



## 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: **\$12,490.25, 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. Speaking of preparing our students for the future, **AVID** is an elementary through postsecondary college and career readiness system that is designed to increase school-wide learning and performance. At Discovery we integrate AVID framework philosophy into our mission and culture to provide outstanding learning opportunities for all students. We are excited to continue our learning together, so that we can be at our best every day when our best is needed in teaching your children!

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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade MCAs:**

**April 18, 19, 20 - Reading MCA Testing**

**April 25, 26, 27 - Math 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, numerous items/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](mailto: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 7th. 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.

**“Together We’re Better!”**

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.

<b>“Tell Statements”</b>	<b>“Ask Statements”</b>
“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

Greetings from the health office!

We want to make you aware that we are continuing to see increased absences due to illness throughout the district. Please remember to encourage your child to wash their hands (preferably with soap and water), cover their cough, eat well and get plenty of rest. **Also, please remember to call the attendance line for every day your child is going to be absent.** This helps us make sure your child's absence is coded correctly, but more importantly, it helps us assure your child is safe and accounted for. Students are welcome to **return to school 24 hours after their last symptom (fever, vomiting, diarrhea), with no fever reducing medications.** If your student is out due to COVID we will work with you to determine their return date. We appreciate your cooperation.

## **Parents of Preschoolers and soon-to-be Kindergartners**

If you have a child who is 3 ½ to four years old or one who is entering kindergarten in September and have not been contacted for Early Childhood Screening, please call Cheri at 763-682-8408. Early Childhood Screening is an early intervention program targeted for children ages 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 years old. It is a mandated program for all children entering kindergarten in the public school however it is intended to be administered at the 3 ½ - 4 years of age.

**Parents of Kindergarten Students Starting '23-'24 school year:** If you have a child beginning kindergarten in September, please consider taking care of their immunization needs now. It is the law that all students must submit an updated immunization status before starting kindergarten. Please submit one of the following: immunization record, notarized non-medical exemption form or physician signed medical exemption form.

Required shots for vaccinated students include:

**5 DTP**

**4 Polio (IPV or OVP)**

**3 Hepatitis B (HBV - not to be confused with Hib, which is the Haemophilus Influenza)**

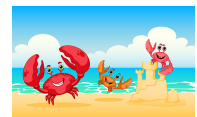
**2 MMR (Measles, Mumps & Rubella)**

**2 Varicella (Chicken Pox)** – If your child has had the chickenpox illness, the school will need a statement from your health care provider indicating one of the following:

- o The signature of a provider along with the date of the child's varicella illness
- o The signature of a provider along with a statement that the parent's or legal guardian's description of the child's varicella disease history is indicative of past varicella infection.

If you have questions, please contact Heidi Gallart, RN, at [hgallart@bhmschools.org](mailto:hgallart@bhmschools.org) or 763-682-8514.

## **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.



## **Beach Day Lunch**

The Discovery Cafeteria will be celebrating Spring with our students and families by having a Beach day Lunch on **Thursday, March 30th**. We will have good food, fun music and decorations!

- **Who:** Discovery Students and their families
- **When:** Thursday, March 30th during your child's lunch period (In order to accommodate all families, if you wish to attend with your children in different grade levels, please plan to be here for both lunch times.)

**\*K-1-2 Lunch: 10:45-11:15**

**\*3-4-5 Lunch: 11:30-12:00**

- **Where:** Discovery Elementary Cafeteria
- **What to Bring:** Students can bring beach towels to sit on! A free Hawaiian Lei will be given to each attendee!
- **Cost: Non-Student Meal:** \$4.95 each
- **Menu:** \*Hot Dog, Baked Chips, Baby Carrots, Apple Slices, Tropical Treat & Milk  
\*Alternate: Soy Butter & Jelly Uncrustable

**\*Please utilize the QR Code to the right to RSVP by **Friday, March 24th****

**\*Payments accepted:** Cash/Check or Student lunch accounts with a positive balance



**\*\*Please note: Every year Discovery hosts our end of the year, outdoor, picnic celebration. This is a separate celebration that will be held on the last day of school, Thursday, June 8th! More details to come.**