Home Visits

4

April Perfect Attendance

<u>1st Grade</u>	<u>Kindergarten</u>	<u>Early K</u>
Calf Robe, Morgan R Cobell, Gary W Cree Medicine, Victoria A Red Fox, Lily L Tatsey, Brielle E Wells, Austin Williamson, Aria M	Bullshoe-Rides At The Door, Sahkooyii M Davis, Oakley K England, Cody R Kennedy, Amaris M Rowan, Pitt-ksa-kii Sauceda, River Tatsey, Arianna N	Bremner, Hollis C ComesAtNight Jr., Brian J

April Staff Attendance

Certified: 89% Classified: 79%

Staff Perfect Attendance

Francis Vielle and Louise Giebel

Prime Time Parking:

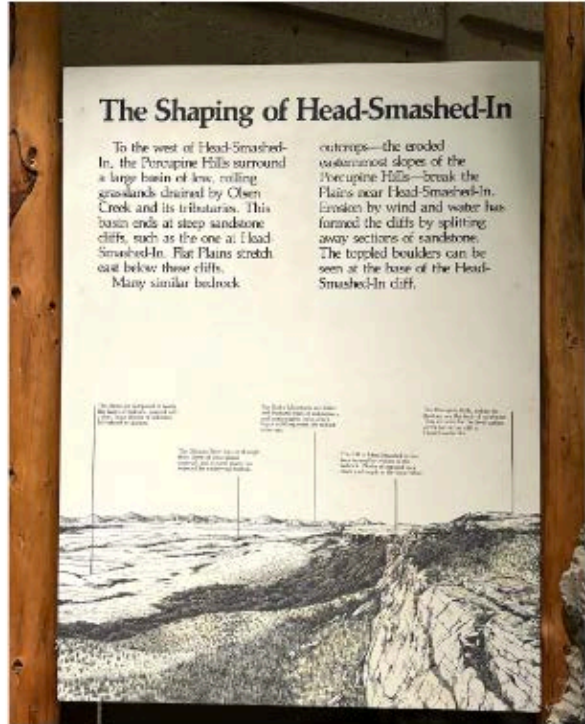
Bergen Wing = Louise Giebel Chattin Wing = Francis Vielle

Culture Matters

(Mrs. Shooter: Immersion Leader)

The Kindergarten and 1st grade classrooms are working hard on getting our BNAS assessments completed.

We have been so busy and have been so blessed with the opportunities that our students have had this year. We had the opportunity to bring our students to Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jumps in Canada. This was such an amazing opportunity and all of the students who came loved the experience.



Our students also had the opportunity to pray and sing a song for Lily Gladstone, they were also able to take class and individual photos with her. We truly have been so thankful and blessed this year for all the opportunities that our students were able to experience.



(Mrs. Vielle: BNAS)

Ms. Vielle is teaching students this month about traditional games. They are learning the Run & Scream Game and the Guessing Stick Game. Students are having a lot of fun.



Graduation Matters

(Brandy Bremner: EK/K Instructional Coach)

It's that time of year at Bullshoe Elementary, where we start gearing up for end of the year benchmarking, assessments, transition visits, and celebrations. The month of May is jam packed with activities and events, which means a lot of planning, scheduling and coordination of staff in order to get it all done.



Aimsweb testing will begin May 6th and continue until all kindergarten students are assessed. At the kindergarten level, Aimsweb testing is done 1 on 1 using a digital record form. Since students are tested individually in both literacy and math, this means utilizing all available and trained staff to administer Aimsweb.

Kindergarten Classroom teachers are completing assessments as well. These assessments include the Core Phonics Survey, which tells us which letters and sounds students have learned. This year we will administer the full Core Phonics Survey, which goes beyond just letters and sounds into reading words and nonsense words with progressively more challenging phonics patterns. Classroom teachers are also completing standards based assessments in both literacy and math. These assessments indicate if students are meeting the Montana Common Core State Standards.

Early Kindergarten teachers are busy assessing as well. As part of literacy grant requirements, they will conduct Dial-4 Language assessment. With the literacy grant ending, this will be the last time we use Dial-4 with all students. EK teachers will also be testing with a curriculum based measure called the OWL assessment. As our Early Kindergarten transitions into the Little Learners Literacy Intervention program next year, they will begin assessing with pre-k subtests in Aimsweb. Enrollment for the Fall is underway. Screening begins on May 6th, (as part of the application process).

