

# SMS Newsletter

March 2021



## March Core Value: Humility

*At Sacajawea, we are a compassionate community that honors grit and celebrates growth in order to face the future with a level head and a critical eye.*

## Principal Thoughts

A lot is happening this week--the beginning of Trimester 3, Trimester 2 grades posted on Friday, and the beginning of our Spring Break. We are now two-thirds of the way through this most memorable year.

With the return to full-time in-person school for five weeks, we are definitely hitting our stride with our instruction and learning. Teachers have prioritized their standards and are highly focused to provide meaningful instruction and learning opportunities for the students. Each day is important, each assignment of value, each assessment an opportunity for students to both demonstrate their learning and also identify what is yet to be mastered.

Take time at the end of the week to sit with your student and review their scores from the past trimester. Our standards-based reporting will provide information on each of the academic standards presented during the term for each class. Additionally, the attribute scores will show your student's demonstration of organization, perseverance, engagement, and the universal expectations. Combined, these scores in each class should provide meaningful information to your student and you on his/her progress through the course of the term.

Concurrently, we begin the final term of the year with the students having the opportunity to further their growth. Reviewing the report card with your students provides the chance to consider areas of improvement during the remainder of the year.

Thanks for your work in supporting your students in all areas of growth.

*Gordon*

## School-within-a-School Parent Meeting

For the past four years, Sacajawea has provided a smaller team setting designed for students who may learn best in a non-traditional setting. The intention is to address the unique needs of kids who may not perform at their best in the seven-period, 48-minute class model. Team Glacier, one of two SWIS teams at Sac, will present information on their team model to interested *parents of current sixth-graders*. If you feel this may be an appropriate structure for your seventh-grader next year, please join us at **6:00 pm on Thursday, April 1**, in person or online for more information. Details to follow with a link to join online.

## On-Going Health Protocols

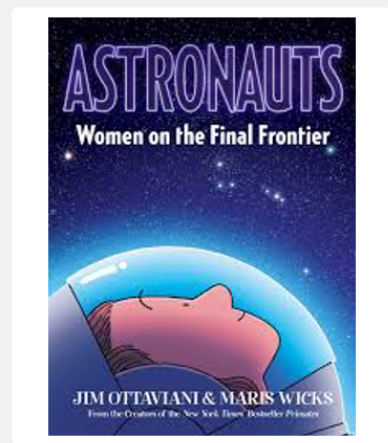
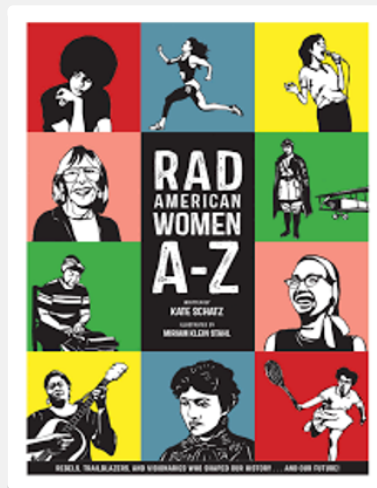
With the return of in-person instruction, we have continued to maintain a high level of safety at school. Although social distancing is not available at all times during the day, all students and staff continue to wear masks throughout the day indoors--with the exception of eating at lunch. We encourage our students to wash their hands frequently, use hand sanitizer, and practice distancing when possible. We also continue to thoroughly clean frequently-used locations throughout the school.

*Thank you for reinforcing these habits with your students.*

## March is Women's History Month!

Visit the **SMS library** to check-out titles celebrating the contributions women have made and continue to make!

<https://myhero.com/women>



## Read Across America Success!

On March 2nd SMS students participated in Read Across America via Zoom by reading to younger students in far-flung states such as Illinois, California, Indiana, Maine and Colorado.



## Bozeman Schools Foundation

Dear BSD7 families: We are thrilled to report that, with your generous support, we raised \$28,000 through the Pack the Sack fundraiser and presented the check to the Gallatin Valley Food Bank earlier this week. We began this fundraiser last year because IT'S HARD TO LEARN WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY! The money helps pay for KidsPacks, bags of nutritious food that go home with kids in need at the end of the week. We are humbled by your support.

