



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – Dr. Mathew Nelson

Together at Discovery Elementary we have had a great start to the school year! I would like to extend a “thank you” to the entire Discovery educational community for supporting the students and staff through the start of the school year. There is no doubt that Discovery has a great group of students, teachers, and families working together for the common good of the students and Discovery as a whole. Speaking of supporting Discovery Elementary, I wanted to mention that BHM Schools will have an operating levy question in the upcoming election. The levy will impact Discovery by helping us to maintain class sizes, address school safety, and provide additional social work services for our students.

Wednesday, October 24th is “Unity Day” and at Discovery Elementary we are encouraging all students to wear orange to raise awareness of bullying prevention. We take great pride in our school community and treating each other as a family. In our ongoing efforts to proactively facilitate a warm, caring school atmosphere, we have implemented a comprehensive whole-school approach to bullying. The Discovery Community Bully-Free pledge, found below, was discussed with all students and signed individually.

“As a Discovery Elementary student, I pledge to do my part to keep Discovery a bully-free zone. I will not allow others to bully me and I agree not to take part in bullying others. I pledge to stand up for others, and to report bullying to a teacher, staff person, or parent.”

The signed pledges are on display in the trophy case in the main hallway in school to serve as an everyday reminder. This, along with the numerous daily classroom interactions and teachable moments, is one example of Discovery being proactive and encouraging responsible and respectful behavior.

Also coming soon is our annual Discovery Elementary Family Fun Night. The date for the event is Friday, November 9th from 5:30-7:30 p.m. This is a community-wide event (all families are welcome) features a silent auction, bingo, and fun carnival games such as minnow races, jumpy houses, duck pull, ring toss, fish pond, basketball shoot, crazy hair, and face painting along with Caricatures by Lisa. Food and Ice Cream served by *What’s the Scoop* will also be available. We hope we are able to have many Discovery families come together for this event and have some fun!

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

“Together We’re Better”



New Campus Portal App for Students and Parents

Infinite Campus has two NEW and IMPROVED mobile apps: Campus Student (for students) and Campus Parent (for parents). Download your free app for real-time access to the following and much more: announcements, assignments, attendance, grades, schedules and much more! If you are using the old Infinite Campus app, you will need to download the new app. The old app will no longer be supported. You can download the apps from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.



Emergency Test Message—October 11

BHM Schools wants to ensure that we are communicating with parents in the most effective way possible. On Thursday, October 11, 2018, mid-morning, the district will send out a district-wide emergency test message to parents and guardians from our parent notification system. You should receive a call, email and text messages (whatever information you have on file with your child's school). Especially with the upcoming winter months, we want to be sure parents/guardians don't miss any important messages from the school or the district about cancellations or delays. Remember this is ONLY a TEST and NO action will likely be necessary.



Our annual Discovery Elementary Family Fun Night event is just around the corner! The event is scheduled for Friday, November 9th from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and we need your help to continue to provide a fun Family Fun Night. Please consider volunteering, it takes many hands for our Family Fun Night event.

Hope you are able to join us for this fun event together!



“Together We’re Better!”



The weather is getting colder.....

remember to start digging out those sweatshirts, caps, mitts, boots along with a winter jacket. Make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the cooler weather, as they go outside daily for recess.

