

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – Dr. Mathew Nelson

Thank you for your support of the Discovery Elementary Read-a-Thon event was a huge success in promoting literacy and the love for reading and we also raised: \$11,780, wow! This money will directly impact Discovery students in a positive way by offsetting field trip costs and purchasing additional books, technology and other items for student use. Thank you again for your continued support of Discovery Elementary!

Have you ever heard of the idea of having a “Growth Mindset”? On page two you will find a graphic that illustrates the power of a Growth Mindset, which is something all staff at Discovery Elementary believe in and work hard to instill in our students on a daily basis. The graphic to me is an example of a powerful mindset strategy that helps support “The Power of Yet” within our lifelong learning journey and highlights the core of how we want to prepare our students for their future.

It is hard to believe that we are entering into spring testing season and we are gearing up for Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) testing near the end of the month, which will be continued into May. Again this year, all students in grades three, four, and five will be taking the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs) in both Reading and Math. Also, our 5th grade students will be taking the Science MCA assessment. We often talk about focusing on controlling what we can control and putting forth our best effort in all that we do at Discovery Elementary. The MCAs are no different and we tell the students that for them it is a celebration of all their hard work this year.



MCA = My Chance to Amaze ...
... myself! ... my friends!
... my school! ... my parents!

Below are the specific dates for the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade MCAs:

April 19, 20, 21 - Math MCA Testing

April 26, 27, 28 - Reading MCA Testing

Looking ahead to next year.....it will soon be time to begin the process of placing students in their multiage classrooms for next school year. When placing students, the following factors are considered. We feel all of our teachers are very qualified and accommodating to individual student needs and that students will do well in any classroom. Even though class assignments are the responsibility of the Principal, with input from the teachers, we recognize that there are instances where a parent has a legitimate reason for a request. Normally, we send out a request form to those that request it, but this year we will adjust and **if you feel you need to make a request, please feel free to reach out directly to me at mnelson@bhmschools.org or call me at 763-682-8426.** Your concerns and input will always be considered, however it may not be possible to accommodate all requests. The deadline for turning requests into the office is **Friday, April 15th.** **After this deadline we will not be able to make any adjustments to the classroom placements.**

Please feel free to contact me if you ever have questions or concerns.

THE POWER OF

YET



I can't do this...*yet.*

This doesn't work...*yet.*

I don't know...*yet.*

It doesn't make sense...*yet.*

I don't get it...*yet.*

I'm not good at this...*yet.*

I recently came across a chart handout (below) detailing various “Tell Statements” compared to a corresponding “Ask Statement” to pose to children. It totally makes sense that we want to help our children to be intrinsically motivated, see the “why” and engage in positive behaviors. As I reflect on the difference between “tell” and “ask” statements, I do believe that, as a parent, there is a time and a place for both. There are times when I may ask my own children to do something, but then there are also situations in which I need to tell them what they need to do. I found this to be an interesting reflective piece, so I thought I would share it with you.

“Tell Statements”	“Ask Statements”
“Stop fighting with your brother.”	“What can you and your brother do to solve this problem?”
“Get ready for bed.”	“What is next on your bedtime routine chart?”
“Go brush your teeth.”	“What do you need to do if you want your teeth to feel nice and clean?”
“Stop whining!”	“What words can you use so I can hear you?”
“Bring your dishes to the sink.”	“How can you help with your dishes when you have finished eating?”
“Put your coat on, it's cold outside.”	“What will you wear so you’ll be warm outside?”
“Hurry up or you will be late for school.”	“What do you need to be ready to leave for school?”
“Pick up your toys.”	“Where do your toys belong when you’re done playing with them?”

February Community "C" Students of the Month "Cheerful"



March Community "C" Students of the Month: "Courageous"



Updates from the Health Office

BHM School District recently had Covid tests become available for students. If you wish to have one on hand, please have your student pick up a covid test in the health office.

Excused Absences for Family Vacations



We understand that time is precious and it might not always work for you to go on a family vacation when school is not in session. We are able to mark family vacations as excused absences if you let us know when they are planned. There is a formal family vacation pre-approval form in the office, or if you email the teacher and copy Dr. Nelson into the message that works as well for us to be able to mark those dates as excused.