We're not only wrapping up this year, we're planning for the next. Next year we will be implementing a new phonics curriculum K-1. This curriculum will align instruction with a common phonics scope and sequence as well as an instructional routine based in structured literacy.

Some things we're doing now to prepare for this Fall's implementation include;

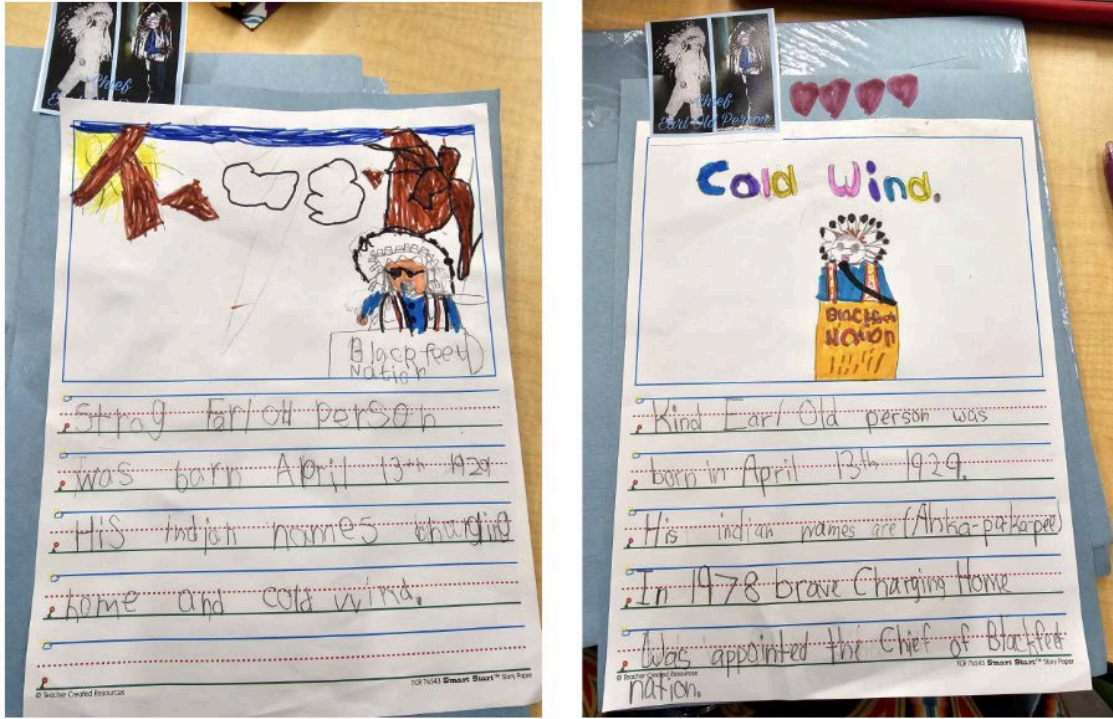
- Administering the full Core Phonics Survey. In doing this we can begin projecting intervention group numbers. Based on how students score, we will know which lesson they should be placed in for intervention.
- Participating in Instructional Coach led professional development. This has been on-going since we selected UFLI, and includes; embedding UFLI activities and language into our existing interventions, learning the routine and strategies of each lesson component, and practicing each component during collaboration meetings.
- Practicing UFLI lessons. Since teachers have recently completed the Wonders scope and sequence, they will finish off the year "getting their feet wet" by implementing UFLI lessons for the next three weeks.

(Marci Burd: First Grade Leader)

April was a busy month for 1st grade.

We kicked off the month with Family Teacher Conferences, which was a great turn out as usual. It's always nice to see how involved our families are during this time. This month gives families a huge opportunity to be involved in school and attend

school events. We also had Make-It -Take it which is always a big hit for the families to come in and do activities with their students. First grade celebrated Earl Old Person Day with a great lesson and project to end it. It was so awesome to see. The students really got into the activity.