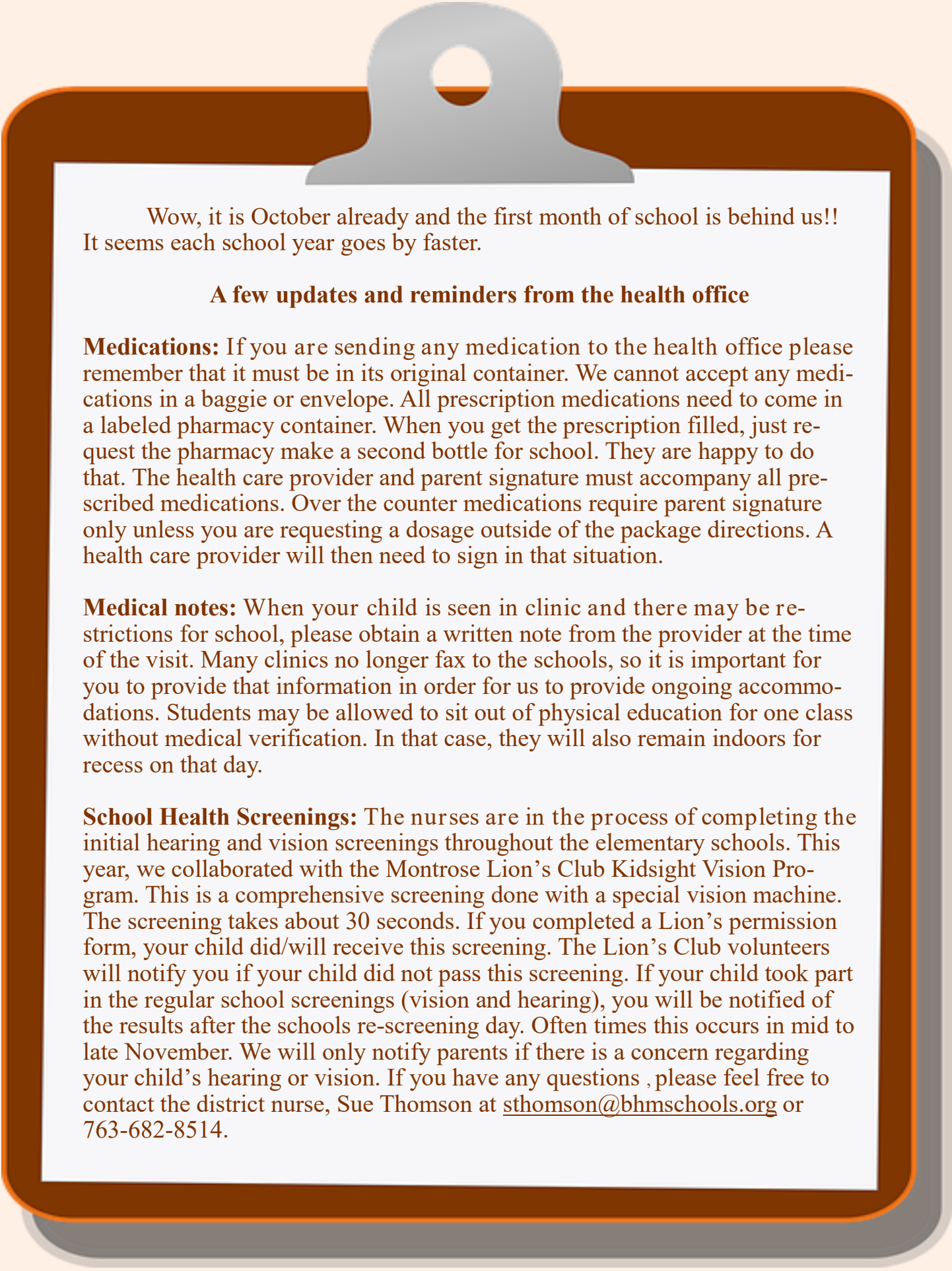
Community "C" for September CARE



*DES recognizes students for the month of September for the
Community C's-CARE
Next month the Community C's is COOPERATE*

Front Row: Kinley Goudy, Reese Kampschroer, Emma Kasanezky, Maehli Gawtry, Kate Kleist and Iona Whitney

Back Row: Rayna Anderson, Miranda Wenger, Finn DeWitte, Hans Pederson and Ella Schrick



Wow, it is October already and the first month of school is behind us!! It seems each school year goes by faster.

A few updates and reminders from the health office

Medications: If you are sending any medication to the health office please remember that it must be in its original container. We cannot accept any medications in a baggie or envelope. All prescription medications need to come in a labeled pharmacy container. When you get the prescription filled, just request the pharmacy make a second bottle for school. They are happy to do that. The health care provider and parent signature must accompany all prescribed medications. Over the counter medications require parent signature only unless you are requesting a dosage outside of the package directions. A health care provider will then need to sign in that situation.

Medical notes: When your child is seen in clinic and there may be restrictions for school, please obtain a written note from the provider at the time of the visit. Many clinics no longer fax to the schools, so it is important for you to provide that information in order for us to provide ongoing accommodations. Students may be allowed to sit out of physical education for one class without medical verification. In that case, they will also remain indoors for recess on that day.

School Health Screenings: The nurses are in the process of completing the initial hearing and vision screenings throughout the elementary schools. This year, we collaborated with the Montrose Lion's Club Kidsight Vision Program. This is a comprehensive screening done with a special vision machine. The screening takes about 30 seconds. If you completed a Lion's permission form, your child did/will receive this screening. The Lion's Club volunteers will notify you if your child did not pass this screening. If your child took part in the regular school screenings (vision and hearing), you will be notified of the results after the schools re-screening day. Often times this occurs in mid to late November. We will only notify parents if there is a concern regarding your child's hearing or vision. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the district nurse, Sue Thomson at sthomson@bhmschools.org or 763-682-8514.



