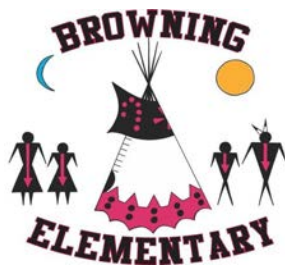


# From the principal's desk: Board Report



March 7, 2023

"When the Geese Return" sāa\*aiks ötsiōtō"pi

## Dates to Remember!

March 1: Reading consultant

Kim Penn at BES

March 10: No school

March 17: Staff wellness day

March 21: BES family literacy  
night

March 21: Math consultant Mary  
Buck at BES

March 31: BES March Madness

## 2022-23 School Focus

As we finished another month of school, we continued to stay focused on our goals. Team members continue to plan out professional development, curriculum maps and implementing teaching and learning in these 4 focus areas at BES:

1. Science of Reading
2. Science of Writing/Handwriting
3. Math plan following Mary Buck's guidance
4. Social Emotional Learning with Conscious Discipline & DESSA

## Science of Reading

Staff continue to learn about the Science of Reading through Top Ten Tools. Through this professional development staff are learning about evidenced based reading instruction to increase their knowledge to impact student achievement in literacy.

In February they learned about Top Ten Tool # 2 on oral language – A Foundation for Literacy. In this tool they gained an understanding of the relationship between language and written language. Here are the learning objectives they learned:

- Identify students whose language skills are weak and increase language learning opportunities
- Plan targeted language opportunities for all students
- Apply teaching methods to increase student engagement through listening and spoken language
- Understand and include appropriate instruction for students whose language skills are strong, but for whom reading is a challenge
- Seek advice from support personnel for students whose language skills are not developing as expected

They have started learning about the next Top Ten Tool #3 on Phonemes - Paving the Way to Print and Meaning. In this literacy tool they are learning why the phoneme (sound of a letter) is so important for meaning.

## Attendance

### For February:

2nd grade: 71%

3rd grade: 76%

Schoolwide: 73%

### Yearly:

2nd grade: 75%

3rd grade: 78%

Schoolwide: 76%

### Homevisits:

**BES conducted 10 home  
visits for the month of  
February.**

## BES Kindness Matters



Mrs. Willie Tailfeathers students spread kindness across the school for February. They wrote kind inspiring words on dragons and delivered them to staff by taping the dragon to their door.



Each week students continue to earn kindness tickets in their classrooms. These tickets are earned by showing kind acts at school. The student with the most kindness tickets in each classroom at the end of the week gets to wear the superhero cap and mask.

On a weekly basis teams are discussing what they're learning, how this applies to improving oral language in their classroom and implementing takeaways using an oral language checklist for Tool #2.



## Science of Writing

In Ms. Jeckell's classroom, students did Fungi research group projects. Students researched specific types of mushrooms found in Blackfeet Country. They learned that there is a fungal network that is all around us, creating a huge circle of life, deaths and growth for living things. They connected this idea to the Blackfeet people and how mushrooms had the same term as stars, kakatoosiiks—since mushrooms were said to be fallen stars that connected to the earth. The students learned the value of fungus to indigenous peoples, and how today there are so many uses.

This lesson directly connected to the ELA big ideas for two weeks of “Overcoming Challenges” and “Inspiration” and we used that to connect to our IEFA essential question of “How did Indigenous people utilize the land to overcome challenges?”

The class talked about how the mushrooms had many uses such as food, poison, antibiotics, ointments, insect repellent, soil regeneration, dyes for color and so much more.

This project was then reflected on by the students in Mr.Rink's class at Buffalo Hide. They came over to BES to analyze the posters created by Ms. Jeckell's students. They did a gallery walk and left reflective post it notes. The students loved the feedback and that people took time to learn from their work!



## Math Plan

For the month of February, grade level teams worked together to plan and collaborate for increasing student math proficiency. In addition the teachers continue to follow the Eureka Math implementation and the feedback of next steps from Mary Buck's last math visit.

In Mrs. In Kennedy's third grade class, students built bridges for STEAM Day. They learned how to work in teams and how to design their own bridge applying their knowledge using math and science.



## Instructional Coach Support by Arlene Wippert

The Aimsweb Reading and Math data was shared with BES staff. This included 2nd and 3rd grade as a whole along with subgroup data. The progress monitoring data reported on PDSA's along with explicit instruction with our intervention using SIPPS has helped move along our increase of tier 1 for both grade levels in reading. The grade levels made goals to increase tier 1 and decrease tier 2 in reading.



## Staff Wellness

We treated our staff to a “fill your cup” morning event with coffee, hot cocoa or hot tea.

On the wellness day, BES staff was treated to fry bread and chili. A huge shout out to Jacky Makes Cold Weather and Michelle Tailfeathers for cooking this great treat for our staff.



On our staff wellness day some staff members met in the gym to play basketball. Others chose to sew in the library to make ribbon dresses.



Seven out of eight of our core Walk to Read groups are moving into SIPPS Challenge level. The focus of this level is the polysyllabic/morphemic phase. Students learn strategies for decoding and spelling words with more than one syllable that includes the six syllable types, syllabic generalizations, and morphological unit, including prefixes, roots, and suffixes.

The coaches were privileged to receive dyslexia training that defined severity on a continuum. A way to support students is through explicit, systematic instruction. Our instruction here at BES is explicit and systematic, therefore we are providing the best intervention/support for students who show signs of dyslexia.

The beginning of February had teachers finishing up their first 3rd qtr. PDSA cycle and progress monitoring with LWSF, NWF, or ORF. This cycle has progress monitoring with Oral Reading Fluency off grade level for those groups who mastered nonsense word fluency. The second 10 day cycle started and progress monitoring occurred with the same measures from Aimsweb.

The coach continues to provide support for implementation of Challenge level for core Walk to Read groups. Walkthroughs continue to focus on opportunities to respond and types of questions asked within content areas.

## PBIS, Attendance, Student of the Month by Ms. Little Plume

At Browning Elementary we love to celebrate our students, and for the month of February our Students of the Month for 2nd and 3rd grade are: (insert here). These students are recognized for their hard work, dedication and attending school everyday. The students will receive a student of the month necklace, ribbon, and an award. Their picture is taken and showcased at our school as well as put on the district's Facebook page. Here at Browning Elementary we know the importance of students being in school every single day, we work with all stakeholders and provide incentives to celebrate our students. Students are more likely to succeed in academics when they attend school consistently

### February Caught Ya Card Recipients

Here is our staff and students that were caught being safe, earning respect, being responsible and mindful learners.





At Browning Elementary we celebrate our students with 90% or better attendance with a monthly incentive. For February our students will enjoy a refreshing snack and have a dance party.

## Superhero Students

As part of our kindness campaign, we now have weekly superhero students. They are picked by having the most superhero tickets in their classroom. They earn these tickets by displaying the superhero traits of being kind, being responsible and being caring. Below are a few of Browning Elementary's superheroes.

