



Upper grade students recently rode their bikes from Suttle Lake to BBS on Bike to School Day

Welcome to the new format of the BBS Quarterly Newsletter!  
Find news and updates from Black Butte School, student journalism articles, recent photos, and more.



Lower grade students experience art class on the Merolius

# News & Updates

## From the Desk of Mr. Sharp

The Black Butte School District is pleased to announce that the school bond that was on the May ballot has passed. The most recent vote tally shows it passing with 93 yes votes compared with 72 no votes. This approval raises not only 2 million dollars from our taxpayers but allows us to receive a 2 million dollar matching grant from the state for a total of 4 million dollars toward capital improvement projects. We recognize that this is a large investment from our small community. We promise to do our best to use this resource in a way that will have the most impact for our students, families, friends, and neighbors. Thank you Black Butte School Community for your show of support and investment in the future of our school.

## Community Spotlight

Camp Sherman resident and BBS parent **Jon Spurgeon** organized and hosted a local Fishing Derby at the Youth Angling Pond after school on May 17th.

Students and families gathered at the pond where Jon had his BBQ with plenty of snacks and drinks for the group. He had extra fishing supplies for those kids that needed a pole or bait, and offered guidance and tips.

14 fish were caught that day and kids were rewarded with quality prizes such as camp kits and fishing gear.

**Thank you Jon** for spearheading and generously sponsoring this awesome event!



## Volunteer of the Year!



**Rachel Gonzalez** was presented with Volunteer of the Year award for her exceptional volunteerism over the last eight years. From leading the Wreath Sale to acting as President and Treasurer of the PTO and everything in between, Rachel has put in hundreds of hours of time, creativity, and hard work. She brings humor, lightheartedness and joy to all that she touches and BBS is better place because of her. This is Rachel's second time receiving this award. **THANK YOU Rachel** for all that you do; we are endlessly grateful.

## Bond Update

Stay tuned for updates on the projects that will be funded by our voter-approved school bond.

The first step is hiring a project manager to begin creating the overall plan.

Updates on the schedule & progress will be posted on our website as well as in this newsletter.

We are so grateful to our community for investing in our local school! **THANK YOU!!**

# Student Journalism

## Mr. B's New Baby

By Roxanna, Grade 5

Mr. B recently had a new baby. That is the fifth kid. The other kids' ages range from 13 to 0. Mr. B just left the school to take care of the other kids, because the mom has to give a lot of attention to the new baby especially the first few weeks. The baby's name is Lars Willem. Lars was born the same day as Mr. B, April 27, so they have the same birthday.

While Mr. B has been gone he has been "Embracing the powerlessness of parenthood while snuggling my little Lars!!!" said by Mr. B. Looks like Mr. B is having fun with his new baby. Mr. B also stated "When I speak to him he watches me and then slowly drifts to sleep...just like former students of mine!!!" Lars' siblings are having fun with the baby as well. "They all want to hold him...all the time! They're very much in love with his newness." Mr. B made the right decision by spending more time with his kids and the new baby this spring.

At school we are trying to fill in all his classes but we all know he will be back next year. Ms. Sharp is filling in Mr. B's classes, literacy, teaching Bebop and Rocksteady. Many of the students said "we miss his fun classes and how funny he is," one student named Posey 1st grade said "I miss his funniness." I mean who wouldn't miss his big mustache?

## City Deer vs. Wild Deer

By Gavin, Grade 5

Have you ever thought about why there are a bunch of deer in Sisters, but people still say there isn't enough? That is because the deer you are seeing are city deer, not wild deer. City deer and wild deer were originally the same species, mule deer, but now they have become so far separated that now they are almost different species.

The mule deer population is declining overall. In Deschutes county, the mule deer population has declined 56% from 2004 to 2021. One reason for this is development, and another reason is because some people are feeding wild deer, thus converting them to city deer. A city deer looks and acts differently than a wild deer; a city deer looks more scruffy than a wild deer and it is not afraid of humans. When a deer eats human food it becomes reliant on that food and the risk of disease is heightened for that deer. So a lot of deer are dying because they are being fed by humans.

