

From the principal's desk: Board Report



December 15, 2020 Issue 4 "The Cold Arrives" Month iitssto' yii

Dates to Remember!

Dec. 15th: BES Family partnership via Google Meet

BES Clubs:

Now that students have a device and are getting familiar with them. Students can join and participate in clubs via Google Meet. We are in the process of starting our clubs at BES. Here are the clubs students can join:

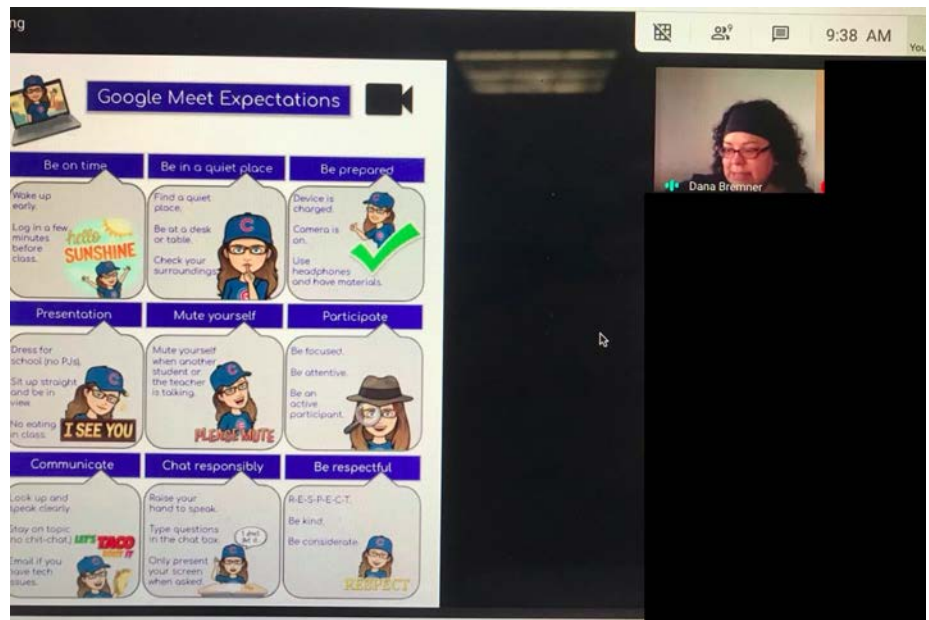
- Amskapi Pikani Pokaiksi/Culture Club with Arthur Westwolf
- Garden Club with Kim Tatsey-Mckay
- Chess Club with Arthur Westwolf
- Beading Club with Amanda Whiteman
- 100,000 word club with Jimi Champ
- STEAM club with Jimi Champ
- Walking Club with Rebecca Kennedy
- Yoga Club with Victoria McClellan
- Art Club with Heidi Morales

December Focus

This month the BES staff is focusing on getting all students assessed for reading and math to determine mastery of skills they have mastered to determine instructional need. Staff is focusing on teaching the curriculum following the Gradual Release of Responsibility Framework and using explicit systematic instruction aligned to the lesson's purpose in the synchronous lesson. Students will continue to learn how to proficiently use Seesaw for asynchronous instruction to complete assignments and to join synchronous class instruction on Google Meet.

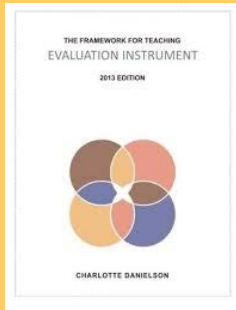
Routines & Procedures

In November our students received their iPads and learned to use new technology for the first time such as Google Meet and Seesaw for Schools. For the first couple of weeks after receiving the iPad the classroom teachers focused on teaching students routines and procedures for their virtual classroom when they are in a Google Meet for class. Here is an example of what that looks like in Dana Bremner's classroom.



Distance Learning

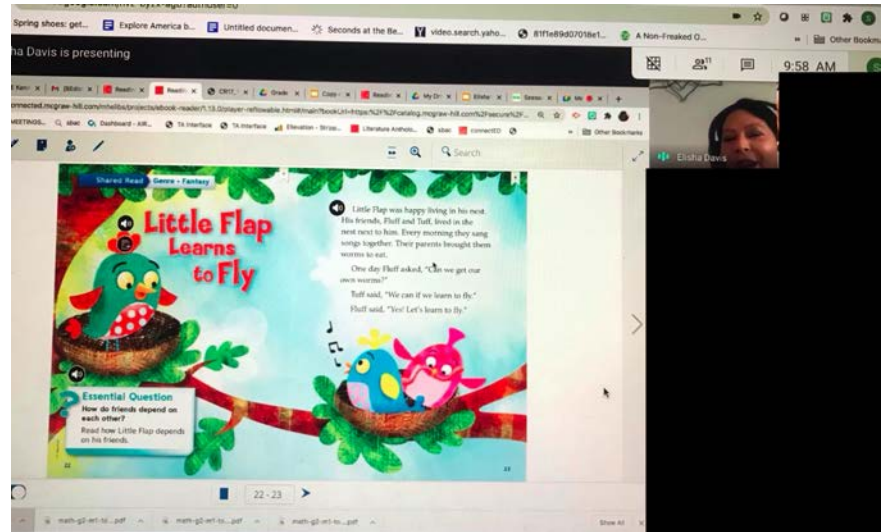
Hot Read



BES staff are evaluated using the Montana-EPAS state model using the Framework for Teaching. With this model and framework the focus is to promote a growth model in supporting teachers to achieve their instructional goals. The Framework for Teaching provides clear feedback to teachers from observations and evaluations to foster continuous professional growth.

BES staff are teaching students on a Google Meet to teach reading, writing, math, science and social studies. A lot of prepping and planning goes into preparing lessons in advance for students. To deliver instruction over the internet teachers are learning to use new technology and applications to engage students in grade level content.

To check for understanding of content learned, teachers are using formative assessments such as exit tickets to assess learning from the lesson that was delivered online to determine next steps for instruction. Informal assessments such as observations, use of whiteboards, sharing their iPad screen and work samples posted on Seesaw are being used to determine students' understanding of the content.



Seesaw For Schools



This past month the teachers have been teaching students how to use Seesaw for Schools.

In Seesaw, teachers have taught students how to use the online journal, how to sign in, how to add a post for their teacher to view, uploading a photo of their work, using the drawing tool and how to find their daily assignments.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent teacher conferences this year were conducted using individual Google Meets with parents/guardians to discuss their child's first quarter learning. Staff contacted families in advance to schedule a 15 minute conference giving families the choice to use a Google Meet or to discuss their child's learning over the phone. We had 80% of parents and guardians attend first quarter parent teacher conferences.

Transfers

Since the beginning of the 20-21 school year we have had 20 students transfer to BES and 20 students transfer out of BES..