



Newsletter

Vol. 7 No. 1

September 7, 2021 www.blackbutte.k12.or.us

Staying Grounded

by Delaney Sharp, Head Teacher

Here we go again! With a new school year starting and the global pandemic showing no end in sight, many of us find ourselves once again on unstable footing. When will it be over? Do we really have to wear masks for another year? What if we get sick? Can't things go back to normal? Questions and anxieties are swirling around our schools more than ever. When school ended in June there was a real sense of optimism in the air. We made it through a rough year and the challenges of 2020-21 were in the rearview. Now, two months later, here we are again, face to face with another year of health and safety restrictions and the virus continuing to spread.

Throw on top of that heat waves, wildfires, and social unrest and it is enough to make even the most cheerful amongst us want to bury our head under the covers.

And yet, here we go again. We take a breath, walk through the same school house doors that have welcomed us for generations, and begin anew. Despite all the uncertainty and chaos around us, we still need to show up. We need to be there for each other. Because we have Kindergarteners starting their first day of school. We have kids ready to become readers. We have friends who haven't seen each other all summer. We have young people ready to learn, laugh, struggle, and make memories that will last a lifetime. We owe it to these amazing young people to do our best, to show up for each other. We are part of a community, and we will get through the challenges of the moment together. Just like we always have.



Gear Swap October 9th 10AM-4PM @ Hike-N-Peaks in Sisters

BBS Parent Teacher Organization is partnering with Hike-N-Peaks in Sisters to host another Gear Swap fundraising event. Please consider donating, consigning, or purchasing quality used outdoor gear and sporting equipment! Donations can be brought directly to BBS between 3:00-4:00 on school days.

The Power of Curiosity

by Kirstin Anglea, District Administrator

As summer nears its end, another school year begins. You may be wondering what's in store for the kids at BBS this year? We will be with our students, full-time and in-person. We have 3 classrooms this year, allowing us to provide more individualized instruction to K-2 students. As always, our programs seek to stimulate curiosity. Questions guide teaching and student learning. We spend a lot of time "wondering," then working together to discover answers. There are multiple ways we'll be reaching out to our community this year. We hope that your own curiosity will lead you to reach out and learn more about what we're doing as the school year unfolds.

Playground Update

BBS would like to extend a huge thank you to all who have donated (so far!) to build our new playground! During this last fundraising push the BBS community donated \$24,575!! The PTO had previously committed \$15,000, bringing the total to almost \$40,000! We are amazed at the generosity this community has! On top of that haul, the school received a \$25,000 grant from the Ford Family Foundation. Fundraising continues, and you can contribute at www.supportbbs.org. Donations of \$1000 or greater will receive an engraved paver. The permit from USFS to begin work should be secured by late-October allowing us to do some initial work. We aim to complete the entire playground by July.

Broadband Needs Assessment

Another thank you to our community for all who participated in the Broadband Needs Assessment. We received 151 surveys and approximately 25 people participated in 3 focus groups. The information gathered, was compiled into a report available here: www.blackbutte.k12.or.us/improvement_projects.

The report will be incorporated into a Jefferson-county-wide broadband assessment and feasibility study. We will also utilize the assessment to support future Camp Sherman-specific grant applications and partnerships with internet service providers to expand access to the Camp Sherman community.

Black Butte School is a public K-8, two-room schoolhouse nestled in the community of Camp Sherman, OR
To learn more about our programs contact Head Teacher, Delaney Sharp 541-595-6203