

Dean of Students: Nicole Miller nicolem@mystma.org

Newsletter December 2021-2022

# Big Woods Elementary School St. Michael-Albertville #885 Excellence is our Tradition

### **Principal Message**

On November 11th we celebrated Veterans Day. What a joy it is to honor our military. We have the privilege of learning at Big Woods Elementary School because of the sacrifice many have made for our country. Thank you to those who have made this sacrifice and commitment.

Each morning, we recite the pledge of allegiance. I want students to understand that our freedoms at Big Woods came at a cost to many including community members, families, staff, and people in our military. It takes a village to provide the greatness that I see each day. Thank you for being part of this journey at Big Woods.

#### Winter has arrived

As a reminder, students are required to wear winter jackets, head wear, and mittens/gloves for recess when the weather is cold. Students who play in the snow are required to wear snow pants and boots. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **PTO Garage Sale**

The Big Woods Annual PTO Holiday Giving Garage Sale is this Friday. Students will have an opportunity to shop at the garage sale this Friday, December 10th. This is an optional opportunity. All proceeds will go to supporting families in the community. Thank you PTO and everyone who has donated items.

On Friday, December 10th, all students will be able to shop at the sale. Please send money in a baggie labeled with the student's name and classroom teacher. (*Change and small bills appreciated*).

### **Upcoming Events**

**PTO Meeting - December 6** 

STMA Legislative Action Team Kick-Off December 8 @ 6:00 PM in MW Auditorium

Holiday/Winter Break - Dec. 23 -Jan. 2, 2022 **Big Woods Elementary** 

www. stma.k12.mn.us Grades 1-4 Enrollment 656

> School Hours: 7:45-2:15 PM

13470 Frankfort Parkway NW St. Michael, MN 55376 Phone: 763.497.8025 Fax: 763.497.6563

# **Upcoming Events**

2nd Grade Music Concerts

Middle School West Auditorium: January 25th

6:00 PM - Mrs. Hermes, Mrs. Peters, Mr. Klein

7:00 PM - Mrs. Gavic, Mrs. Skon, Mrs. Sukalski

Arrive 15 minutes before your start time.

# **Big Woods Volunteers (4th Grade)**

#### **Calling All Volunteers!**

We are in need of volunteers daily from 10:00-11:00 or 1:00-2:00 to complete one on one reading interventions with our 4th Grade students. The benefit our students receive from this quick one on one intervention is significant. Better fluency leads to greater comprehension. Please consider volunteering with our 4th Grade students. Thank you!



Big Woods Activities: High School Readers and our 4th grade leaders performing live announcements (The Buzz)



# **Big Woods Caught Being Good**



# **Big Woods Activities and Fun**



# **Students of the Month**



# **Daily Communication**

# **COMMUNICATION**

Breakfast: Breakfast doors close at 7:30 AM each morning. Students arriving after that time will not be able to enter the cafeteria. If a bus is late, students on that bus will still receive the opportunity to eat breakfast.

# Has your contact info changed?

If so, please login to ParentVue and update your info. Pick up login directions for ParentVue in the Big Woods office. This expedites school personnel in contacting you in a quick and efficient manner. Please call the office if you have any questions or need assistance.

# **Bus Transportation Mask Mandate**

The school district is asking for your assistance regarding wearing masks while riding the bus. You may be aware that this is a Federal mandate that the district must follow. Please speak to your child about this requirement and provide a mask for him/her to wear while riding the bus.

Each bus will have masks available for students but we are going through them at an alarming rate and need your help to minimize this expense.

#### **Attendance Procedures**

Please call Big Woods 24-hour attendance line number 763-497-8025, Ext. 1 if your child will be absent due to an emergency, illness or any other reason. If you know your child is going to be absent for an extended period of time, please call the attendance line in advance. It is extremely important to contact school before 7:45 AM each day your child is absent. If we don't receive a call from you by the end of the school day, the absence will be considered "unexcused". If a student has excessive absences, we will contact you in order to both inform and offer assistance in improving your child's attendance. State law requires all school age children must attend school every day that school is in session and our district attendance policy provides us with truancy guidelines and procedures. Thank you in advance for your diligence regarding your child's school attendance.

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# Big Woods PTO

Find PTO on Facebook at Big Woods PTO and "like" them for updates. Contact PTO at <u>bigwoodspto@gmail.com</u> Volunteers at <u>bigwoodsptovolunteers@gmail.com</u>

Thank you for all your support Big Woods PTO!

#### PTO Meetings

December 6th - 6:00 PM @ Big Woods Media Center