

The Banfield Banner

Volume XII
Issue 5

January 2022

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January Dates to Remember

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The Principal's Page - Mr. Roland

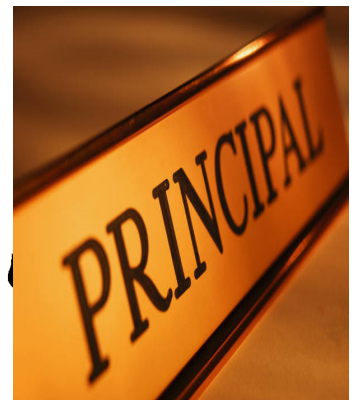
Greetings from Banfield

Welcome back. I hope your break was restful and fun. We will start mid-term testing this month in all grades. More about this on the reverse side of this letter. Please remember that students DO NOT report to school on Monday, January 17th in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. If your student is enrolled at Kids' Korner, please call them for details.

Winter weather sometimes changes drastically for the worse. When that happens, please listen to the local media stations for any news involving school closings for a

day. Sometimes, that posting happens the night before to give folks ample time to make arrangements for their students. That information is also available on the District's web page and is conveyed via a portal message to parents who have enrolled. Please do not call the school as that decision is not made at the site.

We start our month with responsibility as the character trait we will focus on. One such act all students can do is to make ready their school backpack (complete with outdoor clothing) the night before. Before the break we were experiencing an increase number of students who were



forgetting their outdoor items daily. It is a great responsibility character trait to start and will also cause less stress in the morning as you head for the door. Remember the District has the guidelines of not going out for recess if the air temperature is 0 degrees or less and/or -10 windchill.

FOOD DRIVE SUMMARY

Before winter break, our Student Council sponsored a food drive at Banfield. Students and families were asked to donate non-perishable food items during week of school. They set a school-wide goal of collecting at least 2,500 food items to help folks

in the community during the holidays. Students were in charge of not only the daily tallying, but also the displaying, the sorting of like items, and the boxing for pick-up. A day at the dome was the prize if we reached our goal. I am happy to report that we

exceeded our goal! Families donated 3,270 food items during the food drive. Austin Aspires was the recipient of the food parcels to then give out to the community. Thank you to all of you who were able to participate by donating.



With the new year comes changes for Banfield. Ann Weydert, our school nurse for several years, has resigned effective the end of December. The position has been posted and applications are being taken. Once the posting is removed, resumes will be screened and interviews will be conducted to find a replacement for Nurse Annie. In addition to her nursing duties, Ann was instrumental with scheduling and conducting our vision and hear-

ing testing, having social service conduct and both flu shots and dental services for students at Banfield. She did a lot for our students and families and will be truly missed. We thank her for her dedication and service.

Please remember to bring in any meds you were having the school administer during the day if they are running low. Please call us at 507-460-1202 if you have any questions on remaining meds on hand. Thanks.

The Banfield Parent Teacher Committee usually meets the second Monday of each month and is always looking for more parents to join. January's meeting is scheduled for the 10th in the media center at 6 pm. Parents with students enrolled at Banfield are welcomed. Please consider joining. If you have any questions, please contact the school office at 507-460-1200 for more information. Thank you for your support.

At the lockers in the 3rd grade hallway, "Why do vacation weeks go by so fast and school weeks go by so slow?"

It is hard to believe that we are already at the mid-term mark of the school year. Last September, students took an assessment that determines their baseline for instructions and predicts their expected academic growth for the year. A similar assessment is given in January as a way to monitor and

check on their growth to date. Students in 1st grade will be taking the Fast Bridge test while students in grades 2, 3, and 4 will be taking the Scantron test. This round of assessments will give parents and teachers an overview of individual's progress and any areas of concern. Teachers can then craft their instruction to address the

individual student based on the testing data gathered. The results of both the fall and winter tests will be available to parents to compare during our parent-teacher conferences in February. It is a great time to review progress/concerns and to formulate any new academic goals for the remainder of the year.

MID-TERM TESTING

Misc. News and Announcements



Our early release date for January falls on Friday the 14th. School will dismiss at 12:30 that afternoon after all students have had lunch. Kids' Korner will be open at 12:30 for those students enrolled in the program. Buses will run their usual routes; approximately 2 hours earlier.

Dismissals on the playground side of the building are really congested. We have a lot of vehicles plus a bus and not a lot of parking on the street. If possible, try to pick up on the school side of 2nd Avenue. If you are on the other side of the street, please walk your student

across the street. There is a lot of traffic, both school pick-up and non school traffic using 2nd Avenue. As the snow on the boulevard gets piled up, visibility lessens when students try to cross alone. Give yourself extra time at dismissal and remember safety first.