

From the principal's desk: Board Report



May 9, 2023

"Buffalo Flower Grow" otsii kiissts

Dates to Remember!

May 2 & 3: University of Montana spectrUM

May 9 & 10: Aimsweb spring benchmark assessment

May 15: Staff appreciation day - remote learning day

May 22-25: 1st grade to 2nd grade transition

May 23: BES family literacy night

May 22 & 25: 3rd grade to 4th grade transition

May 25: BES spring concert

May 26: Mary Buck math consultant at BES

May 26: BES cultural day

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 April they learned about Top Ten Tool # 4 on phonics and spelling - Effective decoding and encoding Instruction. In this tool they gained an understanding of the reading brain and the role of decoding in comprehension. Here are the learning objectives from Top Ten Tools they have learned:

- Define Define the phases of word recognition development
- Recognize students' word recognition phases and apply appropriate word level instruction
- Identify the four areas in the reading brain and understand reading activation patterns
- Teach phonics and spelling explicitly and systematically
- Match reading materials to student word level reading
- Build practice activities into phonics lessons

They have started learning about the next Top Ten Tool #5 on Vocabulary - The Blueprint of a Word. On a weekly basis teams are discussing what they're learning, how this applies to improving reading

Attendance

For April:

2nd grade: 77.78%

3rd grade: 79.02%

Schoolwide: 78.41%

Yearly:

2nd grade: 74.95%

3rd grade: 78.02%

Schoolwide: 76.50%

Homevisits:

BES conducted 10 home

visits for the month of April.

instruction in their classroom and implementing takeaways.

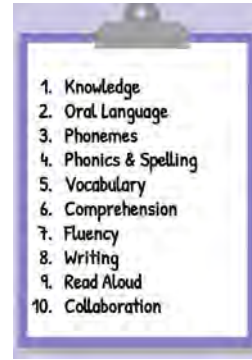
BES Kindness Matters



Students worked on their kindness poster for the superintendent's kindness poster contest. The kindness poster focused on the theme: What kindness means to me.

Parent Teacher Conferences

We held parent teacher conferences April 11th and 13th for the third quarter. The conferences focused on sharing how their child is progressing, sharing data and areas to help their child for the remainder of the school year.



Math Plan

Mary Buck made a school visit to BES on 4/27/23. While at the school she worked with the principal and instructional coach to do walkthroughs and model in classrooms. Discussion centered around our June SBE plan to determine our work together this summer. We created a Google Form survey to get staff feedback on math areas we need to address this summer.

Instructional Coach Support by Arlene Wippert

The month of April was very short. Our teachers are currently in their 4th quarter 2nd cycle PDS A. Student progress monitored on 4/12 and 4/13. The data supports progress monitoring for oral reading fluency for some walk to read groups who showed growth within norms. The teachers met with parents/guardians and explained the progress monitoring measure used during walk to read at Parent Teacher conferences.

The coach attended Jim Knight's Instructional Coaching Summit virtually. He spoke about the Seven Principles for True Partnership that attempt to create conditions for dialogue. The coach gave a google survey with the 7 principles (equality, choice, voice, dialogue, reflection praxis and reciprocity). The form asks a series of questions in which teachers rate themselves. The next step is to share the results with the teachers and see our strengths and where we need to improve within our teams to continue to create the conditions for dialogue. The coach has met with teachers about data and moving forward with using the oral reading fluency for progress monitoring. The coach continues to support teachers with modeling, assessing, and student growth.

Science of Writing

For the project based learning (PBL), both grade levels started their PBL benchmark project #2 on silent voices. This PBL focused on the experiences of the "silent Pikuni voices" in the 1800's. Teachers provided model texts through short stories of Niitsitapi, Blackfeet, Pikuni, Blackfoot Confederacy, Pikuni women, leadership groups, and children. Students read and wrote what they learned to create

a finished project that they shared with their families at parent teacher conferences.

