



**SCHOOL STARTS AT 8:20
STUDENTS SHOULD BE DROPPED OFF NO
LATER THAN 8:15 TO BE IN CLASS ON TIME.**

Principal's Corner

Happy Holidays! As we enter into the holiday season, it is also a recognition that we have completed the first trimester of the year. Report cards will be provided at the upcoming student-led conferences on the evenings of December 8 and 10.

At the conferences, the students will be guiding a conversation with you about their learning during this past term. Information about each class will be shared as well as examples of their work. The focus at these conferences is the improvement they have shown and the concepts and skills they have learned. Grades will be shared, but students will primarily review their learning—accomplishments, strengths, and challenges. They will also identify commitments they have made for the remainder of the year. These commitments will be habits and behaviors that will further improve their success in the coming terms.

Advisory teachers will be available during the formal conference discussions; additional time to visit other teachers will be provided that evening as well. Come ready to have a meaningful discussion with your child about his or her learning and ways that you can further support him or her.

We look forward to seeing each of you at the conferences.

≈Gordon Grissom≈

Sacajawea MS Renovation

With the passage of the bond vote, the district is moving quickly ahead with plans for the Sacajawea renovation and expansion. A team from the **A&E Architectural Firm** has been developing plans and meeting with a representative advisory committee for the past several weeks. They have **identified** some **innovative and exciting ideas** that will both honor the values of Sacajawea and its culture as well as provide even greater opportunities to support our students.

A Community Forum will be held on Thursday, January 14, to share the design. Plan to **join us** that evening.

Food Drive

The **student directed food drive raised 1650 pounds** of food for our local food bank. **Three times** that amount of food **leaves the food bank** each day. Our delivery was made on 11/20 as part of the **Can the Griz/Cats** effort.

PAC News

THE PAC NEEDS A TREASURER! If you are interested please contact **Gary Hellenga** at gary.hellenga@gmail.com for more details.

Mackenzie River Pizza Night - January 5 – With a Mackenzie River Pizza coupon, our school receives 20% of the bill on dine-in or take-out orders. Coupons are posted each month on the school website.

Santa Run - December 5 - The Santa Run for Education 5k will begin at 10:00 am on Babcock behind the Willson Gym at 404 W Main St in Bozeman. The Willson Gym will highlight sponsors, activities and refreshments (Starky's Authentic Americana) before and after the race. All proceeds will benefit Bozeman, Belgrade and Manhattan Public Schools. The run is hosted by the Bozeman Schools Foundation. Pre-registration for adults is \$25 and day of registration is \$30. Pre-registration for children 12 and under is \$15 and day of race registration is \$20. To register online: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MT/Bozeman/SantaRunforEducation5K>

Volunteers are needed to help with Student-Led Conferences - PAC will be providing a dinner for staff on Tuesday, December 8. We need your help by providing soup, bread, fruit and treats to keep our great staff going during this long day. Sign up www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0448ADA62DA1F94-dinner or contact **Pika Fisher Meyer, Hospitality Coordinator**, pika@bresnan.net, 570-3634 if you would like to help with future events.

THANK YOU for your contributions to our **Contribution Drive** and **Corner Stone Campaign!** PAC has started fulfilling teacher's requests and researching **Chromebook** purchase options. Your contributions have made a huge impact in helping our school provide the best possible education opportunities for our kids. The PAC is grateful for your generous support. Donations are always appreciated at Sacajawea Middle School Parent Advisory Council

PAC Positions that need parent volunteers:
Treasurer: **Gary Hellenga** is moving in January. We need someone to fill the position for the remainder of this school year. For more information please contact **Gary** at gary.hellenga@gmail.com

Vice President: Please contact **Becky Ellig** at k12m09@msn.com

Spirit Wear Coordinator: Please contact **Holly Eiden** at holly@eidenfamily.com

Smarter Balance Snack Coordinator: Organize and find donations of snacks compatible with national standards for the Smarter Balance standardized tests in the spring.

PAC Officers for 2015-2016

Co-Presidents: Becky Ellig: k12m09@msn.com,

Kristin Lauman: kvlauman@gmail.com

Vice President: Unfilled Position.

