

Banks Middle School Newsletter

December-February 2018-2019

Published by the BMS Community Relations Class

Dear Parents/Guardians of BMS,

Learning is in full swing here at the end of the second six weeks. I'm excited to see that our school-wide attendance is staying high and that the number of chronically absent students has come way down in the past six weeks. Thank you for helping your children make it to school each day. I'm also very encouraged to see that 41 % of students at BMS are still on the honor roll, so thank you also for supporting their academics at this busy time of year.

I'd like to take a moment to recognize the students in Mr. Speer's leadership class who have really stepped up their game these last several weeks. They've taken on projects to beautify the school, encourage students to attend, and to help those in need. Best of all, all these projects are chosen, developed, and managed by the students! Seeing students take the initiative to improve the school and their community is the best present that a principal could ask for!

Have a safe and wonderful holiday season!

- Dan Van Winkle, BMS Principal



Washington DC Trip

Attendance and Honor Roll

	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Enrollment	91	75	90
Attendance	96.2%	93.4%	92.2%
# with perfect attendance	23	17	23
# chronically absent*	8	9	20
# on honor roll	41	32	34
# with improved grades**	5	8	2

* "chronic absenteeism" is defined as attendance below 90%

** "improved grades" is defined as improving GPA by at least 0.5 points

Washington DC Trip November 26-December 2

Mrs. Dotson lead a group of 22 students from Banks School District and 8 chaperones on a trip to visit our nation's capital and historic sites. They toured Jamestown Settlement, Powhatan village, Yorktown and Williamsburg. On day three the group traveled to Charlottesville to explore Thomas Jefferson's home, plantation and tavern. While in DC the group toured the capitol building, Smithsonian museums, all the monuments and memorials, Ford's Theatre and Peterson House, Library of Congress, Supreme Court, National Archives, Kennedy Center, Iwo Jima and Holocaust Museum. They also saw "A Christmas Carol" play at Ford's Theatre.

Jocelyn Janecek, Sam Womack, Ethan Kemper and Devon Robinson had the honor of laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.

After 40 miles of walking in six days of touring, the students spent their final day at Mount Vernon, George Washington's home and plantation.

The student were exceptional, gained a wealth of knowledge and bonded as a group.

THE GREAT AMERICAN FUNDRAISER RESULTS

In November, students sold items from wrapping paper to holiday gifts. A total of 42 kids sold items and our profit for this is \$1751.05. This money will go towards our end of the year field day!

Our top three sellers:

- 1 Ben Poetter**
- 2 Henry Vanderzanden**
- 3 Kyle Nichols**



Thank you for your hardwork and dedication to making BMS a better place!



Teacher Feature for November and December

Over these 6 weeks we have had a total of two teacher features for November and December. The winners of teacher feature get a certificate of excellence and a gift card to Dutch Bros. The November winners were Mr. Richeson, Mrs. Rue and Mrs. Poetter. In December, we are celebrating Mrs. Thomas and Aubrey Rue.

National Junior Honor Society Homeless Shelter Kits

The Students at Banks Middle School are collecting supplies to create Homeless Shelter Kits for our local community members. Below are a list of items that we will be collecting each week of December.

December 3-6 ~ band-aids, deodorant, chapstick, comb, kleenex

December 10-14 ~ toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, wipes, lotion

December 17-20 ~ socks, hand/foot warmers, water and healthy snack

Collection boxes will be in the foyer per grade level
Grade that collects the most will have a celebration

Leadership

Leadership students have taken on a few initiatives:

- Attendance
 - Increasing students attending on a regular basis by improving school environment
- Box Tops
 - Funds for prizes
- Pennies for Patients
 - Fundraiser for Leukemia Lymphoma society
- Student Council
 - Creating a process for electing student council positions
- Mural

Calendar

- Homeless Shelter Kits Dec 3-Dec 20
- Holiday Spirit Week Dec 17-Dec 21
- Dec 24- Jan 4: No School
 - Winter Break
- January 21: No School
 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- February 1: No School
 - End of Semester 1

6th Grade OMSI Field Trip King Tut Exhibit



When: January 18, 2019
Where: OMSI
Cost: \$6
Time: 9a-2:30p



Permission slips due by Dec 14, 2018

YEARBOOKS ON SALE!

\$20 to Mrs. Javorsky
Purchase online:
www.jostens.com

Immunizations

All students must be current on immunizations by the exclusion date of February 20, 2019. For information on the school immunization rates go to www.banks.k12.or.us and then go to the administration tab.