



a monthly electronic bulletin board with news, salutes and more

Schools help NPS celebrate its 100th Birthday



(top row) Susanne Shore, Nebraska's First Lady, speaks to students about never giving up. Tyler Struck exceeded the event. Park Superintendent Mark Engler speaks to students. (bottom row) Beatrice High School cheerleaders get the crowd energized. Students enjoy The String Beans.

Becoming one of the best in the nation
Beatrice Public Schools'
Strategic Plan
 Monthly Update

One aspect of the Strategic Plan is to “ensure effective communication in order to unite all members of our partnership in achieving our mission and objective.”

Each month *the Beat* will select one strategy along with a specific result and

focus on one Action Step that has been completed.

Strategy: “We will stimulate and strengthen mutual engagement throughout the community.”

Specific Result: Increase active involvement of students, staff and the board in community activities, organizations, and businesses.

Action Step: Provide additional opportunities for students’ talents to be out in the community. (i.e. Limited Edition

singing at nursing homes, artwork at the Chamber of Commerce)

On Aug. 25 all four elementary schools celebrated the 100th birthday of the National Park Service. The celebration was a collaborative effort of Homestead National Monument of America, Beatrice Public Schools, St. Paul Elementary and St. Joseph Elementary.

As a part of the celebration the high school cheerleaders led the students in cheers and senior high music students sang special music and led the audience in singing “Happy Birthday” to the national park service.

Service Awards

Staff honored for service to Beatrice Public Schools

Employees were honored for their years of service to Beatrice Public Schools on Friday, Aug. 10. Each recipient with 5 to 20 years of service received Beatrice Bucks while those with 25 year of service received a watch. Employees with over 25 years received certificates.



45 years: Sarah Morris



35 years: Chuck Brockman



30 years: Bob Sexton



Five years: Jackie Nielsen, Tyler Struck, Erin Hamilton, Beth Sederberg, Samantha Buchli, Jessica Wegner, Sydnee West, Tiffany Tracy. Not pictured: Josh Barnard, Maxine Gowen, Rogena Jantzen, Benjamin Nies, Dawn Stone, Koby Thatcher, Marcia Vontz, and Natasha Wof.



Ten years: Neal Randel, Cristina Jerez-Delgado, Angela Vogel and James West. Not pictured: Donna Arena, Linda Bates, Kellie Carpenter, Lillian Czarnick, Kylie Essam, Kenneth Kleveland, James Paul, Jess Perrett, and Joyce Wenzbauer.



Fifteen years: Jan Steffen, Salome Ausin-Dodge, and Betty Bstanding. Not pictured: Kathryn Casey, Rhondarae Henderson, Coreen Nock, Jane Oeltjen, Laurie Spilker, and Diane Summers.



Twenty years: Ron Kassmeier, Patti Lauritsen, Dawn Enns, Debra Thimm, and Missy Mahoney. Not pictured: Michelle Blum, Vickie Detter Dawn, and David Koch.

25-year winners are on the next page

Service Awards



Twenty-five years: Dave Bell, and Pam Henning. Not pictured: Sherrie Beekman, Ellen Miller and Cynthia Mittan.

Work-Based Learning
Life Skills Programs
College, Career Visits

Earning College Credit
Personalized Learning Plans
Individualized Planning-My Purpose

Junior Achievement
College Day
Work Crew

Take a **closer** look!
BPS

Focusing on Career and College Education in Senior high students explore career options



Senior high teachers displayed their alma mater t-shirts on College Day. They also encouraged students to ask questions about the college experience.

‘We work with our 9-12 students on the Nebraska Career Connections program. Each student completes an interest inventory and identifies a career field of interest from the Nebraska Career Education Model. Based on their career field of interest, each student creates a 4-year plan of study. We also have each of our high school students set short, mid, and long range goals for themselves.’

-Tracy Post, senior high counselor

Taking a Close Look

Work-Based Learning
Life Skills Programs
College, Career Visits

Earning College Credit
Personalized Learning Plans
Individualized Planning-My Purpose

Junior Achievement
College Day
Work Crew

Take a **closer** look!

Focusing on Career and College Education in Elementary students look at career possibilities

closer
BPS

A typical question to ask young people is: What do you want to be when you grow up? At the Beatrice Public Schools Elementary buildings, we make the statement: Look at all you can be when you grow up! Students are guided to explore the vast array of careers through a variety of activities. They take interest inventories to discover what careers match things they already love to do. They also look into the skills and education levels required of various occupations through activities, videos, interviews, and research. Students at all levels take a look at what it would be like to have a certain career: what does the worker wear? where do they go? what tools do they use? what do they do during the day? etc. We also discuss the soft skills necessary to be a good worker. Students learn concepts like Responsibility and Work before Play and Staying on Task, which not only helps them develop good habits for being a student, but will also carry over into them being a desired employee. Of course we don't expect the students at this level to choose what they want to do. Our purpose is to expose them to the idea of having a career, and answering why having a career would be beneficial to them and their community. *-Jill Rice, elementary counselor*

Middle school students visit colleges, use Career Connections



Students in the middle school wore shirts from a variety of colleges on College Colors Day. Students were encouraged to wear their favorite college's t-shirt.