BHM Operating Referendum
Vote: November 6, 2018

Just^{the} Facts

The place to **dream, believe** and **achieve.**



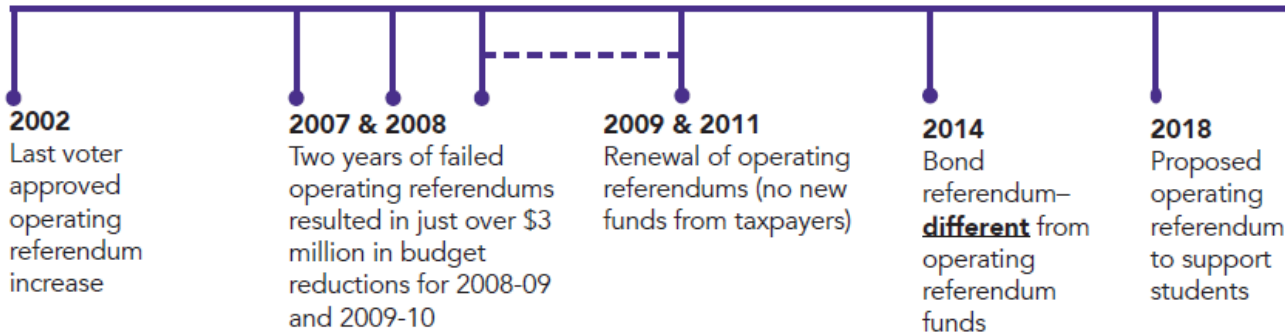
The Question

The BHM School Board has proposed to revoke the school district's existing referendum revenue authorization of \$119.87 per pupil and replace that authorization with a new authorization of \$1,067.87 per pupil. The net difference is \$950 per pupil. Beginning with taxes payable in 2019, the new net authorization would increase each year by the rate of inflation for over a 10-year period.

Our Goals



Historical Timeline



Why Now?

- The district can no longer spend down the district's fund balance to maintain class sizes.
- Addressing school safety and security issues and providing more mental health support is a top priority.
- Expanding opportunities for middle school students to receive extra help and have more elective class choices is very important.
- The state is not fully funding special education programs forcing our district to fill the \$760 per pupil funding gap.

Tax Impact				
Year taxes payable		2019 Revoke Authority -\$119.87	2019 Proposed Authority \$1,069.87	2019 Net Change \$950
Property Type	Estimated Market Value	Estimated Taxes for BHM Operating Referendum Only		
Residential, Homesteads, Apartments, Commercial-Industrial Property	\$150,000	-\$17	\$279	\$262
	\$200,000	-\$22	\$371	\$349
	\$250,000	-\$28	\$464	\$436
	\$300,000	-\$34	\$557	\$523

More Information: www.bhmschools.org **Questions:** Call-763-682-0877 | Email- election@bhmschools.org



BHM Operating Referendum Vote: November 6, 2018

Financial Q & A

The place to dream, believe and achieve.

Q If you need to fill the \$760 special education funding gap and you are asking for \$1,067.87 (net \$950) for this operating referendum, doesn't that mean 71% of this money will go towards special education?

A No. The state and federal government continue to underfund the special education mandates they have placed on school districts. BHM Schools is already spending money for special education from our general fund to cover the cost. The funds raised through this referendum will free-up those funds to be spent in areas that benefit all students such as **reducing class sizes, expanding middle school opportunities, addressing school safety and security through personnel and infrastructure, and addressing the budget deficit.** Specific amounts have not been determined for each of these four areas because it could fluctuate from year to year—especially with class sizes.

Q Why the big jump from \$119.87 to \$950?

A The last voter approved operating referendum was 16 years ago. The district asked for an increase in operating funds in 2007 and 2008 and was unsuccessful, resulting in two years of budget reductions and a loss of 40 teachers. Since then, the district has used one-time state and federal funds and has begun to spend down the fund balance. The school board has been committed to class size reductions and over the last several years has hired back 18 teachers. With the lack of school funding, we can not sustain what we have, make additional investments in educational programming, improve student safety with personnel or make further reductions in class sizes. Even with the additional funding request of \$950, we are still below the state average for general education revenue.

Q We just gave you money in the 2014 bond referendum election to help with safety and security. Do you need additional funds to do more or did you not budget those projects adequately?

A Yes we budgeted adequately, but we need to do more. The funds from the 2014 bond referendum could ONLY be used for building projects and upgrades. We improved the safety and security of our buildings by building new, secure entrances at Discovery Elementary, Hanover Elementary and Tatanka Elementary STEM School. We also added video cameras, updated intercom systems, fixed roofs, repaired parking lots and sidewalks, and upgraded the phone system (along with many other improvements).

Since 2014, many factors have changed in the way we want to protect our students in our schools and other safety measures we want to put in place. This referendum will address the need to reduce class sizes and hire personnel to deal with student mental health issues and provide funds for school improvements such as bullet resistant window film, a blue light alert system (notifies students when they can't hear announcements), open door indicators and other identified safety improvements.

Q Can you use the 2014 bond referendum funding to help pay for more teachers?

A No. The funds from the 2014 bond referendum could ONLY be used for the building projects and upgrades as identified and could not be used for operating expenses such as teacher salaries. Funds from the 2014 bond election can only be placed in Fund 06 (Construction Fund) which can only pay for construction related costs. Teachers are not an allowable expenditure in the Construction Fund.

Q If this operating referendum passes, how much will my taxes go up each year?

A See the tax impact chart on the front page. If this operating referendum passes, it will be in effect for the next 10 years. As you will see on the tax impact chart, the estimated tax on a \$250,000 home would be \$436 for the year or \$36.33 per month. This amount will fluctuate each year based on the rate of inflation. If inflation goes up by 1%, that amount will increase \$4.36 to \$440.36 or \$36.69 per month.