With gratitude,

*Judy Slate*

Bozeman Schools Foundation Director

<https://bozemanschoolsfoundation.org/>



## Project Connect

**Have you wondered what the blue-vested volunteers are doing at SMS in the mornings?**

Those blue-vested individuals are Project Connect volunteers.

Project Connect is a group of volunteers who strive to make all students feel welcome and safe at the Bozeman public schools. Founded in 2019 in response to the school shooting in Parkland, FL. Project Connect is a simple and great way to impact our school environment.



- Volunteers greet students in the mornings at SMS, serving as a welcoming, friendly face and helping students feel connected.
- Volunteers attend a mandatory training session (in-person or online) and must complete a BSD background check.

For more information about Project Connect, visit this website: <https://projectconnectmt.org/>

To learn more about Project Connect at SMS or to sign up for training, please contact *Anne Gibson*: [magnoliacottage.ag@gmail.com](mailto:magnoliacottage.ag@gmail.com), 586-2583.

WE ARE WORKING TO TRANSITION BSD7  
SCHOOLS BACK TO HOT MEALS. THIS  
MEANS...

## FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES IS HIRING!

### LOOKING FOR A PARENT-FRIENDLY JOB?

PART-TIME AND FULL-TIME OPENINGS  
SUMMERS & BREAKS OFF!  
BENEFITS AVAILABLE!  
FUN & REWARDING WORK ENVIRONMENT!

APPLY ONLINE AT [BSD7.ORG](http://BSD7.ORG) OR  
EMAIL [BRITTANY.SELVIG@BSD7.ORG](mailto:BRITTANY.SELVIG@BSD7.ORG)  
FOR MORE INFO

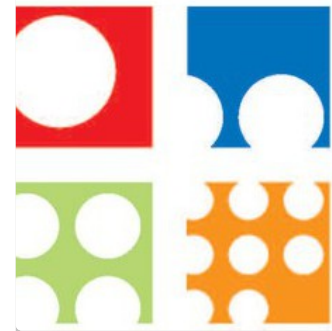


## Thrive

### Screens and Sleep

Did you know that Smartphones were designed to addict the brain? Add to it our kids' constant desire to connect with peers and we have a recipe for sleep disturbance.

What is a parent to do? Keep screens out of kids' rooms at night. I regularly hear parents say their child takes a phone with them to bed. This result is a groggy teen, struggling to wake up on time.



The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that a middle schooler needs 9-11 hours of sleep per night. As a parent we can't always ensure that our kids are getting that full amount. We can, however, strongly encourage our children to 'park' their devices in a central location, outside of their bedroom at night.

For these and other parenting tips, contact your **SMS Thrive Parent Liaison:**

*Ashley Mares-Jones*

[ashley.maresjones@bsd7.org](mailto:ashley.maresjones@bsd7.org) or by phone at 813-1617.





**MONTANA**  
CRISIS RECOVERY

**ARE YOU WORRIED  
ABOUT COVID-19  
AND ITS IMPACTS ON  
YOUR STUDENT AND  
YOUR FAMILY?**

**FREE COVID-19 SUPPORT**

**IT'S FREE, ANONYMOUS,  
AND CONFIDENTIAL!**

Everyone is impacted by the effects of COVID-19. Thousands of Montanans are facing challenges unlike any they have ever experienced. If you are experiencing emotions such as anxiety, depression, stress, sadness, or fear, you are not alone. Seeking support resources, education, and simply reaching out are all positive steps that you can take.

**WHAT WE DO:**

- Listen without judgement
- Offer emotional support • Comfort, console
- Offer information and education on stress and coping
- Direct callers to additional support and community resources
- Provide complete confidentiality – this is a free service, and you will never be asked to give your name, asked for health insurance, or asked to pay a fee of any kind

Montana Crisis Recovery is a COVID-19 specific Crisis Call Center. A Crisis Counselor will offer free and anonymous support and is just one call away.