At BMS, we offer many opportunities to help support college and career readiness in our students. On September 2, 2016, we celebrated national College Colors Day and students dressed up in their favorite college's gear. Our 8th graders will have the opportunity to go on two fields trips to college campuses. On September 27, 2016, we will take our 8th graders to Explore It! Day at Southeast Community College in Beatrice. On April 12, 2017, we will take our 8th graders to College Access Day at UNL. On both days, students will go on tours of the campuses and participate in activities related to the students' career interests and gain knowledge about being ready for college. During BONUS Day, students learn more about setting goals, using Nebraska Career Connections, and what it takes to get to college.

-Angie Vogel, middle school counselor

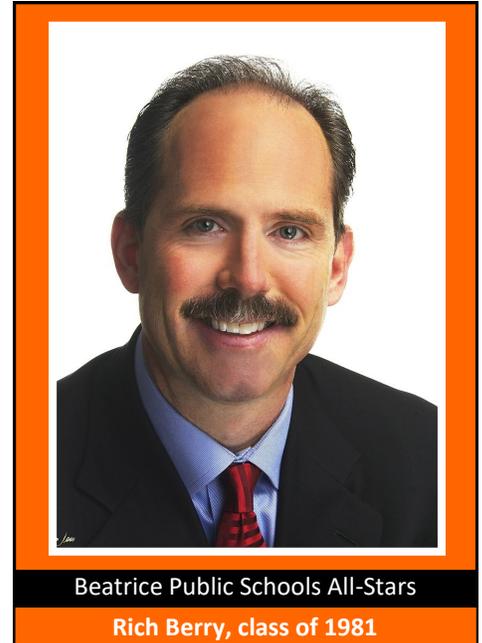
They first staked their claim with Beatrice Public Schools and now are among the best in the nation

Berry serving as mayor of Albuquerque



'As mayor of a large city and a former state legislator I am reminded every day that a good education is the key to success in life for everyone. I also understand that it is also the antidote for many of the social challenges that we face as a nation. I was fortunate to have the benefit of a great public education; in a school system that was dedicated to student success, and intentional in their effort to provide a solid foundation for my future. I remember the academic rigor, but also a palpable sense of place and pride in the community. I learned the fundamentals of math, science, communications and English; but as importantly, it was ingrained in me that I could be anything I wanted to be as long as I brought passion and hard work to the equation. Of course I loved sports and being able to represent my community as an Orangeman. I also enjoyed art and orchestra and still make music a part of each day. I am always grateful for the education I received in the Beatrice public school system. Thanks to all the teachers who make it their life's work to prepare and inspire the next generation of citizens and leaders.'

Richard J. Berry, class of 1981



Beatrice Public Schools All-Stars

Rich Berry, class of 1981

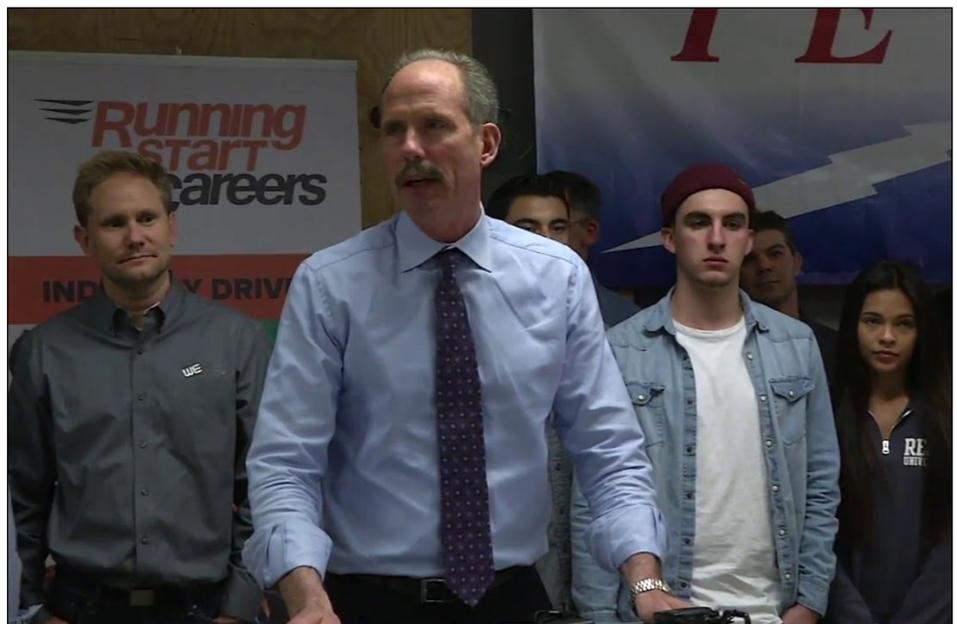
(below) Mayor Richard J. Berry at a press conference announcing the Running Start for Careers program.

