



B & B Schools

Baileyville and St. Benedict



The Official Newsletter of U.S.D. 451

December, 2009

Volume 16, Issue 5



December Events

Fri. 12/18 8:30 Junior High Plays

Senior Election & Debate

HS B-ball at Washington

Mon. 12/21 H1N1 shots

Wed. 12/23 Early Dismissal

Shuttle Bus 12:30

Dec. 24-Jan. 1 Christmas Break

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StuCo Sponsors Winter Formal

B&B FALCON FOOTBALL 8-Man Division 1 2009 Runner-Up State Champion



Seniors proudly display their 2009 Football Trophies. Trophies include Bi-District, District, Regional, Sub-State and Runner-up State.

**H1N1 Vaccine
will be given
to students K-12
on Dec. 21
at B&B**

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

SENIORS...

Scholarship application season is upon us, and some of the early deadlines are quickly approaching. Seniors need to check their scholarship packet information for deadlines and stay ahead of the game by completing the applications in a timely fashion.

SCHEDULE YOUR TAX APPOINTMENT SOON...

The FAFSA priority deadline for Kansas 4-year colleges is March 1st. Now is a good time to get that tax appointment so that you can complete your FAFSA by March 1st. Community colleges and vocational colleges need to have your FAFSA information by April 1st.

Keep in mind that you need to use the information found on your income tax forms to complete the FAFSA regardless of whether you have paid your taxes yet or not.

You may start on the FAFSA before your income taxes are prepared. The FAFSA website www.fafsa.ed.gov allows you to save your information and return at a later date to complete the forms. The information is not sent to the Department of Education until you hit "submit." Always print off and keep copies of your completed forms for your records.

Each senior and one of their parents needs to have a PIN number to sign the on-line form electronically. Go to www.pin.ed.gov to order a PIN number. Parents who had a PIN number for an older student may use that same number with any of their students.

The Department of Education will not be sending out paper copies to the school counselors. They want the FAFSA to be completed on-line if at all possible. If you do not have a computer and/or internet services, please consider using one of the computers at school. You are welcome to use the computers in my room or in the library to complete the FAFSA. Mrs. Niehues is available to help you with the form if you have questions.

JUNIOR PARENTS...

We have had a few juniors visit colleges recently. Please continue to do so. If your student is busy during the basketball season, consider visiting during the break between basketball and track. I will be glad to arrange the college visits for the students.

SECOND SEMESTER...

As we look ahead to January, I want to remind the students that they will have three days to make class changes at the start of the second semester. Parents must visit the school to sign the class change form if your son/daughter plans to make a change.

The spring semester is a busy time for testing. Kansas Assessments will be given in March and April to grades 3-11.

Pinatas

The Spanish I and II classes have been busy making pinatas for Christmas. The pinata is part of Mexican tradition and it is used at all celebrations or "fiestas."

The pinata originally came from Italy over 400 years ago. The pinata was used as a game where someone was blindfolded and then they would hang a clay pot in front of them and try to break the pot called an "olla" with a stick. The pot was ugly and plain so people began to decorate them to make them more attractive. Today in Mexico, pinatas are a big business for tourism. They come in many different shapes and types and different materials.

The pinatas are filled with candies and sweets for children. It may also include nuts, fruits and other types of treats. There is a legend that states that the pinata symbolizes evil, and the children are good. When a child breaks the pinata, the goodness overcomes evil and the world receives many blessings (treats). The pinatas are on display in the high school library.

Other activities the classes have been doing are learning Christmas songs in Spanish as well as making their own Christmas cards and making Polvorones, a Mexican sugar cookie. The classes will be caroling through the halls next week and sharing their cookies with the faculty and staff. Feliz Navidad y Un Prospero Año Nuevo.

USD 451 December Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the U.S.D. #451 Board of Education was called to order Monday, December 14, 2009 by President Dale Sudbeck at 7:30 p.m. Alan Schmitz, Steve Sudbeck, Nick Holthaus, Jim Dalinghaus and John Haug answered roll call. Martin Haug was absent. Also attending were Jerry Turner, Bob Macke, Bryan Schmitz, Betty Jones and Carol Hunninghake.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of the November 9, 2009 regular meeting and December 1, 2009 special meetings were approved as presented.

The agenda was approved as amended.

Accepted the general fund financial reports, treasurer's report, claims and payroll for the month of December and transfers to vocational ed and at risk.

Old Business

The board approved the custodian at St. Benedict hours be reduced to 32.5/wk.

