

Babb Elementary Board Report
February 28, 2023

From Babb Lead Teacher Jo Ann Powell-

February was a busy month. We had our monthly visit from GNP Rangers. Students learned about how a fire can generate forest growth by removing low-growing underbrush, cleansing the forest floor of debris, opening it up to sunlight, and nourishing the soil. We had our Valentine's parties in the classrooms. We celebrated 100 Days by bringing in 100 of something from home. With all the students we had 1000 objects. We also had a fun day in the gym where students had the opportunity to participate in cornhole, ball toss, basketball shoot, hula hoop, and jump roping. Fun was had by all. Thanks to our two volunteers, Kara Reid and Fon Loehndorf, we were able to have all five stations. Our big event was skiing at Teton Pass. The students did amazing. For most of the students it was their first time. Many can't wait to go again!

Mrs. Augare's 3rd-6th grade classroom-

On February 13, we had Family Read Night where we wrote Valentine Poems. On the 14th during tutoring, we were treated to a chicken dinner, Thanks Heidi Bullcalf. We also decorated heart shaped sugar cookies. On the 17th we went to Teton Pass for a ski trip. All the kids had a great time.

We want to take a moment to provide a Shout Out to all of our wonderful volunteers- parents, guardians, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and community members. You all provide us with such a valuable supervision assistance resource and support for our students. Also, your participation is difficult to quantify, you can't see it in a data spreadsheet or in a powerpoint presentation but you can feel it when our students are experiencing success while developing that pride that supports the growth in their positive personal identity.

From the Babb BNAS specials teacher Bobbi Jo Powell-

I would like to share that the 3-6 graders have been working on Blackfeet star stories and constellations. This correlates with what they are learning about in science. They are learning the stories and for some constellation's there is more than one story. An example would be The Big Dipper constellation, which has two stories, one is the Seven Brothers and the Little Sister, while the other story is about the Moon and the Seven Singers. We identified the characters, setting, and the problem/solution, and also discussed the theme (what they learned or what the lesson expressed through the story). They are also learning the Blackfeet names and symbols for the Milky Way and that the Blackfeet referred to it as the Wolf Trail, the Big Dipper, Pleiades, the Morning Star, Sun, Moon, and Many Moons. Next, they will be learning about the design of the tipi, what the top, middle, and lower section represents along with what type of symbols and the correct placement of these symbols. UPDATE: Bobbi will continue as the Babb BNAS teacher for the remainder of the school year. During this time, she will also be mentoring Zoe in developing her foundational BNAS curriculum understanding. Bobbi is also working directly with the teachers in identifying where the BPS BNAS curriculum can support or even supplant

lessons within the adopted curriculum for science and social studies. Our goal is to begin next school year with these lessons identified so that the classroom teachers can implement the BNAS curriculum within their regular science and social studies lessons. A big shout out to Bobbi for these efforts.

We also added a new staff member, teacher assistant Zoe Johnson- Hello, My name is Zoe Johnson. I was born in Canada and grew up just north of the border in Cardston where I also went to school. Graduated from Cardston High School and went directly into college at the Blackfeet Community College and from there I started with the 2+2 program that was offered with the University of Montana Western where I graduated with my Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. Having the opportunity to work in my community where I grew up sounded like a perfect opportunity to get to know my surrounding community better and to help support the next generation. UPDATE: Zoe has been assigned to the K-2 classroom to work with Mrs. JA Powell. It has been a steep learning curve for Zoe but she is a dedicated and hardworking staff member which has allowed her to fit in with the staff but also to begin improving her instructional support.

We are also participating in girls basketball season and our coach is Katie Whitford, thank you Katie for coaching. That's about all we have for now, we will get back to you all next month, enjoy the pictures of our students, families, and staff enjoying being a part of the Babb Elementary Mustang family. UPDATE: Our season will kick off on March 7 and we will continue with games over the following 3 weeks. Shout Out to Katie stepping in to coach, to Jo Ann for being the de facto AD, and to Beth Augare the Napi AD who has done a great job keeping us updated and included. We will be allowing 2nd graders to play along with the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. It is such a community event whenever we have athletic activities so we are very grateful and appreciative to the Board of Trustees for providing us all of these wonderful opportunities.