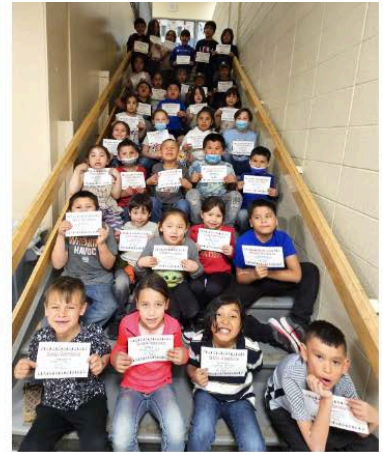
The students also got to participate in Earth Day at the Stick Game arbor. The students enjoyed this event. Their favorite part was the drones display. All the students were given a tree to plant at home.



Our 1st grade earned a Glow-Up Party! The students had a blast. This is something they look forward to. Every student had a few glow tattoos, glow sticks, and glasses. It is always nice to see the students have fun.



We ended the month with the jumpy house. All students participated and nobody was left out which our 1st grade team was happy about. We did have a big number of Sukapii Attendance students. This is always nice to see.



We are preparing for a crazy month ahead of us with testing, field trips, and end of the year stuff. We are excited for our kids to do more fun things in the upcoming weeks.

(Angie Pepion: Kindergarten Leader)

In April, our Kindergarten students went to Mrs. Jimi Champs ranch for a field trip. Mrs. Champs' students mentored our kindergarteners and helped them learn lots of things about a ranch, they got to see cows and horses. It was a day full of fun for the kids. This field trip helped our students build connections with our learning about farm animals and our monthly theme Signs of Spring. We had the

headstart come join us for half an hour. Our kindergarteners got to mentor them by helping them be part of a kindergarten class.



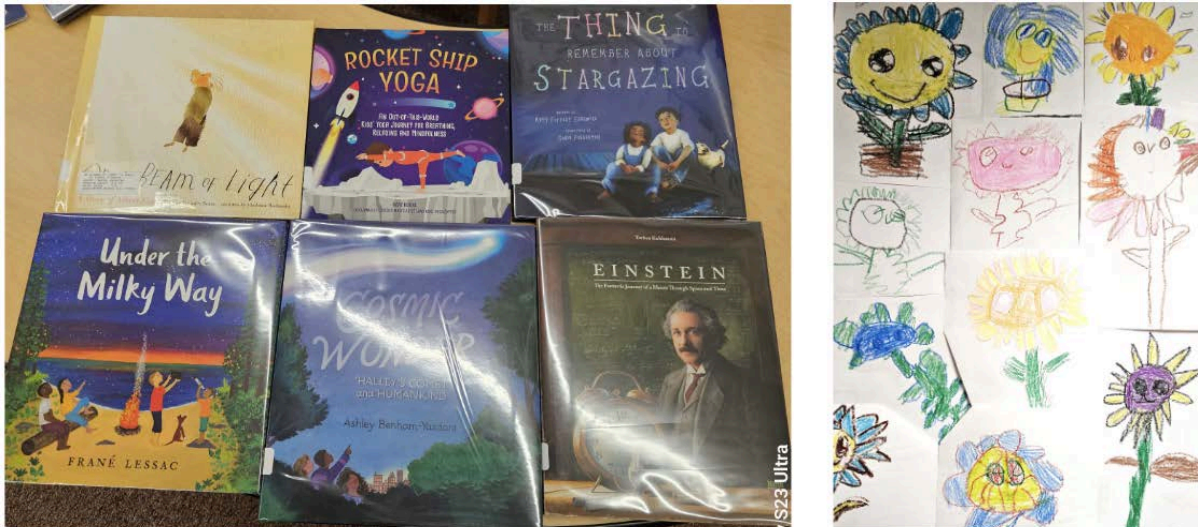
(Angela Archeleta: Specialist Leader)

In the library, during small group, our students performed the Reader's Theater Play: The T-Rex From My Cereal. Our students continue to work on their engineering skills, building towers with KEVA planks after listening to a good book.



Recently, all BPS librarians met with Robert Hall to learn how to use the District Star Lab. In order to support this mission, we are adding more space and astronomy books to our collection.

In Art and Music, students are focusing on songs, decorations and celebrations for Mother's Day. Ms. Hoyt plans to focus on this theme for the rest of the month.



(Melody Cobell: Paraprofessional Leader)

We paras have been on high alert to the new challenges that come along with Spring (yahoo) and the overzealous children on the playground. We keep in constant communication to make sure all are aware of any changes and the

goings on. We are constantly sharing information to make sure everyone, every area, every child, and every aspect of our school is running smoothly. From greeting at the doors to saying “see you tomorrow” we strive for success!

