



STRIVING TO BE AMONG THE BEST IN THE NATION

BEATRICE SCHOOL NEWS

www.beatricepublicschools.org

Improving Instruction—Professional Development

Designing quality instruction and providing appropriate activities for all students is not always easy. One way Beatrice Public Schools meet this challenge is through focused staff development to improve instruction and increase student achievement. District professional development stresses three areas:

- Curriculum – what a student needs to know
- Instruction – how teachers present the curriculum to students
- Teacher Evaluation – recognize staff achievement and support improvement



Our District’s strategic plan highlights these areas as critical to our goal of being among the best in the nation.

During the 2015/16 school year, we plan to implement a new evaluation tool that more accurately reflects the teaching / learning process. District staff will review their curriculum to ensure the rigorous demands of the newly adopted state standards are being met in all areas. The process to accomplish all of this is called Professional Development time which includes:

- Full days – set aside for staff to work without students
- Wednesday early release – called Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)

Both avenues provide time for collaboration among staff members, communication to create consistency, evaluation of data, and exploration of best practices and interventions to implement in the classroom.



Summer Fun: Expanded Learning Opportunities

This year, Beatrice Public Schools will introduce expanded summer learning experiences for K-5 students through a variety of hands-on activities offered during the month of June. Our goal is to provide summer learning opportunities which focus on enrichment and higher order thinking skills, for all students, while weaving in the core practices of reading, math, writing, and science. Look for more information coming in March... and don’t miss out on the fun!



Beatrice Community Preschool

Beatrice Community Preschool offers a hands-on, play-based education for all students ages 3-4. We operate on a 4 day schedule (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday) with half day programs for 3 year olds and a choice of half or full day programs for our 4 year olds. Our preschool helps develop the pre-academic skills needed for students to go to school ready to learn all while in a structured, fun, caring play-based environment. To enroll or ask more questions please call [402-223-1512](tel:402-223-1512).



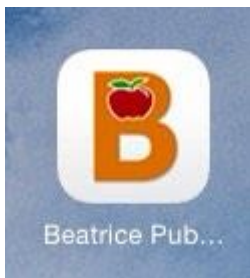
Elementary Facility Update

The Board of Education is in the process of fact finding, considering our current facilities, figuring costs, and gathering input from the community.

In order to both maximize and control costs, the Board of Education chose to use a Construction Management at Risk (CM@R). This method brings the entire team (school – architect – construction manager) together early in the process so everyone is on the same page and giving input. The result is a guaranteed maximum price and fewer change orders in general.

The team of Caspers Construction and Sampson Construction was selected to fill the CM@R position based upon the following:

- They are highly qualified to provide the CM@R work and have done numerous projects of this scope
- Their recent work on the hospital demonstrates an ability to work jointly on a project and produce a high-quality product
- Their presentation showed a clear understanding of the issues associated with the project, its tie to the strategic plan, and a commitment to pre-bond work
- They have demonstrated the ability to involve local contractors in projects (i.e. 30% of the hospital construction involved local contractors), which is a high priority for the Board of Education



Mobile App

Keep up with everything going on at Beatrice Public Schools by downloading our new mobile app from the App Store for Apple devices or the Play Store for Android devices. Best of all, it's free.

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