



<http://ms.bsd7.org/>

## Morning Star School Newsletter December 13, 2013



**Mark your Calendar...**  
"A HOLLYWOOD Holiday"  
Friday, December 20th  
Performances at 9:00 and 12:45  
- doors open @ 8:30 & 12:15

**We are Morning STARs!**

**We Solve Problems**

### Holiday Program

**Take the FREE shuttle from the LDS church to Morning Star and help us avoid blocked access and unsafe conditions. If you must drive...only park in designated parking spaces and observe posted signs indicating no parking zones.**

#### Just a few reminders:

- ☆ THERE IS NO FOOD OR DRINK ALLOWED in the hallways or in the gym due to the difficulty of cleaning up spills. Please finish your coffee before you arrive.
- ☆ Please only attend one of the performances so parking is available for working parents.
- ☆ BE RESPECTFUL OF OUR NEIGHBORS  
NO PARKING...
  - ~in front of mailboxes or driveways.
  - ~in the service area on the west end of the building.
  - ~in front of barricades.
  - ~in the crosswalks or fire lanes.
  - ~in the bus loop...our buses drop off in the morning until 8:30 and arrive for afternoon pickup at 1:55.

### **Cans for our Community Food Drive**

- ~**Goal:** Morning Star strives to collect at least 530# of food and/or 530 food items - one #/item for every student in our school.
- ~Girls on the Run kicked off our food drive by using food collection as the service piece of their participation.
- ~This is the FINAL week to drop off donations.
- ~**We encourage parents/community members attending the Holiday Program to bring one food item to contribute.**

### **Parent Liaison**

Libby Michaud is our Parent Liaison. Her job is to work in partnership with the schools to nurture opportunities for your child's success. She is also available to help find and access community resources if needed. Libby assists parents in developing effective parenting strategies based on your child's

stage of development. Feel free to contact Libby and set up a meeting to meet with her to talk or share concerns. She can be reached at her Morning Star office Mon, Wed, Fridays 8-11:30, or Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30-4:00. To contact Libby call 922-4237, or email her at [libby.michaud@bsd7.org](mailto:libby.michaud@bsd7.org)

### **Altacare**

Altacare is a therapeutic service for students experiencing social, emotional or behavioral challenges in school. We provide individual and group settings to support students in their developmental and academic needs at Morning Star. Altacare staff works closely with teachers and parents in an effort to improve students' experience at school, home and in the community.

### **We Take Responsibility**

#### **Sunset Shovelers and Morning Shovelers Needed for Ice Rink**

**(Time commitment per session about 30 minutes)**

The ice rink team is looking for individuals to help with daily maintenance of the rink.

#### **Sunset Shovelers:** Ice scraping is done just before sunset.

(Thus you will see the time changes throughout the season). This scraping smoothes out the ice and removes the snow, so that Mr. Curtice is able to come and place more water down on the ice getting it ready for the next day. We need people for Sunday, Mon. Tues. Wed and Thursday night. This work involves using a shovel. Times start at 4:30 and as the days get longer slots will start at 5:45 thus corresponding with the sunset. With a team of 4 people this should only take 30 to 45 minutes.

~You may consider asking other parents from your class to choose a day of the week with you and/or take this opportunity to meet new parents while getting a bit of exercise.

#### **Morning Snow Clearing Crew:** If there is snow during the night we need people to help clear the rink before the first H.E. class uses the rink for the day. First class is at 9 am.

This involves shoveling or running a snow blower. This work is not so precise and basically is just to clear the ice so kids can skate. There is access to a 4-wheeler on days that have more snow fall, i.e. more than 4 inches.

~We also need a list of people to be **On Call** for Morning Snow Clearing. We would like to have a list of people we can email or text to help on those mornings.

