

On January 15<sup>th</sup> school was canceled due to extreme weather and the effects it had on busses. The weather forecast for that day was -30°f and a -45°f windchill. The District mechanic made repairs to several busses, the heaters, and heating systems. Two busses stalled and were towed back by drivers. One limped back in as well. All were put into heated bus stall and fuel filters changed out due to clogging with ice and wax. One bus air-door system wiring was repaired and had issues with the sub-zero temperatures effecting the air-door.

Two Extracurricular trips on February 1<sup>st</sup> were canceled due to record setting winds. The ski trip to the Bear Paw Ski Bowl and the junior high volleyball match in Cut Bank were both canceled. The Cut Bank bus was set to go for volleyball at 4:30am and was parked at 5:00am at the high school with driver ready to depart. Forecast was similar to the previous day and evening in Cut Bank with 30 to 40 mph winds gusting to 65 mph. Weather forecast changed at 5:15am with winds gusting to 90 MPH in Browning. I met with coach and driver on bus about 5:45am and together we decided to cancel trip. Wind was recorded at 78mph at Cut Bank airport that day. Several other schools cancelled as well; North Star, Conrad, CJI, Fort Benton, and Big Sandy. Highway 87 was also closed this day near Carter with multiple collisions, and a semi-truck was blown over outside Geysers.

The transportation department has been able to cover all nine regular school routes with the addition of five new to district drivers and support extracurricular programs as well.

- Azure Site -Aaron Aquino
- Duck Creek- Theodore Russette
- Lower Box Elder- Jim Morsette
- Upper Box Elder- Felix Holiquin
- Laredo/ Bonneau- Darrell Sunchild
- Haystack- Corey Chandler
- Parker School- Ruth Four Souls
- Parker Canyon- Michelle Dobrenz
- SPED- Merle Big Bow

\* Evening and extracurricular driver Gregory Ellison

The transportation department has supported high school basketball, junior high volleyball, Business Professionals of American, 21<sup>st</sup> Century, junior and senior high Honor role, High School Senior Trip, elementary trips for dental visits and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter incentive trip to Great Falls, and a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skiing trip.

On Monday January 20<sup>th</sup> there was a PIR day with temperatures reaching 40°f and all busses were washed. The District long time mechanic retired effective January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020. There have been several costly repairs made to busses with Laredo bus needing to be towed and transmission TCM (Transmission Control Module) being replaced after pre-existing issue was diagnosed, a Head Start bus has a stuck exhaust valve and is in Havre as well. The Duck Creek bus had several issues repaired as well as ECM (Engine Control Module) issue resolved. Several ECM units have been removed and swapped out from an inoperable bus and a new motor onto the Duck Creek bus and Haystack bus which may have contributed to the mechanical issues. The Haystack bus is operable and is awaiting parts. Several vendors from Havre have been able to repair and do preventive maintenance on busses as the District searches for a new mechanic. A vendor has also visited and may bid on repairing large MCI travel bus, two yellow route busses, and two Head Start busses that are all currently inoperable.

We have had some absenteeism due to illness and bereavement leave.