**For more information, please call (877) 503-0833  
or visit [montanacrisisrecovery.com](https://montanacrisisrecovery.com)**

**HOURS OF OPERATION:** Monday - Sunday 10 AM-10 PM

If you are having thoughts of suicide, please contact (800) 273-TALK or (800) 273-8255. You can also text "MT" to 741741

## Box Tops For Education

**Did you know Sacajawea Middle School is part of the Box Tops for Education program?**

It has changed to a mostly digital program. Traditional clip out Box Tops are being phased out but you can still send them to school (make sure it doesn't say scan) to be turned in to the library.

The new process is so much easier!

1. Get the free new and improved **Box Tops mobile app** on your phone
2. Buy your groceries and ask for the receipt
3. Get into your car and take pictures of your receipt (within 14 days) with the app.
4. It will find any qualifying products and give 10 cents for each one to the school.

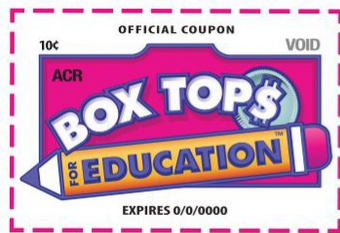
The money adds up and is used to enhance the book selection at our library.

It costs you nothing but 30 seconds of your time and you can help ALL the students at your child's school. Encourage your friends and relatives to do the same.

On the Box Tops for Education website, you can find coupons and special deals.

Thank you so much for giving back to others!

*Your PAC Team & SMS Library*



SEE THIS...  
**CLIP IT**



SEE THIS...  
**SCAN**  
YOUR RECEIPT

## WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!

BEFORE YOUR CHILD HEADS OUT THE DOOR FOR SCHOOL  
CONDUCT A HOME HEALTH SCREENING

### STAY HOME

if he or she is experiencing one or more of the following:

- Fever or chills – temperature greater than 100.4°
- Cough
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and/or smell
- New runny nose or congestion
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19

**NOTIFY SMS – 522-6400**

IF YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE OR IS IDENTIFIED AS A  
CLOSE CONTACT OF SOMEONE WITH COVID-19





**AT THIS TIME**  
**ANY STUDENT**  
**CAN HAVE A FREE**  
**MEAL**

***YOU MUST TAKE THE FOLLOWING FOR  
YOUR MEAL TO BE FREE:***

FOR FREE BREAKFAST:  
ENTREE  
FRUIT  
MILK (OPTIONAL)

FOR FREE LUNCH:  
ENTREE  
VEGGIE/FRUIT  
MILK (OPTIONAL)

***ALL OTHER ITEMS WILL BE  
CHARGED TO STUDENT ACCOUNTS***

Free meals also available for curbside pickup at all schools (excluding GHS) M-F 9:30-10:30 on remote learning days.



# REMOTE MEAL PICK UP

MENUS: [BSD7.NUTRISLICE.COM](https://bsd7.nutrislice.com)  
QUESTIONS?  
CALL: 406-522-6381  
EMAIL: [BRITTANY.SELVIG@BSD7.ORG](mailto:BRITTANY.SELVIG@BSD7.ORG)



- FREE GRAB-N-GO MEALS AVAILABLE FOR CURBSIDE PICKUP DAILY, FROM 9:30-10:30 AM AT ALL SCHOOLS (EXCLUDING GHS - GO TO MEADOWLARK)
- NO PREORDER NECESSARY
- GRAB-N-GO BREAKFAST ALSO AVAILABLE AT:
  - BHS
  - CHIEF JOSEPH & SACAJAWEA
  - IRVING, WHITTIER, HYALITE
- STUDENT DOES NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT
- FREE TO ANYONE 18 & UNDER

## Upcoming Dates

### March

- 15 - 19 Spring Break

### April

- 1 School-within-a-School Parent Meeting, 6:00 - 7:00 pm
- 8 Spring Conferences, **no school**
- 9 PIR Day, **no school**



## Sacajawea Middle School

📍 3525 South 3rd Avenue, Bozem... 📞 406-522-6400  
🌐 [sms.bsd7.org/](https://sms.bsd7.org/)



