

# WELCOME TO SPRING TIME AT BEN STEELE!

## March Events

- 3 - Ben Steele 3rd Anniversary of the Groundbreaking from 2016
- 4 - NAEP Testing - Select 8th graders only for this test  
6th Grade Honor Band Tour  
Girls' VB @ BSMS - 4:30 PM
- 5 - 8th Grade Science MontCAS  
Spring Picture Day - Order only  
Girls' VB @ CRMS - 4:30 PM
- 7 - Orchestra Concert @ 7:00 PM
- 11 - Choir Concert @ 7:00 PM
- 12 - 8th Grade String Gala  
Girls' VB @ BSMS - 4:30 PM  
Gala Concert @ Lincoln - 7:00 PM
- 14 - Girls' VB @ BSMS - 4:30 PM
- 18 - Girls' VB @ MCMS - 4:30 PM
- 19 - Girls' VB @ WJMS - 4:30 PM
- 21 - VB Playoffs Begin - Schedule is TBD for the Tournament
- 26 - VB Championship Game - Location TBD
- 27 - Track Starts for 6th - 8th Grade

## April Events

- 4 - 8th Grade Band Gala @ CRMS  
Band Concert @ CRMS - 7:00 PM
- 6 - Saturday School - 8:30 - 11:30
- 8 - PIR Day - No School for Kids
- 9 - 8th Grade Reading NWEA Test
- 10 - 8th Grade High School Tour
- 11 - 6th/7th Reading NWEA Test  
8th Grade Choir Gala -  
Concert @ Lincoln - 7:00 PM  
Boys' Track @ BSMS - 4:30 PM  
Girls' Track @ LCMS - 4:30 PM
- 12/15/16 - 6th - 8th NWEA Testing

## Ben Steele Breaks Ground

Sunday, March 3rd, marks the 3rd anniversary of the Ben Steele Middle School ground breaking! It's hard to believe that on a cold March afternoon, 3 years ago, we started on this journey to become the newest middle school in Billings. We are proud of all that we have accomplished in just over a year and a half, and are excited about what is to come. Thank you for your continued support of our students and staff. Please read through this Spring Newsletter, and make note of everything that will be happening here over the last three months of school! Happy Spring!

## Spring Pictures & Yearbook Orders

Spring pictures at Ben Steele will take place on Tuesday, March 5th, and are by ORDER ONLY! We will not be photographing all of the students that day, but only those who pre-order online through the LifeTouch website. The website is as follows: [www.mylifetouch.com](http://www.mylifetouch.com). When you order online you must use our school's unique Picture Day ID, which is: JX138321Y0. We will also be photographing any student who was not present for the initial picture day in the fall, so that those students can be included in the Ben Steele yearbook.

Ben Steele Yearbooks can be ordered on the Ben Steele website at: <https://www.billingsschools.org/our-schools/middle-schools/ben-steele>. Please make sure you order online by April 1st! This year, our yearbooks are \$15 each, with some special "add-ons" available for an additional cost. When you use the link on the school website, you must include the yearbook code, which is displayed on the website. **\*Yearbook sales are by pre-order only, and must be in by April 1st!** If you have any questions about the yearbook, please contact the school to visit with one of our secretaries, or Amy Leffler, our Yearbook Advisor.

## April Events Cont.

16 - Boys' Track @ RSMS - 4:30 PM

16 - Girls' Track @ BSMS - 4:30 PM

### 18 - 22 - Mini Spring Break

23 - 9th Grade Open House at West High - All 8th graders and parents are welcome - 6:00 PM @ BWHS

25/26 - 6th - 8th Math NWEA Tests

30 - Annual Hearing Screening

Boys' Track @ MCMS - 4:30 PM

Girls' Track @ BSMS - 4:30 PM

## May Events

### 3 - No School - Spring Day

7 - Band Concert @ 7:00 PM

8 - 10 - 8th Grade in DC/New York

9 - Boys' Track @ BSMS - 4:30 PM

Girls' Track @ CRMS - 4:30 PM

13 - 14 - 6th/7th Grade SBAC Test

14 - Boys' Track @ WJMS - 4:30

Girls' Track @ BSMS - 4:30 PM

16 - 17 - 8th Grade SBAC Testing

16 - 6th Grade City Track Meet

### 18 - Greenhouse Flower Sale!

20 - Choir Concert @ 7:00 PM

21 - 7th/8th Grade City Track Meet

@ Daylis Stadium - 8:30 to 2:30

23 - Orchestra Concert @ 7:00 PM

### 27 - No School - Memorial Day

28 - 6th - 8th Grade Year End Celebrations - More Info Coming!

30 - 6th - 8th Grade Level Awards Assemblies at Ben Steele -

8th Grade - 8:30 to 10:00 AM

7th Grade - 11:00 to 12:00 PM

6th Grade - 1:30 to 2:30 PM

### 31 - Last Day of School -

Students Dismiss at 12:30 PM

## Spring Testing at Ben Steele

Starting in March, our students will begin this year's final round of standardized testing in their core and advisory classrooms.

This year, our school was selected to participate in the annual NAEP test, which is administered to select 4th and 8th graders across the nation. Only about half of our students will take this test on March 4th, and selection was random. If your child was selected, a letter was mailed home to you in February. For more information on the NAEP test, please visit their website: <https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/about/>. Additionally, Ben Steele students will be taking the Science MontCAS (8th Grade only), NWEA and Smarter Balanced tests over the course of the next two months. While this testing can become tiresome, for both students and teachers, it is important that students understand that scores earned will help with future class placements, whether here or in high school. Please help your child by ensuring they get plenty of rest and maintain a balanced schedule during these testing windows.

## Ben Steele Greenhouse Flower Sale

Starting right now, our 8th grade students in Mr. Urbaska's Tech Ed classes are starting their work on this spring's huge May Greenhouse Flower Sale. On Saturday, May 18th, the weekend after students return from the DC trip, our greenhouse will be open to the public for our annual flower sale. Please be watching for information to come home with students so that you can plan to come over that day and purchase your spring flowers! They are perfect for all outdoor landscapes during the spring and summer in Billings!



For more information on the annual Greenhouse Sale, please contact John Urbaska at the school number below.