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## The Playground Is Almost Here!!

By Woofie, Grade 5

BBS has been waiting for many years to get a new playground. BBS gave the old one away and it went to the Lovegren family. The Lovegren kids went to BBS and the family removed it from BBS so the school did not have to pay someone to do this job.

We have been waiting for 2.5 years. The reason it took so long is because we needed permission from the forest service and the archaeological service to sign a contract so we were able to build on forest property. This playground will be different from other playgrounds because it is on forest service property and it will be more natural instead. Also the playground will hopefully be done by the very last day of the school year. Everyone is very excited to be able to play on the playground next year!

When we are at recess we can watch them use the cranes and machinery to pick up the things they need to move. Also we got to see the cement get poured and the pathways made. The playground plan has a lot of things that we will be able to climb on. Some examples that we could be able to climb on are things like a triple somersault where you can hang upside down and spin around, also there will be a parkour course that we can attempt.



# FIELD STUDIES TRIVIA



## What is Phenology?

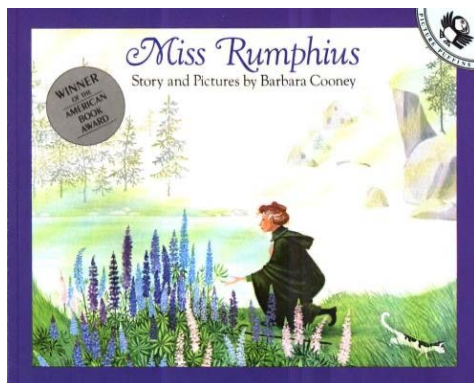
Upper Grade students know the answer! (Listed below)

### City Deer vs. Wild Deer

(Continued from p. 3)

There are deer in Sisters, but most are city deer and they are dying off. The ideal number of deer in Deschutes county is 6200, but we are 46% short of that. There are also many other reasons why mule deer population is declining like how there are more cougars here now than there were in 2004. Between 2015 and 2020, Deschutes County averages at 533.83 wildlife crashes per year, and most of those are deer crashes. Try to do your part in helping preserve the mule deer population in ways like driving carefully, and not feeding deer.

## Book Recommendation



This beautifully illustrated story is about spreading beauty in our communities, and features the native lupine that fills our forest at this time of year.

**Phenology** is nature's calendar. It is the study of the timing of life cycle events in plants and animals, their recurrence, and relationship to the environment.

## From the Desk of Molly Schultz

Hi all!

I joined the BBS team in March as the Family-Community Engagement Coordinator. I'll be doing outreach, communication and events. There are lots of ways to stay in touch with BBS: the monthly Bulletin, this Quarterly Newsletter and a coming-soon weekly blog! Plus, did you know we have a Facebook page?

Let me know what you'd like to see featured here!

[mschultz@blackbutte.k12.or.us](mailto:mschultz@blackbutte.k12.or.us)



### Call for Community Volunteers! How can you help? A message from the PTO

In our tiny community, the need for volunteers is felt in a big way. If you live in Camp Sherman, chances are you've been asked to serve on a local committee. It sometimes feels like there's not enough people to fill all the roles!

We need community involvement to continue the Wreath Sale! How can you help keep this tradition alive?

More parents are working full time and have less availability to volunteer. We felt the pinch of fewer volunteers last year with the conjunction of the Wreath Sale, the Holiday Bazaar and the Winter Performance. These three events require a lot of work during an already very busy holiday season. PTO has been considering how to continue all three in a sustainable way.

The Holiday Bazaar provides the opportunity for meaningful engagement between students and neighbors and we will focus our family volunteer efforts on the Bazaar and Winter Performance.

There are lots of ways to get involved with the Wreath Sale: bow making, communication, website support, wreath pick up & delivery, and wreath stand support at the Bazaar. Send us your area of interest and spread the word to friends and neighbors. Your reward will be warm fuzzies in the continuation of this beloved fundraiser, and knowing that your efforts contribute to funding a variety of amazing experiences for the students.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

