

Broadwater School
415 Broadwater Ave.
Billings, MT 59101
Phone - (406) 281.6207
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Principal: Joe M. Halligan

"The mission of Broadwater school staff, along with students and their families, is to develop self directed life long learners by providing relevant learning opportunities in a safe, caring environment."

2012 - 2013 Kindergarten Registration has begun! Please call the school to find out more, or go online to register your new kindergartener for the next school year!

www.billingschools.org

March Events

Talent Show @ 7:00 PM Parent/Family Showing	1st
MontCAS Testing Window at Broadwater	1st - 23rd
PTA Meeting @ 7:00 PM in the Gym	13th
Family Fun Night @ 6:00 PM	15th
2nd Grade Musical @ 1:15 PM - For Parents	16th
Purple 5K Race - @ 12:00 PM	25th
NED Assembly for K-6th Grades	28th

BROADWATER BULLETIN

MARCH 2012

Principal's Pen - State and District Tests on the Horizon

As of Wednesday, February 29th, the testing window for the state MontCAS assessment was opened. On March 26th, we will begin the district NWEA assessment in grades 3-6. What does that mean for students, teachers and families at Broadwater School? Ultimately, it is an opportunity for us to demonstrate all that we have accomplished this far into the school year. For almost three quarters now, students and teachers have been working hard, in and out of the classroom, to learn what is expected at each grade level. Progress is being made in all areas, and our staff is very proud of the work that has been done thus far. When stu-

dents enter into a district or state test, they are attempting to, in 2-3 days, demonstrate all that they have done in reading, math and language arts during the year.

How Can Parents Help?

There are a number of things that you can do, as parents and families, to help your students test successfully. Please take advantage of these helpful test preparation tips!

1. Make attendance during the next 2 months a priority.

In order for students to be successful test-takers, they need to be in school as often as possible. Please make sure that appointments are scheduled before or after regular school hours, and that students are on time each day.

2. Ensure students get plenty of sleep/rest each night. A good night's sleep is essential for each child to be at his/her best during testing times.

3. Eating a healthy/hearty breakfast helps students get ready for the day. It is no secret that filling our bellies helps a great deal when starting the school/work day.

4. Be your child's biggest cheerleader! Testing can be stressful and anxiety producing at any level. One thing that you can do to help your child feel successful is to cheer them on. Remind them that they have been preparing for these tests all year, that they know the material and that this is an opportunity for them to shine.

Thank you, in advance, for all that you are doing to help our kids succeed!

Thank You Volunteers!

Our thanks and gratitude is never expressed often enough for those people who give of their time each week to help our students and staff work to accomplish our academic goals. Broadwater School is very fortunate to draw from an incredible pool of highly qualified and engaging volunteers from all different walks of life. This year we have strengthened our

partnership with St. Vincent's Hospital, and they are demonstrating daily and weekly support by providing adults in our school to help with struggling students in reading and mathematics. We are so grateful for this partnership, and hope that we can continue to build this relationship for years to come. Please check out "The

Spotlight" found later in this bulletin! Each month we put the 'spotlight' on two very special volunteers at Broadwater School!



Message from our PTA President

To the Students, Parents and Families of Broadwater School:

What a wonderful year Broadwater School is having! As your PTA President this year, I am pleased with our progress this far. As a group, the PTA is busy year-round planning and hosting social events for our school. Some of these events include Saturday Live, Fall Chili Night, Spring Pasta Night, Breakfast with Your Buddy and Spring Carnival. Our major fundraising event, that was very successful this year, was the Elliot's Cookie Dough.

With your support, this year we have been able to raise money to give back to our school in much needed areas. As a PTA, our desire is to be good stewards of the money that has been donated to Broadwater School, and think you as parents and families have a right to know just where that money goes. Listed below are some of the areas in which our PTA gives back to Broadwater School:

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|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Gym Supplies | New Books for Library | Tears of Joy Puppet Theater |
| Field Day Treats | Water/Snacks for NWEA/MontCAS Testing | |
| Class Pizza Parties | Science Fair | Spelling Bee |
| School T-Shirts | Teacher Appreciation | ALEKS Math Program |
| Busing for Field Trips | 4th Grade Audubon | Family Resource Center |

In addition to these areas, this year our PTA provided funds for the purchase of 10 new laptop computers to be added to the school's wireless lab. We are very excited to support our teachers and kids with the addition of this much-needed equipment!

Do you want to know more about the Broadwater PTA? Join us the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the school gym at 7:00 PM to be involved, be informed and be heard.

Sincerely,

Carol Haskins
PTA President

Family Fun Night - Principal's Pasta Night

March 15th is our next Family Fun Night, and is scheduled for 6:00 PM. Plan to bring your family for a night of great food and fun crafts, sponsored by the Broadwater School PTA and our Parent Resource Coordinator, Sheryl Alpers. The cost of the evening is only \$5.00 per family! Where else can you feed your family and enjoy a fun night of craft-making and family fun?

Because we are so close to St. Patrick's Day, the evening will bring with it a St. Patty's Day theme, so dress in your leprechaun greens, and show your Irish spirit!

In the next day or so, we will be sending home an RSVP form for you to fill out if you think you might be able to attend. This RSVP is to help us get a rough figure of how many people we might expect on the 15th. If you are unable to

RSVP now, don't sweat it, please come and enjoy anyway!