**To sign-up** to help make the rink a success and an enjoyable activity for everyone, please contact Barbie Huber [barbiehuber@hotmail.com](mailto:barbiehuber@hotmail.com). Please let her know if you are interested in Sunset Shoveling, Morning Shoveling and/or both; she will then add you to the correct list. Those interested in Sunset Shoveling will be sent an invite to sign up for a slot using Sign-up Genius. It is a free, secure Internet tool to help organize groups of people and give automatic reminders. If you do not have access to a computer, but would still like to help, please call her at 406-599-5950. Happy Skating!

### **Morning Star Fit Kids Club**

Morning Star school recently received a grant to start up a Fit Kids Club funded by the Foundation for Healthy Montanans. We are offering 3rd-5<sup>th</sup> graders an opportunity to start their day with some vigorous exercise to get their brains ready for learning. The program will begin in February and run until May from 8:00-8:30 meeting 4 days a week. We are

encouraging students to participate in 90 minutes per week so interested students must participate in 3 of the 4 sessions offered each week.

~More information will be available after winter break. If you have questions please contact Chris Dover [chris.dover@bsd7.org](mailto:chris.dover@bsd7.org). Every attempt will be made to accommodate all interested students.

### Absences (BSD7 Board Policy #3122, 3122P)

If your child will be absent for ½ day (anytime after 9:00 a.m.) or full day please contact the office attendance line at (406) 522-6510. "Excused Absence - Generally, absences will be considered reasonable in cases of illness, bereavement, family vacations, situations resulting from "acts of God" and other emergencies. Other absences will be considered unexcused."

**Thank you for supporting your child's learning by making sure they are at school on-time every day.**

### First Student Hotline

Can be called to get updates on certain buses at [579-2731](tel:579-2731) and we do answer as many calls as we can in the office at [556-8039](tel:556-8039).

### Lost and Found

Please check the lost and found when you are in the building. We have many clothing items and lunch boxes. On a monthly basis, any items without identification will be bagged and donated to one of our local nonprofit agencies.

## We Act Safely

### Ice Skating Rink IS OPEN!!!

K-5 students now have the opportunity to ice skate during their lunch recess. Helmets (skiing, bike, hockey, riding, etc.) are REQUIRED for students to skate (with boots or with skates). Students also need to wear long pants, long sleeve shirts and gloves/mittens.

**Adults must wear helmets when they are on the ice as well.**

### Important News Regarding Helmets for Ice Skating:

It's winter in Montana, and we have a great skating rink! (Thank you Mr. Curtice, Ms. Dover, Mary Black, and all our amazing parent volunteers!) Many of our children enjoy skating at recess and during Health Enhancement classes, and we want to make sure that everyone stays safe.

~In order to ensure that our students have properly fitted and working helmets, skaters must bring their own helmets from home where they have been checked and approved by parents/guardians. Please make sure that you explain the proper use of his/her helmet to your child. Many helmet manufacturers recommend helmet replacement on an annual basis or if there is a fall. Please make sure that you follow all manufacturers' guidelines for the helmet.

~If you are unable to provide a helmet for your child, please contact your child's teacher or our Parent Liaison, Libby Michaud (522-6540). We will do our best to get one for your child; however, you must fit it at home or come to school and fit it on your child's head. Thank you for complying with this important safety policy. Please call our office if you have any questions.

### Dress for the Weather

~When the weather (temperature and wind chill) is near or above 10 degrees we will send students outside for recess, yes even in the snow and light rain.

~As we continue to experience variations in our weather, please send your child to school in weather appropriate clothing and shoes. Children not dressed appropriately (see guidelines in Student Handbook) will be unable to participate in all activities. In particular, K-2 students must have snow gear to play anywhere other than the blacktop.