(Juliana Salois: SEL Leader)



The SEL team focused on incorporating boundaries with their bodies using the “no touch zone” and body recognition. This lesson has been included as part of our everyday lesson plan for the month of April. Our team has been working on expectations and routines for classroom management. We have assisted our staff team throughout the month of April with parent teacher conferences, family spring activity “make it take it”, Attendance incentives activities and food distribution. We are continuing the Lunch bunch student referral program to work on student behavior and finding solutions moving forward.



Montana's system of differentiation under ESSA uses four federally required indicators plus Montana's own fifth indicator to identify schools as either **Comprehensive, Targeted, or Universal**. This system focuses on providing supports where they are most needed.

Montana ESSA Accountability

1- 4 Federally Required Indicators

- Academic Achievement on Statewide Assessments: ELA/Reading & Math
- Academic Growth on Statewide Assessments ELA/Reading & Math (K-8 Only)
- English Learner Progress
- Graduation Rates (HS only)

Schools identified for Comprehensive Support and Improvement meet one or more of the following criteria:

- are in the lowest performing 5% of all Title I schools in the state;
- have a high school graduation rate of less than 67%; and/or
- have consistently underperforming subgroups.

Every three years, the OPI will identify schools for comprehensive support and improvement beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. The OPI will use data from the 2016-2017 school year in order to notify schools during the spring of 2018.

Shout out and CONGRATULATIONS to our Team!!
Our hardwork and dedication is paying off!!

...*“Congratulations, Stamiksiitsiikin Bullshoe Elem. has officially exited Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) status.”*

Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent
PO Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501
406-444-5643
In-State Toll-free: 1.888.231.9393
TTY Users: 406.444.0235
opi.mt.gov

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
STATE OF MONTANA

Putting Montana Students First **A⁺**



April 3, 2024

Dear Board Chair Brian Gallup and Superintendent Corrina Guardipee-Hall,

Congratulations, **Stamiksiitsiikin BullShoe Elem** has officially exited Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) status. Based on the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and Montana's accountability system using data from the 2022-2023 school year; however, not all of your subgroup(s) are performing at a level above the bottom 5% of Title I Schools in Montana. Stamiksiitsiikin BullShoe Elem has been designated as **Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI)** as established through the annual meaningful determination process for the **Special Education** subgroup(s).

To exit ATSI your school must meet the following criteria:

- All subgroups must perform at a level higher than the lowest performing 5% of Title I schools, as determined in the annual meaningful determination process; and
- Meet growth goals for the year you are in ATSI as well as the following year.

We have developed a report so you can see how your school(s) performed in each indicator. To access the Accountability Detail Report on the Montana Statewide Longitudinal Data System (GEMS) website, go to www.gems.opi.mt.gov. You'll need to be logged into the GEMS Secure side. If you don't have access, request it by submitting the Secure Access Request Form at <https://gems.opi.mt.gov/modules/my-apostrophe-assets/pdf/gems-access-request-form.pdf>. This form must be signed by the Authorized Representative and sent to OPIGEMSHelpDesk@mt.gov. Once logged in, access the report directly at <https://gems.opi.mt.gov/essaaccountability-system>.

For schools identified Universal, the OPI offers support to your school to ensure that the school remains identified as Universal. Specific strategies available to the school include the following items:

- Facilitation of Data Talks to support the gap analysis of the CNA and state assessment data;
- Technical Assistance with developing the Integrated Strategic Action Plan (ISAP), which includes clear measurable goals focused on subgroups;
- On-line courses through the Montana Learning Hub; and
- Ongoing support through OPI-sponsored conferences and website resources.

The OPI strives to be responsive and consistently engage with Montana leaders and teachers as school communities implement improvement efforts that address local priorities. For additional information and guidance, please see the OPI webpage under the [ESSA tab](#), or feel free to reach out to Carrie Kouba, the Improvement and Engagement Senior Manager. Carrie can be reached by phone at 406-444-0864 or by email at Carrie.Kouba@mt.gov.

Please share this letter with your building principal. Thank you for putting Montana students first!

Handwritten signature of Elsie Arntzen in black ink.

Elsie Arntzen
State Superintendent