Rich Berry has served as mayor of Albuquerque since Dec. 1, 2009. He was formerly a two-term member of the New Mexico House of Representatives.

Berry serves as the Chairman of the U.S. Conference of Mayors Metro Economies Committee, as well as an elected member of the Advisory Board. In addition, he served as the chairman of the Community Leaders of America from 2013-2015.

He initiated an "Efficiency, Stewardship, and Accountability" program that encourages employees of the City of Albuquerque to report areas of inefficiency or waste in city resources, offering a cash incentive to employees to encourage participation. As of 2015, the program has saved taxpayers over \$20 million, according to Wikipedia.

One of Mayor Berry's core focus areas is augmenting the existing edu-



cational system with smart public sector investments. One way he is doing this is through a program called Running Start for Careers, a nationally recognized apprenticeship and education program.

The program resulted in higher graduation rates among participants. Running Start for Careers was named one of the Top 25 "Innovations in Government" by the Harvard Ash Center in May 2015.

Board approves new transportation provider

Tech Bond Hearing

Business Manager John Brazell told the board that this bond is a continuation of the current \$100,000 technology bond. The district ends up with approximately \$96,000 and the funds are used for infrastructure and hardware costs. The levy is about .88 of a cent under the current valuation.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Pat Nauroth said 15 new certified hires have spent the last couple of days in training. He reminded the board that the opening day for all staff is on Wednesday, Aug. 10. He said board members are welcome to attend. Nauroth also talked about the transgender issue. He said the district is concerned about the privacy and safety of all students and the administration will handle situations on a case by case basis. He also said he shared information on this issue from the school attorney with the administrators.

Action Agenda

School Attorney Rex Schultze shared a packet of informational materials on the spec house project. He said a timeline concept has been developed as well as a cooperative agreement with the city of Beatrice to provide a lot.

The spec house timeline effort came out of a meeting that included a potential contractor and the Industrial Tech teacher. The timeline contains a list of the tasks that would need to take place for this type of project as well as due dates to keep the project on schedule. Schultze noted that a career education permit would need to be obtained which allows a non-certificated individual to work directly with students.

He informed the board that there just wasn't enough time to get everything

in place for this school year. His goal is to continue moving forward and to bring something official to the board in January or February for approval for the 2017-18 school year.

The board heard first readings on six policies. It also approved the Elementary Science Interlocal Agreement for 2016-17 with ESU#5 which provides approximately 29 sections of elementary science.

The board voted to participate in the Nebraska Technology Cooperative and to authorize the Cooperative to issue bonds. Approval was also given to a loan with the Nebraska Department of Energy and to the contract with Johnson Controls for energy savings.

Brazell said that Mid States is the new transportation provider. The board voted to approve the three year contract with Mid States.

The board also reaffirmed several administrative job descriptions. And a half-time contract with Dr. Don Belau, school psychologist.

The Action portion of the meeting ended with the board approving administrator salaries and benefits for the upcoming school year. It was a 2.08 total package increase.

Administrators' Report

Curriculum director Jackie Nielsen reported on summer school. At the elementary level 177 students attended 12 or more days and a total of 238 students participated in the Best Possible Summer Learning Experience.

Some of the activities included: reading/writing book camp; exploring the judicial process which included a field trip to court house and putting on a mock trial; math- music time (chords, beats, etc.); science- fairy tale stem;

behind the scenes of CSI; and bats eat bugs out at Homestead National Monument. BPS partnered locally with the Homestead National Monument, Humane Society (camp Paw Paw), Southeast Community College (explored summer camps at SCC), Beatrice Public Library, UNL Extension Office, and Orange Owl Painting Studio

Nielsen said that development of reading/language and math skills was the focus at the middle school level. A total of 23 students attended a minimum of 12 days and were taught by Dave Bell and Cindy Gronewold.

Principal Jason Sutter said the focus at the high school was on credit recovery. He said 24 students participated. The English focus was taught by Kathryn Glenn. Erin Hamilton and Ed Ankrom taught math and used a classroom setting that proved to be very successful.

Next Meetings

The next meeting of the Committee of the Whole will be on Sept. 22 at 6 p.m. in the Central Administration Building. The next board meeting will be on Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. at the Central Administration Building.

Beatrice Public Schools Board of Education

Janet Byars

Doris Martin

Andy Maschmann

Lisa Pieper, President

Nancy Sedlacek

Jon Zimmerman, Vice-President

Pat Nauroth, Superintendent

Board of Education Meetings

Sept. 22, 6 p.m.

Committee of the Whole Meeting

Oct. 10, 7 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting



Keep track of what is going on in Beatrice Public Schools.

Go to www.beatricepublicschools.org

to have *the Beat* sent to your e-mail each month.

in the know

www.beatricepublicschools.org