Silent Voices

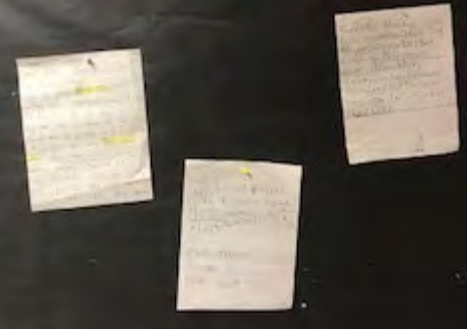
Each classroom worked on their silent voices project since March with completion of the first silent voice by parent teacher conferences:

Ms. Grant's class read and wrote about Eloise Cobell. They used Keynote on their iPads to draw and make multiple colored pictures of Eloise Cobell.	Ms. Craig's class read and wrote about Carol Murray for their silent voices project.	Ms. Calftail's class read and wrote about Susan Webber.
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Shelly F. 3/24/23
 Eloise Cobell raised on the Blackfeet reservation in Montana. BIA mismanaged money on the Blackfeet reservation. She was a Blackfeet warrior. She opened a bank. She was born on November 5, 1945 on the Blackfeet reservation.



Carol Tatsey Murray



SUSAN WEBBER FIRST STRIKE



Julia
 Eloise Cobell raised on the Blackfeet reservation in Montana. BIA mismanaged money on Blackfeet reservation. She fought the BIA.



Carol Tatsey Murray is an important culture keeper she keeps Blackfeet culture and history in our education. She had to dig a hole in the dirt and she was brave to do it and she was so pretty she is so kind to people she was Blackfeet when she was so brave. Carol Tatsey Murray is a hero because she was a good person she was a teacher and she help students.



Susan Webber is a Blackfeet woman who lived on the Blackfeet reservation. She was born and grew up on the reservation. She was a teacher and she was a good person. She was a teacher and she help students.

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

At Browning Elementary we love to celebrate our students, and for the month of April our Students of the Month for 2nd and 3rd grade are:

2nd Grade:

Aiden Dye - Ms. Calftail
Ollyanna Barton - Mrs. Henderson
Rhaleah Shell - Ms. Craig
Kail Tatsey-Mckay - Ms. Grant
Aurelia Chavez - Ms. M. Augare
Ezekiel Matta - Mrs. Hoyt
Jairus Old Horn - Ms. Stoves

3rd Grade:

Chaselynn Edwards - Ms. Jimenez
Thalia Rutherford - Mrs. Saddleback
Jesslynn McConnell - Ms. J. Augare
Jordan Lazy Boy - Ms. Flamond
Ryzin Ingraham - Mrs. Tailfeathers
Dekedrian Main - Ms. Jeckell
Javon Dawes - Ms. CalfBossRibs
Rhiannon Marso - Mrs. Kennedy



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. Here at Browning Elementary we celebrate our students with 90% or better attendance. For the month of April our students will participate in a field day.

PBIS

For the month of April the DESSA growth strategy is Optimistic Thinking. Every Friday 2nd and 3rd grade teachers during morning meetings have focused on this growth strategy with the students. Teachers continue to utilize their SEL toolbox in the classroom .

Gina Dosch our school based therapist/counselor continues to provide behavioral interventions, SEL support, individual and group therapy, along with staff and parent support. She has completed 223 interventions for the month of April. She continues to provide all necessary interventions for Tiers 1,2,3 level of services.

Kailey Hall, our intervention specialist, helps identify basic needs for our students. She continues to provide support to all students through her Social Skills class. She helps provide materials for students whose basic needs include clothing, food, etc. She collaborated with Sarah Wexler with Essential Eats in Missoula, MT, FAST Blackfeet, and Blackfeet Commodity Office. Kailey has also collaborated with other entities in Montana to donate to our school. Kailey has implemented a lunch bunch during both 2nd and 3rd grade lunches focusing on promoting positive social skills or SEL behaviors. In social skills, students created positive affirmation cards for patients at a local organization . Kailey also had students create kindness posters for the district's Kindness Campaign poster competition.

Our MTSS team works collaboratively weekly to identify and foster social emotional services as needed. We have collaborated with students, staff and parents to identify student needs and develop successful strategies. The assistant principal and school based therapist collaboratively works with Kelly Wilson a behavior analyst/therapist with 4 Abilities on behavior intervention plans with students.

April Caught Ya Card Recipients

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

learners.



Superhero Students

As part of our kindness campaign, we have weekly kindness 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.



