
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. It is time that we rally together to support Discovery Elementary and our School District. On Monday, October 7th at 6:30 pm we will lead a brief, informal presentation regarding the upcoming operating referendum and HUGE impact it will have on Discovery Elementary and the Buffalo Hanover Montrose school District. There will also be opportunities to ask questions and Anita Underberg will be on hand with ballots for those that want to vote early. We hope you are able to join us!

As we begin another school year together, as a parent it is helpful to know some of the larger community service project opportunities and fundraising opportunities for the year. In November, we plan to hold our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive in which we collect food for the Buffalo Food Shelf. In December, we will have collection containers for “noisy” (change) donations for Toys for Tots. Our Read-a-thon, which is our one school fundraiser, will be held in conjunction with “I Love to Read” month in February this year. Our annual Family Fun Night will be held the first Friday in March. This year we will not be participating in Jump Rope for Heart, and moving forward we plan to participate as a school on an every other year basis.

Wednesday, October 23rd 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. Please feel free to contact me or stop in if you ever have questions or concerns.

“Together We’re Better”





**Buffalo
Hanover
Montrose**
BHM SCHOOLS

BHM Operating Referendum | November 5, 2019

The place to dream, believe and achieve.

2019 BHM Operating Referendum

BHM School District residents will vote on an operating referendum to maintain the high-quality programs and services BHM Schools already offers. The district is asking for \$750 per student (this is NOT each property owner's tax impact—see chart) and would be in place for the next five years. This operating referendum will NOT restore any of the budget cuts made for the 2019-20 school year and will NOT add anything new.

If approved, this referendum would prevent the following budget reductions (totalling \$2.9 million) for the 2020-21 school year. Some of the reductions include:

- Cut 22 teachers, 1 administration and 11 other staff
- Close Phoenix Learning Center
- Close Discovery Elementary
- Cut Quest (gifted program)
- Cut the wRight Choice program (alternative to out-of-school suspension)
- Cut 6 activities at Buffalo High School
- Cut ALL middle school activities
- Cut 3 regular bus routes (longer ride times and longer walking distances)

More Information www.bhmschools.org

When and Where to Vote

Voting will take place on Election Day,
Tuesday, November 5, 2019, from 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Polling Places

Buffalo High School—877 Bison Blvd, Buffalo, MN

Hanover City Hall—11250 5th St NE, Hanover, MN

Montrose Community Center—200 Center Ave S, Montrose, MN

Early Voting

To get an application to vote early, scan the code on the right or go to www.bhmschools.org under Election Information. Fill out the form and mail or email it to the address listed. Once ballots are available, one will be mailed directly to you. Early voting in person begins on Friday, September 20 in the BHM District Office (214 1st Ave NE, Buffalo). Watch the district website and Facebook pages for more information.

Schedule a Visit

Call 763-682-8706 to have someone meet with you and your neighbors, friends, family and colleagues. All your questions can be answered in person about the operating referendum and school district finances. No group size is too small!



SCAN ME

Poll Finder



Scan Me

Early Voting



Scan Me

BHM Operating Levy Tax Impact

Estimated Market Value Rates, Taxes Payable in 2020 (for Referendum Only)		Taxes for Proposed Levy 0.12466%	
Property Type	Estimated Market Value	Estimated Taxes for Referendum Only	
Residential, Homesteads, Apartments, Commercial-Industrial Property	\$150,000	\$187	\$15.58 per month
	\$200,000	\$249	\$20.75 per month
	\$250,000	\$312	\$26.00 per month
	\$300,000	\$374	\$31.17 per month
	\$350,000	\$436	\$36.33 per month
	\$400,000	\$499	\$41.58 per month
	\$450,000	\$561	\$46.75 per month
	\$500,000	\$623	\$51.92 per month
	\$800,000	\$997	\$83.08 per month
	\$1,000,000	\$1,247	\$103.92 per month

*Amounts in the table are based on school district taxes for the operating referendum only and do not include tax levies for other purposes. Tax increases shown above are gross increases, not including the impact of the Minnesota Homestead Credit Refund ("Circuit Breaker") program. Many owners of homesteaded property will qualify for a refund, based on their income and total property taxes. This will decrease the net effect of the referendum levy for many property owners.

NOTE: Agriculture property will pay taxes for the proposed referendum based only on the value of the house, garage and one acre. Seasonal recreational residential property (i.e. cabins) will pay no taxes for the proposed referendum.

Referendum Questions

Call—763-682-0877

Email—election@bhmschools.org

Public Meetings

Attend one of three public meetings to hear more about the operating referendum, why it's needed and ask questions.

Buffalo Discovery Center Board Room
Tuesday, October 1 at 7 p.m.

Montrose Elementary School of Innovation Media Center
Thursday, October 3 at 7 p.m.

Hanover Elementary Media Center
Thursday, October 10 at 7 p.m.

Community "C" for September-CARE



DES recognizes students for the month of September
the Community C's-CARE

Front Row: Blake Forpahl, Kenlie Grams, Sydney Samuelson, Brynn Torkelson, Allie Larson and Evelyn Hipple

Back Row: Stella Hinnenkamp, Norah Reding, Luke Samuelson, Ellie Klemetson and Kennedy Sarvie
Next month the Community C's is COOPERATE



What: Operating Referendum Information and Absentee Ballot Opportunity

Where: Discovery Elementary Auditorium

When: 6:30 pm on Monday, October 7th

It is time that we rally together to support Discovery Elementary and our School District. On Monday, October 7th at 6:30 pm Dr. Nelson will lead a brief, informal presentation regarding the upcoming operating referendum and HUGE impact it will have on Discovery Elementary and the Buffalo Hanover Montrose school District. There will also be opportunities to ask questions and Anita Underberg will be on hand with ballots for those that want to vote early. We hope you are able to join us!

"Together We're Better!"

Emergency Test Message—October 10

BHM Schools wants to ensure that we are communicating with parents in the most effective way possible. **On Thursday, October 10, 2019, 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.



Mark your calendar for the upcoming Book Fair!

Scholastic Book Fair coming to DES in November
Nov. 11-15, 2019

Monday, Nov. 11 Teacher Preview
Tuesday, Nov. 12 Student Preview-No Sales
Wednesday, Nov. 13 7:30-8:00 a.m.
Thursday, Nov. 14 7:30-8:00 a.m.
Thursday, Nov. 14 2:30-6:30 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 15 7:30-8:00 a.m.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Thanksgiving Food Drive on November 1st

Your child will bring home a flyer with more details about the upcoming Discovery Thanksgiving Food Drive. Discovery students will collect specific food items in the month of November for the Buffalo Food Shelf. The students have fun counting the food items and sorting items into bags to be delivered to the recipients, they also will include a Thanksgiving coloring sheet for the families. More information will be coming home closer to our Community project.

The weather is getting cooler.....

Remember to start digging out those sweatshirts, sweaters and jackets.
Make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the cooler weather, as they go outside daily for recess.