Treasurer: Gary Hellenga:

gary.hellenga@gmail.com

Secretary: Tamara Knappenberger:

tkknappenberger@yahoo.com

Volunteer coordinator: Julianne Williams:

volunteers4sms@gmail.com

Blanket Drive for

Bozeman Deaconess Hospital & Cancer Center

Give the gift of warmth to cancer patients in need. Throw-size blankets, both homemade and store-bought, are welcome. Choose blankets that are: new and washable – made of a soft fabric, in bright and cheerful colors; throw-size within the following dimensions: min - 36" x 36", max - 54" x 80". Collection dates are Dec 4, 11, and 28 at your child's school. Our goal is 50+ blankets. For more information, please contact *Lindsay Stewart* at [589-5945](tel:589-5945) or lindsaystewart88@gmail.com.

Bozeman Public Library

Parents: Help for your students is on the way! Kids and teens can use their **Bozeman Public Library** card to sign in to **HomeworkBPL** and chat online with a qualified tutor who will guide them through assignments. This **service** is available Sunday – Thursdays from 2-11 pm, and covers many subjects for grades K-12 including math, physics, writing, and Spanish. Access **HomeworkBPL** from any computer or mobile device. **Call 582-2404 for more information or visit www.bozemanlibrary.org/HomeworkBPL**

Attendance Matters!

Every year, school **absences spike** in the weeks before and after **winter break**, as families squeeze a few more days of vacation out of the holiday season. Let's break that cycle. Make sure your child is in **school every day**, because the best gift you can give your child is a good education. If missing school is unavoidable, talk to your child's teachers in advance to create a plan for making up missed work. Please remember, a homework packet cannot make up for the interaction and learning that goes on in the classroom. **Thank you** for doing your part to ensure the **regular attendance** of your student.

Parent Night Bozeman High School

Tuesday, February 2 is the Bozeman High School registration information night for parents/guardians of current 8th grade students. The time is yet to be determined. More information will be coming via emails, flyer and a reminder in the February newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Kenny Bies at 600-5211 or email kenny.bies@bsd7.org

Boy's Basketball

Jan 4 - 7th graders will begin at **3:30** and **8th graders** will start at **5:00**. Teams will be formed by Wednesday of that week. A **parent meeting** will be held on **Thursday - time to be determined** (this meeting date may change). Boy's should have their **sports physical and packet** turned in **before they leave for winter break**. For information email **Mr. Becker** at don.becker@bsd7.org or call **James Maxwell** at the high school activities office.

SMS Library News

The **Scholastic Book Fair** will be held in the library from **Tuesday, Dec. 8 at 7:30 a.m.** through **Friday, Dec. 11 at 1:30 p.m.** The fair will be open during Student-Led Conferences and the Library staff will be on hand to help you with your holiday shopping. **Free gift wrapping is also available.**

Are You Bored After School?

Come and join the **YMCA** for some fun **Tuesdays & Thursdays** right after school. We meet in Sacajawea Middle School cafeteria at **3:30pm** and goes **until 5:30pm**. Each session starts out with a healthy snack. Interactive activities and entertaining games to follow! We also learn some healthy lifestyle choices along the way. Please email montanaeatliveplay@gmail.com for more information and to join.

Box Tops to the SMS Library

Please remember to send your Box Tops to the SMS library. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents and benefits the school library. For more information about Box Tops and participating products, please visit the BTFE.com website. Thank you for supporting the library.

Dates To Remember

December	8	Student-Led Conferences 4:00-7:30 pm
	10	Student-Led Conferences 4:00-7:30 pm
	11	Choir Informances
	21 – Jan. 1	Winter Break – No School K-12
January	4	First day back from Winter Break
	5	6B - Bridger Bowl
	13	Geography Bee, Library 3:30 pm
	14	Expansion Community Forum, Library, 3:30 pm
	18	PAC Meeting 12:00 – 1:00 pm
	21	SMS 6 th B/C/O Concert, Gym, 7:30 pm
	22	Trimester 2 – Mid-Term
	25	PIR Day – No School K-12
	26	PIR Day – No School 6-12
	29	Family Spirit Night