New Business

A donation from the B&B Booster Club for the elementary book giveaway and a donation from Robert Macke was accepted.

Senior class to proceed with plans for the class trip to Breckenridge, April 9-12 was approved.

Reports

Jerry Turner's superintendent report included: NEKS Legislative Luncheon is scheduled for January 5, 2010 at Sabetha Middle School beginning at 11:00 a.m., voluntary time off for the custodians over Christmas break, and Baileyville State Bank will supply the Christmas candy for the elementary program this year. Mr. Turner thanked Sarah Feldkamp for making "thank you" cards for Honeyman Ford. Dave Clements has requested to use the facilities to teach college biology through Highland Community College. The board was in agreement to allow Mr. Clements to use the classroom.

Nick Holthaus and Dale Sudbeck attended the Kansas Association of School Boards Annual Convention held in Kansas City, December 4&5 and reported on the meetings they attended.

The board evaluated the December 1, 2009 community meeting and discussed meeting with neighboring boards 442 and 488 but did not set any dates. The board also discussed a bid for carpet for the high school library and tabled the discussion until the report is received from the adjuster on the insurance claim for the water/snow damage on 12/8/09.

Dan Broxterman requested to use both gyms for the annual basketball benefit tournament January 30 & 31. The board was in agreement to allow the use of the gyms for the tournament.

Betty Jones, senior class sponsor, presented the preliminary cost for the class trip to Breckenridge, Colorado.

The board held executive sessions for negotiations and the superintendent's evaluation.

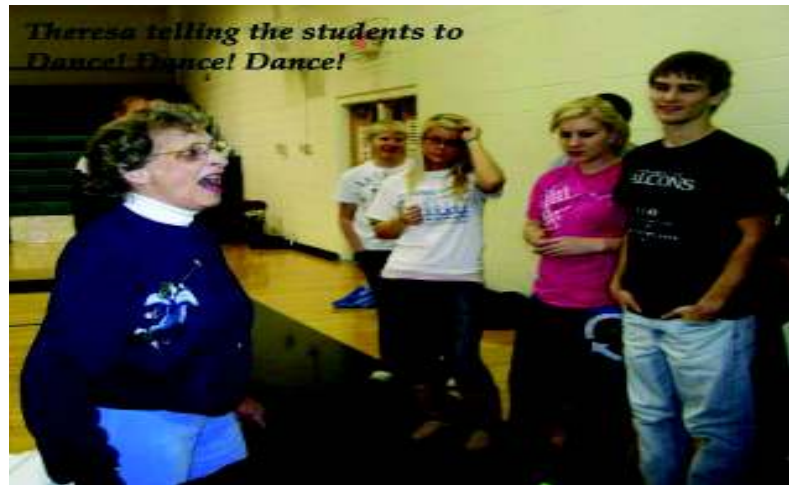
The board commended the high school football team and coaches for finishing the 2009 season as the 1A 8 Man state runner-up. The board would like to thank the Baileyville State Bank, Honeyman Ford, B&B Booster Club, and Robert Macke for the donations. The board also thanked Jim & Katie Dalinghaus, John V. Haug, Dan Heiman and Lynn Kohake for cleaning the snow from our parking lots and sidewalks.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 p.m. with the next special meeting scheduled for January 11, 2010.

SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS

The Board held a special meeting Tuesday, December 1, 2009 to approve the negotiated agreement for 2009-2010 between the Teachers Association of B & B and USD 451 Board of Education.

The Board held a special meeting Tuesday, December 1, 2009 to update the patrons on the status of consolidation.



Sophomores and Juniors gave a photo of St. Theresa to Theresa Rettele for teaching them to dance.



StuCo Sponsors a “Snowflake Soiree”

Promoting the theme “Snowflake Soiree,” the Student Council decorated the commons area with a giant snowflake arch to help kick off the holiday season as they hosted the Winter Dance on the evening of Sat. Dec. 12. White balloons and delicate snowflakes adorned the ceiling.

Everyone enjoyed dancing to the music of Good Times Entertainment. StuCo provided punch and cookies for refreshments, and some of the parents of the student council officers chaperoned the dance. Christmas gifts were given away at the end of the night. Kayla Strathman won the girls’ prize which was a cozy, soft robe and a \$75 gift card. Kyle Mueting was the lucky guy who won the \$100 Wal-Mart gift card.

Everyone agreed it was one of the best school dances ever. One of the sponsors commented that the impact of Theresa Rettele’s dance lessons is certainly evident in the dancing ability of some of our students.

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