## We Show Respect

### Be respectful of our start time – 8:30 a.m.

School begins at 8:30 a.m. regardless of the weather. We have supervision on the playground beginning at 8:00 a.m. and we appreciate when your child enters the building ready to begin their day on time. Children who are tardy begin their day at a disadvantage AND impact other children by interrupting instruction that has already begun. Thank you for planning ahead for traffic and the weather, ensuring that your child has every opportunity to begin their day successfully! **IF YOU MUST BE LATE...please enter with your child and sign them in.**

## Updates from the Office

### Healthy Habits Challenge

Just a reminder that our Healthy Habits Challenge runs from Monday – Sunday each week. If your child is participating please have them return their challenge sheet (just for that week) no later than Tuesday. Students are asked to place the sheet in the yellow and green box at the top of stage steps. We draw one lucky participant on Wednesday morning each week.



## Winter Break December 21-January 5

### Bozeman Schools Foundation – APPLE Recognition Awards



Looking for the perfect way to say Thank You? The Bozeman Schools Foundation presents the **APPLE Recognition Award**. An APPLE Recognition Award honors special teachers, administrators, staff and school leaders for their dedication and contributions to excellence in education. Your donation of any amount will honor deserving recipients with:

- A personalized card with a message from you
- Recognition of their honor on the Bozeman Schools Foundation web site
- Acknowledgement of their distinction given to their school principal

⇒For more information about the Bozeman Schools Foundation and to make a donation online towards an APPLE Recognition Award today, visit

[www.BozemanSchoolsFoundation.org](http://www.BozemanSchoolsFoundation.org)

Awards must be received by **December 16th** to ensure delivery before the end of the school year.

## PAC Offering Shuttle for Both Holiday Programs

### Holiday Program Date & Times:

**Friday, 12/20 at 9:00 am & 12:45 pm**

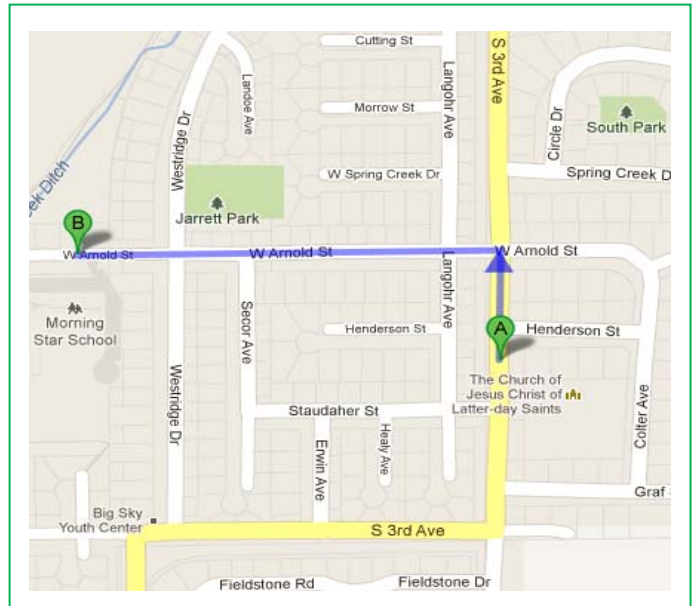
PAC is very excited to offer a shuttle to both the 9:00 am and 12:45 pm Holiday Programs again this year! Families and friends can conveniently park at the **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on Henderson and Colter** (just south of Arnold east of South 3<sup>rd</sup>; *Please see map to right.*) and ride in the warmth of a cozy Karst Stage shuttle to Morning Star's front door. Thank you Karst Stage!

The shuttle will run continuously between the church and school approximately every 15 minutes, as traffic allows. Below is the shuttle schedule:

- **8:00 am** (leave church)
- *Continuous shuttles, approximately every 15 minutes*
- **11:15 am** (last shuttle from school after morning program)
- **11:45 am** (leave church)
- *Continuous shuttles, approximately every 15 minutes*
- **2:30 pm** (last shuttle from the school after the afternoon program)

The bus will be parked on the north side of the church for loading and on the front sidewalk just before the front entrance to the school. The shuttle will accommodate twenty-five sitting passengers and fifteen standing passengers. We hope this will ease the stress of parking for this wonderful, and popular, event.