The Details

What: Family Fun Night

When: Thursday, March 15th from 6 - 8 PM

Where: Broadwater School

Why: Enjoy good food and build some crafts for kids!



*"As a PTA,
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Mark your calendars, and join us for a fun night of food and crafts!

C.A.R.E for Our Children in a Changing World

How do you show you care for your children? Do you buy them gifts, give them hugs or tell them often how much you love them? A recent article in NEA Today, Winter 2012 edition discusses a workshop called C.A.R.E. (Culture, Abilities, Resilience and Effort), and how such characteristics offer support for each child's achievement and life success.

1. Does your home have a CULTURE of warmth, respect for each other, and beliefs and traditions that you all can celebrate? Try reading or telling a story each day, eating together, working on a project, watching a healthy show on T.V. or playing outside together. Most kids love outdoors, exploring, digging in the dirt, playing tag or visiting with a friend or neighbor. Be active and creative with your children yet have stable family values you share.

2. Everyone needs at least 2-3 ABILITIES like sports, music, or a special skill to become successful as an adult. Ask your child what kind of job they want to do when they grow up, how they plan to make money, and what things they want. Set reachable goals with them to do chores, study, and give of their time for helping others. Praise their little successes.

3. RESILIENCE is simply "not giving up." Encourage your child to do hard things and to do their best even when others don't. Praise their attitude of sticking with a task, cheer them on and tell them "I believe in you and know you can do it!" Encourage them to ask for help when needed and to never give up if they truly want something.

4. Nothing is gained without EFFORT. Too often we look at what we can't do and give up. Build up your child by noticing little steps towards a goal, and telling them they are getting better with each try. Model putting effort and energy into your tasks and say how glad you are when you get something done! Don't let your child ask for everything and do nothing.

When we as parents, teachers and community members deeply CARE for our family's culture, and our children's abilities, and encourage them to work hard and not give up, they develop confidence to "BECOME ALL THEY WERE BORN TO BE!" Isn't that what we all want for our children anyway, no matter how poor or rich their family may be?!

Are you struggling with an issue, or have a question about your child and how you might better support them in their education? If so, please contact our school counselor, Maureen Klaboe, at 281.6207

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

"When we as parents, teachers and community members deeply CARE for our family's culture, and our children's abilities, and encourage them to work hard and not give up, they develop confidence to BECOME ALL THEY WERE BORN TO BE!"

BULLYING: Bully behavior occurs when there is a deliberate intent to harm, dominate, inflict pain, exclude or otherwise cause distress to the person being targeted. The person who bullies purposefully misuses his/her power (size, age, popularity, confidence, verbal ability) usually repeatedly. The balance of power between the bully and the target is NOT EQUAL.

Many times throughout the school year, you might hear your child use the term "bully" to refer to someone at school, at the Boys and Girls Club, in the neighborhood or at the mall. Often times students will 'label' someone a bully because they may experience unwanted behavior from time to time. While we encourage students to tell an adult im-

mediately if they feel that they are truly being bullied, we also help students learn the differences between real bully behavior and behavior that may be a learned "developmental misbehavior". At our school, Mrs. Klaboe, our school counselor, spends a great deal of time in the classroom and in small groups working with students regarding this is-

sue. Our goal is to eliminate any/all bullying type behaviors at Broadwater School, and we feel that educating students is one of the best ways in which to accomplish this goal. Please call if you have questions about how you can help your student identify REAL bullying behaviors.



Broadwater School strives to be a Bully-Free School.

We are on the Web!
www.broadwaterschool.weebly.com



BROADWATER
BULLETIN
No Shortcuts. No Excuses.

For the last few years, Broadwater 4th-6th grade students have been able to enjoy playing the game of chess every Wednesday afternoon during their lunch time. The Broadwater Chess Club was started by two men who were interested in introducing Broadwater students to this game requiring planning and strategy. Whether you are an experienced player, or just want to learn the game and play for fun, the Chess Club is a place you will find a game to meet anyone's needs. A huge thanks to the two men responsible for making this happen each week!

Mr. Scott Atwood

Mr. Atwood is a local architect from Billings who has a history of being involved at Broadwater School. His own children attended here, and he has continued to stay plugged in to our school community. He is a member of the Billings Kiwanis Club and works with both the Boy and Girl Scouts in Billings.

Mr. Bill Baker

Mr. Baker, a school bus driver in Billings, loves to play chess anywhere, anytime. He is also a world traveler, who spends a month each year in Slovakia. He is very knowledgeable about that culture and loves spending time working with the poor families in that part of the world. Mr. Baker is also a member of the Kiwanis.

Lost and Found

If you think you might be missing some cold-weather gear, please come check our school's Lost and Found!

Please Cut on the Dotted Line and Return to School!

Every month, our Broadwater Bulletin includes this portion to help us stay in touch with you. Please help us keep our records current and up to day. Detach this completed bottom portion if you have new information that we need to have - Thank You!

It is critical that you, as parents and family members keep the school up to date on your most recent contact information. In the event of an emergency, we need to be able to contact you as quickly as possible!

If you have recently moved or have a more current phone number, please let the office know as soon as possible. For the safety of your student(s), we need to have the most up to date contact information for you and your family! Please complete and clip out the form below, if applicable, and send to school with your child.

Student Name _____

Parent Name _____

New Address _____

New Phone Number(s) _____

Please indicate: Mother Father

INFORMATION SCHOOL NEEDS TO BE AWARE OF:

