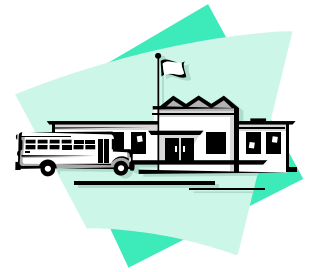


DUTTON/BRADY SCHOOL NEWS



Volume 3, Issue 9

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

2010-2011 BUDGET & LEVY ELECTION

After a great deal of consideration, the board voted to run a small mill levy for \$60,897.79. This works out to be about 11.25 mills which will increase the taxes on a \$100,000 home by only \$19.28. Let me explain the rationale for recommending this levy:

- At this point, we stand to lose about \$20,000 in Title funding for 2010-2011. The federal funding is shifting away from the formula grants to more of the competitive grants such as Race To The Top.
- Built into state law for 2011-2012 is a 2% reduction in basic entitlement and ANB funding. This is the 'funding cliff' that was alluded to in the last legislative session. I've never seen the legislature build in a reduction in funding before, but they are obligated to turn in a balanced budget, and they did it at the expense of public education. Betty calculated that this could amount to around a \$70,000 reduction for Dutton/Brady in two years.
- Passage of this levy will NOT increase our budget by \$60,000—in fact, it will only increase our budget by about \$3,000. If the levy were to fail or not be run, we would have to decrease our budget by about \$57,000. We can probably absorb that without making too many dramatic cuts beyond what I will already be recommending; but it certainly is prudent to try to maintain what OPI calls our 'maximum budget' because once we drop down, the ONLY way to go back up ever is an increase in funding from the legislature or an increase in students.
- We have not run a levy since consolidation, so it has been many years since going to the taxpayers for any additional funding. And if the trustees go into August with a budget where they don't believe they are going to need the money, they don't HAVE to levy it—this only asks for the permission to do so if they deem that it is necessary.

May Dates of Interest

- 1 State Music Festival in Helena
Lewistown Track Meet
- 3 21st Century Family Night Dinner
- 4 School Elections
JH Track Meet in Helena
- 6 Cascade Top 8 Track Meet
- 7 High School Play
- 8 DiamondBack Invitational Track Meet
- 10 High School Dinner Theater
School Board Meeting
JH DiamondBack Invitational Track Meet
- 11 JH Mass Band
- 13 Band Blast Off
Augusta JH Track Meet
- 14 8C/10C District Track Meet in Great Falls
- 15 Grand Street Theater
- 17 School Board Meeting
- 18 Art Show & Music Revue
- 19 Baccalaureate 7:00
Colony Graduations
- 20 Divisional Track Meet in Great Falls
- 21 Kindergarten Graduation
HS Awards
DiamondBack Awards
- 22 Graduation
- 28 Last Day of School
State Track Meet in Great Falls

HOUSING FOR SUPERINTENDENT

The board recently voted to purchase a house in Dutton to use as housing for the new Superintendent. There has been a great deal of discussion about this over the past several meetings and I realize that there are people in the community who may not be completely supportive of it, so I want to explain some of the rationale.

- There are about 55 administrative openings in Montana including 25 Principal jobs and 30 Superintendent jobs. This means that Dutton/Brady was competing with many other districts to put together a competitive benefits package. I know from talking to my colleagues and from my personal experience that housing is a huge consideration when an administrator moves to a town where they may only work from one to three years. To be honest, I didn't even put in an application at Sunburst until I found out that housing was part of the deal. For about half of the schools our size in the state, administrative housing is provided as part of the package including the majority of those schools in our immediate area. One school nearby has struggled to hire a new superintendent for next year and has offered the job to two different people, but the negotiations have broken down both times on the issue of housing.
- Proximity to the school is an important consideration. While it is true that the district owns three properties in Brady, at least two or three times a week I am called to come to the school for one reason or the other in the evenings or weekends—and this doesn't count the regularly scheduled events that happen nightly. If you want your new Superintendent to be an active part of the school, then they need to live in the same town where the school operates.
- The funds that will be used to pay for the housing are areas that are NOT used for general fund expenditures including books, teachers' salaries, or classroom materials. If there are general fund monies left at the end of the year, they cannot be banked or carried forward into the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Also, we have been informed that there will be a bill before the next legislative session which will attempt to close out and take back money in the flex fund (currently at \$104,000). It is prudent to spend this flex fund down rather than risk losing it to the state.

I certainly realize, as does the board, that the timing of the house purchase and the decision to run a levy are politically difficult to do simultaneously, but you must realize that they are mutually exclusive events. There is no simple way to explain all of the various funds in a school budget and the assortment of rules that govern each of the funds. As examples: a school could be in a position where it has to reduce the number of teachers, but has money to buy a new bus, or not be able to afford new text-books but have money for new doors and windows. The combination of competitive grants and ear-marked money that we have been getting in recent years only exacerbates the difficulty of explaining what can be done with which sources of money. We have battled the legislature for years in asking for the permission to just let the local board and administration make these decisions, but that is not likely to happen. What I am trying to say is that a protest vote of 'no' on the levy as a response to the board buying a house is not going to be beneficial as the events are mutually exclusive and the funding comes from totally different sources.

For the school district to be able to recruit and hire quality administration, adequate housing with proximity to the school is vital. And for the district to be able to continue to offer the programs that they have in the past, and to maintain our budget without making cuts, the levy is important as well.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Remember the election on May 4th from 12:00-8:00 PM. There are four people running for two spots on the board.

END OF YEAR BILLS

There will be quite a few charges that will need to be paid before final check-out on May 28th. This includes lunch bills, pep club charges, balloon bills, and any book fines. Students who have positive lunch balances will be issued a check the final day.

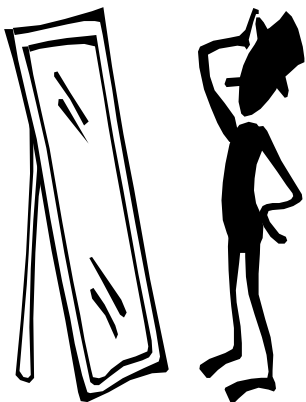
DONATION TO GOOD WILL

We again will have quite a large pile of clothes to donate to Good Will early in June. If you believe that your child has made any contributions to this by leaving clothing in the locker rooms, hallways, or gymnasium, please come by and look through them before June 4th.

SCHOOL NEWS

MIRROR IMAGE: A REAL ENCHANTED MUSICAL

Fantasy comes face to face with the hard reality of high school in this pop musical adventure where the best—and the worst—of both worlds meet. In the fairy tale world, princes are charming and stepsisters are wicked. But the Woodsman dreams of being more than an incidental character without a name. When Cinderella's stepsisters intimidate the Magic Mirror into showing them a portal to another world, they get zapped into a very real high school. The Woodsman jumps at the chance to rescue them, but the stepsisters have no intention of returning to the fantasy realm. After all, in the "real" world, mean girls are popular. The Woodsman finds himself head over his head and recruits the help of Danica, a hard-core realist who never believed in fairy tales. She's running for class president, but her speeches are filled with gloom and doom. Meanwhile, the sky is falling in the fantasy world! Alas, without Woodsman, Little Red is attacked by the wolf, and Sleeping Beauty keeps



pricking her finger on an ax while chopping her own firewood! Chaos reigns. However, as reality seeps into the fairy tales, the characters start to break free of their patterns, and the class princesses and Little Red cross the portal and discover they can be their own heroes! You'll love this complex, rich tapestry of enchanted fun woven with a poignant, meaningful thread about what it means to be alive and in control of your own destiny.

Please plan to join us on May 7 or May 10 for the production involving 27 students.

The May 7th performance will be at 7:00 pm. May 10th will begin with a dinner consisting of Bread, Spring Mix Salad with Raspberry Vinaigrette, Herb Roasted Pork Loin, Baby Red Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Asparagus and Strawberry/White Swirl Cake with Whipped Topping at 5:30 pm then the play at 7:00 pm. Prices are \$7.00 for the play (Friday and Monday) and \$15.00 for the dinner and play. Tickets will be available for the combined Dinner and Play from any cast member prior to the 7th or you can call the school.

ELECTION NEWS

The annual school election will be held May 4, 2010. Four people have filed for two seats on the Board. Those filing are Eric Doheny, Clint Ellsworth, Bryan Schoonover and Stacey Schultz (Rossmiller).

Anyone wishing to vote absentee ballot in the election should contact the election administrator in writing for a ballot no later than noon on May 3, 2010. You may send your written request to Betty Brumwell, 101 2nd St. NE, Dutton, MT 59433.

Volunteers Needed: The **DiamondBack Invitational track meet** is scheduled for Saturday, May 8th and we are asking people for their help in working events and/or timing. If you would like to help during the meet please let Tim Tharp, Tom Tranmer, Brent Hitchcock or the school office know at your earliest convenience. Your time and effort is sincerely appreciated. The meet starts at 9:00 am and will conclude at around 1:30 pm. Thank you.





SCHOOL NEWS

May Music News

The month of May is always very busy with festivals and concerts featuring our accomplished music students. First, congratulations to all of the high school students who attended the District Music Festival held in Great Falls April 15 and 16 for a job well done. Those students who received a "I" on their solos and ensembles are: Keely Michel- vocal solo and flute solo, Missy Wahl-violin solo, Amanda Tharp-vocal solo, Katie Caplis and Alex Stephenson-vocal duet, and to Amber Reeve, Kendra Boydston, Keely, Missy, Amanda, Katie and Alex in the Diamonds in the Rough vocal ensemble. They will travel to **Helena** to attend the **Western Montana State Music Festival** on **April 30** and **May 1**.

May 4 is the date of the **Junior High Mass Choir Festival** in **Choteau**. Students from many schools in the surrounding area will practice all day and present an excellent, free concert at **6:30** that evening. Dutton/Brady students involved are Hailee VandenBos, Lawrence Bryant, Reegan DeBruycker, Jude MacDonald, Richard McKay, and Brooklynn Timmerman.

Dutton/Brady School is hosting the **Middle School Mass Band Festival** on **May 11**. Seven schools will join for a day of rehearsal with the 5th and 6th grades making up one band, and the 7th and 8th grades forming another. Our concert of great band pieces will begin at **6:30** in the gym.

On **May 13**, the **4th, 5th and 6th grades** will travel to **Shelby** for a presentation by Ms. Deana Swoboda, a nationally acclaimed clinician. Ms. Swoboda will play various band instruments and join in a mini-concert with the Shelby band students.

Finally, on **May 18** is our **ART SHOW AND MUSIC REVUE** presented by our talented Dutton/Brady students. The **6:30 P.M. concert** will feature all Kindergarten through senior music students. Be sure to come early and stay late to see the **art students' work in the gym**.

PRESS RELEASE

The Dutton/Brady School District 28C announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program for the summer of 2010. The Summer Food Service Program is a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child Nutrition Program that provides free, nutritious meals to children when school is not in session. The program will run from June 1, 2010 to August 20, 2010. Children from birth through age 18 may participate in the program and need not reside in the district.

The following sites will have meals available:

Dutton/Brady School at the Dutton campus: In the lunchroom	Breakfast will begin at 8:00 AM and end at 9:00 AM Lunch will begin at 11:00 AM and end at 12:00 Noon
Birch Creek Hutterite Colony	Breakfast will begin at 6:30 AM and end at 7:30 AM Lunch will begin at 10:30 AM and end at 12:00 Noon
Pondera Hutterite Colony	Breakfast will begin at 6:30 AM and end at 7:30 AM Lunch will begin at 10:30 AM and end at 12:00 Noon

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202)720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

SCHOOL NEWS



The Dutton/Brady Close Up group would like to thank everyone that has supported the group with the purchase of raffle tickets, bake sale items, labor auction, meals, wreaths, swags, poinsettias, cash calendars, pop-a-shot, Avon sales, and 50/50. It is only with your financial support by purchasing the items above that will enable the students to generate the money necessary to finance their trip to Washington, D.C. in the spring of 2011.

The communities support for this endeavor is very much appreciated.

Katie Caplis, Christa Carter, Clinton Habel, Kyler Johnson, Brenna Larson, Jessica Oshio, Amber Reeve, Logan Rossmiller, Wyatt Shumway, Alex Stephenson, Seth Storle & Bridger Timmerman

The last day of preschool will be May 20th!

COMMUNITY NEWS



At the end of May the Dutton Senior Center will be in need of a part-time cook. If you are interested please call Sandy Chevalier at 788-2122.

Help wanted to assist with cleaning the rest area. The job entails two weekends a month. Contact Dee Kimball for more information at 750-9687.

The **Town of Dutton** is now accepting applications for general summer help and lifeguard positions. If you are interested in applying you may pick up an application at the school office during school hours, or at the Town Office Monday through Thursday from 8am to 1pm. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 476-3311.

Babysitter Needed for the summer months for three children. For questions and additional information, please call 476-3034 or 750-1865.

McCulloch – Klinker



Naomi Marie McCulloch and David Alan Klinker have chosen July 24 as the date of their wedding. Parents of the couple are Bryan and Linda McCulloch of Dutton, and Norman and Alyceann Klinker of Fairfield. The bride-to-be graduated from Dutton High School. The Future groom graduated from Fairfield High School and MSU of Bozeman in construction engineering.

WANTED: House to rent: Single mother wanting to raise family in this community. Any offers—please call Brandy Wilson at 406-371-1951 or Rikki Saali at 406-781-3002.

The UMW of the Dutton United Methodist Church will host a breakfast for a Free Will Offering towards the 2010 Ecumenical Vacation Bible School following our church service shortly after 12:00 Noon on Sunday, May 16, 2010.



NATIONAL EMS WEEK

National EMS Week begins May 16, 2010 and runs through May 22nd. To celebrate this event and to honor the town we serve, Dutton EMS will hold its annual barbecue and raffle fundraiser

on Sunday, May 16th from 12 noon until 3:00 pm. Raffle tickets will go on sale on May 16 with the drawing to take place on July 4th. Thank you for your continued support of our volunteer service!



Free to GOOD home: Two – one year old female house cats. Both are fixed and declawed. Please call Karen at 476-3035 if interested (leave a message if no one home.)

We would like to thank everyone who helped with Jean's service, contributed food, sent cards and best wishes. We really appreciate everything! From the family of Jean Fuhringer



The Annual Dutton Garage Sale will be held, Saturday, June 5 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Please call Kathy DeMars for more information, 476-3248.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Dutton / Brady T-Ball news:

Dutton / Brady T-Ball started with a flurry of bats, excited kids, and the addition of a new coach on Monday, April 19th. Our 2010 roster includes several returning players: Alex Perret, Grace Feldmann, Chance Ostberg, Casey Simons, Molly Wahl, Tyler Ellsworth, and the Doheny brothers of Rylan and Kellan. New to the program this year will be Jake Feldmann, Gavin Sealey, and the brother/sister combinations of Jazmyn and Nash Coffman and Drake and Harley Saali.

Coaching our fine group of youngsters will be Art Simons, Mark Saali, and Amanda Doheny. I am looking forward to a good year based on several factors:

- We have a large number of returning players (57% of the team).
- We have new uniforms this year (thanks to the generous support of our corporate sponsors)!
- We have some great new talent and excitement with our newest team members.
- The weather is so far cooperating.
- Our new coach Mark has a vast of amount of baseball/softball experience. The man comes prepared with his own bag of equipment!

After two short weeks of practice, we will begin our playing schedule. Our game schedule is short.....but INTENSE!

Tuesday.....5/4/10	@ Conrad6:30PM
Thursday5/6/10	@ Dutton6:30PM
Tuesday5/11/10	@ Dutton6:30PM
Thursday.....5/13/10	@ Dutton.....6:30PM
Tuesday.....5/18/10	@ Conrad6:30PM
Thursday.....5/20/10	@ Valier.....6:30PM

Our tournament begins the first week of June.

New uniforms have been provided this year thanks to several area and local business'. Our uniforms (shirts only for this year) will be just like the major league players wear. We look forward to representing our team, school and community with our sharp new apparel. The cost of the uniforms was substantial \$450. We asked three sponsors to cover the cost of the uniforms. A big **THANK YOU** to:

DUTTON STATE BANK

DOHENY FARMS

AZALEA PLACE ASSISTED LIVING

These uniforms will have corporate sponsor logos to show our appreciation! We would like to get matching pants either this year or next year if we can obtain additional corporate or community support. We plan to use these uniforms for the next three or four years, so it is a good investment for your advertising dollar. I cannot think of a better investment, supporting kids in our community....please consider sponsoring (contact any of our coaches for further information).

I also want to thank all the folks that help make T-Ball possible. Our volunteer coaches, the Dutton Baseball board members, the town for providing our game/practice facilities, the Dutton/Brady School and Bryan Schoonover for preparing the field each year and Cliff Suek for striping the field. A final big thank you to Grammie B's for sponsoring last year's end-of-the year dinner.

Please plan on attending one or all of our games this year. We offer exciting plays, a few laughs and the best entertainment for your hard-earned dollar (no admittance fee!). Win or lose.....we are all winners in my book for trying a team sport, making small improvements in our athletic abilities while making big strides in our confidence and courage!

Art Simons – Head Coach

Dutton/Brady May Newsletter



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