*Parents, if you drive to the school, please watch for the shuttle and allow it to bring passengers to and from as quickly as possible.*



## Capital Improvement Ideas

Do you have a Capital Improvement idea? Are you willing to champion its development into a proposal? Please visit the PAC website ([www.msspac.com](http://www.msspac.com)) to review the [Morning Star PAC Capital Campaign Policy](#) and other Policies to help guide your development of a capital improvement proposal. Please contact a PAC officer with questions or for more information.

Capital Improvement Proposals should be submitted to the PAC by the December 19th PAC meeting so the financial committee can review all proposals in January. The committee will recommend to the PAC which initiates to pursue, and final decisions made with a vote at the February 20th meeting.

## Dedicated Volunteers & Successful Events . . .

### Spirit Wear

Thanks to **Megan Decker, Kim Scurry - Wiz Bang Hats & Jamey Perlinski - P4 Marketing Group** for all the time, effort and generous support you invested to bring Spirit Wear to the Morning Star Community!!

### Staff Appreciation

Thank you to **Kristen O'Brien, Sara Meltzer** and the **Appreciation Team**, and **parents** who provided meals for the staff during the past few months. The staff repeatedly thanks all who participate and support this special effort. Thank you for all of the time and resources you share to provide these meals to the staff. Thank you also for the special meal you provided the School Board members during their visit to Morning Star.

### Holiday Committee

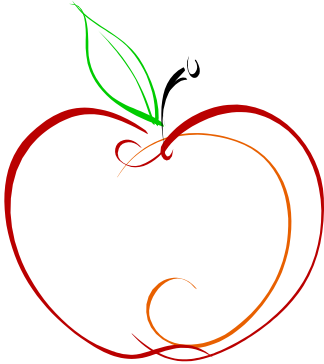
Thank you to **PollyAnna Snyder, Jenni Williams** and all who are participating on the **Holiday Committee**. Your creative energy on the decorations will be a treat for all who attend the Holiday Program. The staff will certainly enjoy the wonderful cookies and amazing Holiday luncheon you are preparing. **Thank you!!**

Mark Your Calendars	
12/19	Thursday PAC Meeting 11:45am - 1:30pm
12/20	Friday - Holiday Program, 9 am & 12:45 pm shuttle transportation available from parking lot of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints just south of Arnold St.
12/21 - 1/5	NO SCHOOL
1/6	Monday - School Resumes
1/16	Thursday PAC Meeting, 11:45 am – 1:30 pm

# Looking for the perfect way to say Thank You or Happy Holidays?

The Bozeman Schools Foundation presents the APPLE Recognition Award.

An APPLE Recognition Award honors special teachers, administrators, staff and school leaders for their dedication and contributions to excellence in education.



Your donation of any amount will honor deserving recipients with the following:

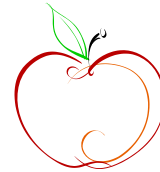
- A personalized card with a message from you
- Recognition of their honor on the Bozeman Schools Foundation website
- Acknowledgement of their distinction given to their school principal



To ensure delivery before Winter Break awards must be received by December 16. For more information about the Bozeman Schools Foundation and to make a donation online towards an APPLE Recognition Award today, visit [BozemanSchoolsFoundation.org](http://BozemanSchoolsFoundation.org) or fill out the information below and mail it in.



## APPLE AWARD FORM



Please Send an APPLE Recognition Award to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your Name (s) as you would like it to appear on the  
Apple Award Card  
(i.e. John and Susan Smith, The Smith Family, John, Susan and  
Jimmy Smith)

Please Complete:

Total Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Awards \_\_\_\_\_

Donor Name (s)  
\_\_\_\_\_

(For acknowledgement and tax purposes)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address Town State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number Email Address

Any special message you would like us to include: