

Glendale & Big Sky Colony Schools

January Board Report

Submitted by: Rebecca Rappold, Principal

Glendale School Christmas Program



The Glendale Christmas Program was held on Monday, December 20th. The program included; short poems by the younger students, songs by the whole group, as well as two skits, *Santa on Strike* and *A Christmas Story*. Ms. Show, Mrs. Christoferson, and Mr. Wipf had been practicing and preparing for the program that was held in two sessions to ensure all parents, grandparents, and community members could attend safely following CDC guidance. The two session event was hosted by Mr. Wipf, Mrs. C., and Mrs. Rappold. Students, parents, and staff concluded the program with refreshments.



Big Sky Christmas Program



The Big Sky School held their annual Christmas program on Tuesday, December 21 at 1:00 p.m. The students performed two small plays, *Luke Chapter 2* and *Wants a Housekeeper* including songs; *Away in a Manger*, *Little Drummer Boy*, *Up on a Housetop*, *Frosty*, *the Snowman*, and *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*. The program opened with *Oh, Come Little Children* sung by all students in 1st-8th grade with verses in both German and English. Ms. Light and Mr. Wipf practiced and prepared for the program during December and Mrs. Rappold and Mr. Wipf hosted the program.

Between play performances the younger students recited a CHRISTMAS poem where they retold the meaning of Christmas using the letters in the word. Ms. Light and Ms. Finnell (BPS speech pathologist) joined the group via Google meet and Ms. Light recorded the performance for the students to watch at a later time. After the performance, the students, staff, parents, and community members enjoyed refreshments and a surprise visit from Santa Claus!



December Activities at Big Sky and Glendale Schools



Tree Decorating & Team Party

In December, students and staff prepared for the Christmas season with tree decorating and a tea party hosted by Ms. Conway and Mrs. Salois. Ms. Conway provides monthly library/media support services to the Glendale and Big Sky her visits.



Toys for Tots



The Glendale and Big Sky Schools held a pizza and gift party before the Christmas holiday break. A big thank you to Crystal Tail Feathers for coordinating with Toys for Tots to ensure our Colony School's students were included in the BPS Toys for Tots Program and to all the Admin Building Staff for helping wrap these gifts in preparation for delivery to students by the

22nd! The school teachers hosted the pizza and gift party at each school on the afternoon of December 22nd.



iTutor Small Group Tutoring in ELA and mathematics

Glendale School students began their iTutor Small Group Tutoring in ELA and mathematics during the month of December. We had some technical difficulties the first few days that Mr. Holmes and Mr. Kennedy quickly resolved for both the Colony Schools and Babb so that students could join their daily small group sessions using their own devices. Accessing virtual teachers is new to BPS, but I look forward to providing an update to the board of trustees after

the students and teachers at our rural schools have had the opportunity to participate in these sessions for approximately 4-6 weeks. The iTutor Company has been excellent to work with and we hope to see positive results for our students who need additional support.

January Aimsweb Benchmarking

January brings winter benchmarking assessments for ELA and mathematics using the Aimsweb screening tool. In the fall, our colony students took this type of assessment for the first time, and we look forward to our students having an additional opportunity to participate now having prior knowledge of this testing tool. After completion of the Aimsweb testing, Mrs. Rappold and the colony school teachers will meet to check-in with the progress of achieving the principal's goals, as well as adjust instructional programs as needed to support individual student needs.