



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – Dr. Mathew Nelson

Thank you for your support of the Discovery Elementary Read-a-Thon event. It was a huge success in **promoting literacy** and the love for reading, and we also raised **\$12,057.20; 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 4, 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 designed to increase school-wide learning and performance. On page 3 of this newsletter, you will find a visual of the recently adopted BHM Schools “Portrait of a Graduate”, which includes essential skills categorized into Rigorous Academic Preparedness, Opportunity Knowledge, and Student Agency. Discovery Elementary School, along with all BHM schools, is committed to ensuring that all students have these essential skills, experiences, and opportunities upon graduation, regardless of what options they may choose to pursue. 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 to teach your children!

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) testing will again occur later this spring for all students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade. 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 16, 17, 18 - Reading MCA Testing

April 23, 24, 25 - 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 who 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 to Dr. Nelson is Friday, March 29th. 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!”

February Community "C" Students of the Month

"Cheerful"



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.



Portrait of a Graduate

Rigorous Academics

Students develop academic skills and can successfully complete rigorous college and career preparatory curriculum and experiences.

Writing

Communicates ideas, demonstrates learning and deepens understanding.

Inquiry

Clarifies, thinks critically, and conducts proficient academic investigation.

Collaboration

Communicates effectively and works effectively and with groups.

Organization

Manages materials, time and thinking with proper tools and prioritization.

Reading

Engages in critical reading to deepen understanding in all texts.

Opportunity Knowledge

Students research opportunities, set goals, make choices that support their long-term aspirations, and successfully navigate to the next level.

Developing Future Readiness

Develops financial literacy and a professional profile, and monitors digital footprint.

Building Career Preparedness

Develops an awareness of personal fit in terms of career selection, and plans education and career path based on personal goals.

Advancing College Preparedness

Explores and plans education path based on personal strengths, skills, interests and goals. These plans are informed by an understanding of college admissions, as well as financial considerations.

Student Agency

Students believe in themselves and act intentionally to build relationships, persist through obstacles, and activate their academic, social, emotional, and professional knowledge and skills to reach their potential.

Building Relationships

Establishes and maintains positive relationships that create a physical and digital network of support.

Persisting Through Obstacles

Monitors progress toward long-term goals, seeks assistance and feedback when necessary, and develops a strong voice to self-advocate.

Activating Knowledge and Skills

Carries a strong sense of identity, develops and employs leadership traits, and thinks critically, behaves safely and participates responsibly in the digital world.

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.*

Updates from the Health Office

Greetings from the health office!

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 '24-'25 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 chicken pox illness, the school will need a statement from your health care provider indicating one of the following:

- The signature of a provider along with the date of the child's varicella illness
- 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 the Health Office at health@bhmschools.org or 763-682-8818.

