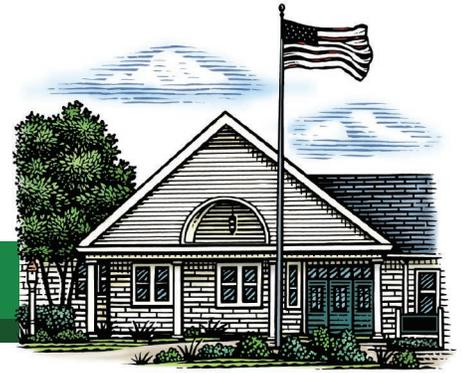


Bannockburn Bulletin

BANNOCKBURN SCHOOL DISTRICT 106

SPRING 2018



Engaging the Whole Family in Learning



Students had fun and increased their love of learning during the recent Math and Reading Night at Bannockburn School.

Learning is a family affair at Bannockburn School as evidenced by the school's recent Math and Reading Night that brought many parents, children, and teachers together at the school for an evening of enriching activities.

"It was a fun and relaxing evening," says school reading specialist Kathy Feldheim. "All the students took books home to continue to read with their parents. The students continue to come to my room to check out more books from the series."

Parents were encouraged to partner read with their children during the event. "Students who read and listen

to books are exposed to a rich vocabulary," Feldheim says. "We want students to grow up to become lifelong readers."

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It needs to be seen as fun and not a chore. Therefore, we want to provide parents support with reading and make it engaging to read with their children."

School enrichment specialist Dana Hughes says this is the second year math has been added to the evening with rave reviews. "Parents commented on how impressed they were with their children's math knowledge, perseverance, use of math tools, and enthusiasm towards the subject area of math," she says.

During the evening, parents had access to a table of resource handouts that included math card game booklets, grade level specific math strategies and information on ways to best support their children at home.

"When students enjoy the beauty of mathematics and notice patterns in the world around them, they are engaging in such a meaningful level of understanding," says math interventionist/instructional coach Jill Becker. "My goal is always to allow students to develop an enjoyment for mathematics at home and in school."



A group of Bannockburn School students listen to "Pete the Cat" during the Math and Reading Night.

Showstopper Performances Highlight *Bye Bye Birdie* Performance

Bannockburn students shined brightly when the school performed *Bye Bye Birdie* as this year's musical production. The show was directed by Music Teacher Liz Ciko and 8th Grade Language Arts Teacher Julia Marran. The show included more than 40 students who participated as part of either the cast or crew.

Students auditioned for roles in November and recess rehearsals began in early December. As the performance dates grew closer, after-school rehearsals were added.

"I am so pleased to see that the arts are valued in our community"

Ciko says beyond the experience of learning to perform in front of an audience, there are many educational benefits of students participating in the musical. "Academically the students are working on cooperative learning strategies, public speaking/presentation skills and drawing connections between societies of different eras," she says. "This experience also is a great additional opportunity to offer our students a chance to think outside the classroom walls and work in a setting that requires a 'team' effort from everyone in order to create a successful production. We involve students in many capacities, including leadership roles like student directors and choreographers. That helps encourage students from all interests to participate. This is an excellent



More than 40 students performed as part of Bannockburn School's production of Bye Bye Birdie.

confidence building and bonding experience for the kids and an outlet from the requirements of their weekly academics."

Ciko says the play was well received by parents and community members. "Some said it was the best production they have seen at the school in many years," she says. "I am so pleased to see that the arts are valued in our community."



The musical was very well received by the parents and community.

Dedicated Service to Bannockburn School

Bannockburn School will be losing 64 years of educational experience at the end of the school year when three staff members retire.

Those soon to retire include Director of Business Services, Karen Emory; Director of Student Services, Peg O'Rourke; and Speech and Language Pathologist, Lisa Worssek.

Karen Emory

Karen Emory has always appreciated the supportive nature of the school's staff and the Board.

Her favorite memories of Bannockburn involve former school secretary Joan Blane. "Joan was the school secretary for about 35 years and was universally loved and respected. She was a real treasure. The heart and soul of Bannockburn School."

Karen believes her biggest impact was helping to move the business office role into a full-time position. "I think having a full time business person at the school has made a huge difference for the staff in keeping up with all the required reporting."

Peg O'Rourke

Peg O'Rourke says there are so many things she loves about the school but at the top of her list is the students. "They are wonderful young people who have a thirst for learning and have loving, supportive families," she said. "I have been fortunate to work with talented and dedicated staff that go above and beyond for students every day."



Bannockburn retirees, from left to right, include Karen Emory, Lisa Worssek and Peg O'Rourke.

Peg cites Response to Intervention as the area that she believes made the greatest impact by helping to provide teachers with a systemic way to review data and make the best educational decision for students.

"I feel blessed to have worked in a school that values education and the whole child," she says. "My hope is that I have made a positive impact in the lives of the students, families and staff I have worked with over the years."

Lisa Worssek

Lisa Worssek believes the hallmark of Bannockburn School is the professionalism of the staff and active involvement of the community and parents.

"The teachers here are caring and creative beyond words," Lisa says. "Teaching should be a team effort and

it definitely is here. Prior to working at Bannockburn School, I had worked in a number of school districts and none held a candle to Bannockburn School."

The speech and language department services a variety of communication needs including articulation of sounds, quality of voice, fluency of speech, comprehension of language, expression of language and listening skills. "I hope I had an impact on encouraging other teachers to use the speech and language services," she adds.



Bannockburn School District 106
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District Continues to Reduce Tax Rate

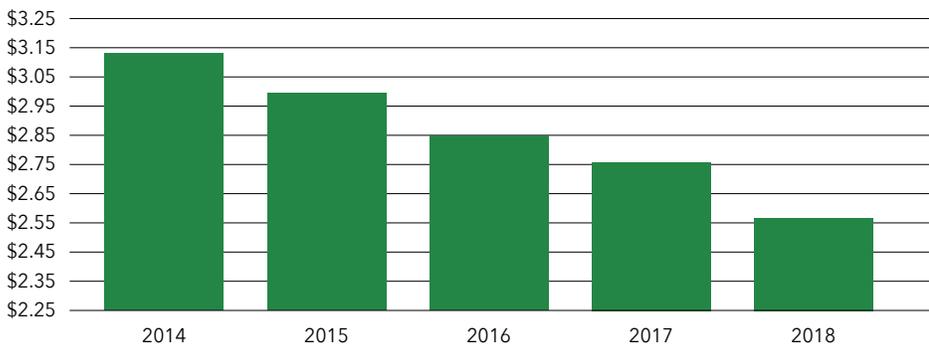
A portion of a property owner’s overall tax bill is allocated to the local school district based upon the district’s tax rate. Since the passage of the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) otherwise known as “tax caps,” a limit was placed upon school districts on how much property tax revenue could be generated.

Under the tax caps, a school district’s property tax extension can increase annually up to 5% OR the rate of in-

flation as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), whichever is lower.

While most school districts take the opportunity to collect the maximum amount permissible, Bannockburn School District has actually reduced the taxes collected over the past several years. As a result, the tax rate for property owners has also been reduced from nearly \$3.15 in 2014 to \$2.56 in 2018.

Bannockburn School District 106 Tax Rate



Upcoming Events

- Wednesday, May 23**
Spring Band Concert 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 29**
Orchestra Concert 6:30 p.m.

Administration

Dr. Scott Herrmann,
 Superintendent
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Debbie Barnes, Principal
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Peg O’Rourke, Director of
 Student Services
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Visit the Bannockburn School District 106 website at bannockburnschool.org to keep up with the latest updates and access the most recent information about the school district.