

Beatrice Public Schools

August 2016



the Beat

a monthly electronic bulletin board with news, salutes and more

Nauroth says 'Welcome Back'



The start of a new school year is always an exciting time and there are a number of positive changes going on at Beatrice Public Schools. The District has added two preschool programs for this year to serve the needs of youngest learners. The elementary buildings are planning a big kick-off in late August to help students focus on a great school year – both academically and as citizens of our community. Students will determine how they

will STAKE THEIR CLAIM to make this happen. Look for more information in the near future. The Middle School has a new schedule that better meets the needs of students and encourages student involvement. The High School is adding career academies in Law Enforcement and Business. Students who have an interest in these areas will be able to gain practical experience while getting low cost college credit. Lastly, the length of staff development time on Wednesday has been shortened by 30 minutes. This gives students more time in front of teachers and still allows the needed staff development time so staff can provide the best education possible for our children. These changes will bring us closer to our vision of being **AMONG THE BEST IN THE NATION**. That's what our children deserve. Have a great start to the year.

Being the Best

Being the Best recognizes the achievements of staff members. Please send items to thebeat@bpsnebr.org.

Grant benefits students



Dr. Joan Christen, high school science teacher, received a \$10,000 grant from Monsanto. Labquests will be purchased to help students learn at Beatrice High School.

Summer school success



Best Possible Summer was once again a success as the number of elementary students increased by nearly 10 percent with 172 students attending for 12 or more days. Students once again chose from a wide variety of courses including ¿Habla Español?, Sew Much Fun, Candy Experiments, Art Makes You Smart, Camp Paw Paw, and Platform 9 ¾" Hogwarts Express.

Take a closer look! Putting the focus on BPS

Beatrice Public School staff members provide preschool through high school students with experiences to expand their knowledge in a variety of areas. Each month the district will be focusing on one aspect of its curriculum. If you or someone you know is doing something in the following areas please contact us at thebeat@bpsnebr.org so it can be featured in the Beat: September, *Career and College Ready*; October, *Unique Programming Options*; November-December, *Student Services Projects*; January, *Career Academies and Dual Credit Classes*; February, *Extended Learning Opportunities*; March, *Community Partnerships*; April, *Preschool*; and May, *Student Successes*.

New Staff Members

2016-17 school year begins Fifteen new staff join Beatrice Public Schools



(front Row) Alexis Pawoll, high school English; Brenda Savage, preschool; Kristin Douglas, middle school art; Kathy Nauroth, Academic Assessment Assistant, Samantha Pfungsten, preschool; Laura Koenig, preschool; Sydney Osburn, second grade; Laura Bigley, elementary music; Jennifer Frihauf, preschool, (second row) Jacob Smiley, high school English, theater; Cale Kaiser, high school Spanish; Jeremy Henry, high school special education; Kaylee Korte, fourth grade; Emily Rush, preschool; Erin Johnson, preschool speech language pathologist

Luers strives to provide the best for each student

Ann is one of the speech language pathologists at Paddock Lane Elementary. She is an advocate for students and parents of Paddock Lane, according to her nominator.

“She is extremely dedicated to her job and always puts forth the effort to meet the needs of her students. Ann is an energetic and creative teacher when it comes to educating students with speech needs. She provides hands on, unique learning experiences to help them reach their goals.

While Ann is only scheduled four days a week, she selflessly works extra hours and always offers her assistance to co-workers. During assessment time, she is very willing to help other teachers assess all students. She does all of this while providing all services to her students as well. She is

also very willing to share ideas and her knowledge with her peers. After she attends conferences, she continually asks to share the pertinent information with the staff at Paddock Lane to help them improve in meeting the needs of all learners.

As she is building plans for the students, she continues to put thought into every situation and always looks for other’s perspectives. She wants to ensure that she provides the highest educational opportunity for each child striving to make personal connections with all of her students.

Ann is a great asset to our district. Along with treating every stakeholder with dignity and respect, she always has a smile on her face and makes her surroundings an enjoyable place to work!”



Ann Luers helps a student at Paddock Lane.

Stake Your Claim

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

Rohr's childhood dream becomes a reality



BHS prepared me for college and my career by giving me several chances to display my talents in sports media. Between working on the Pioneer newspaper and serving as the public-address announcer for BHS Athletics, I had several chances to build my talent as a broadcaster and sportswriter. I was also well-supported by people on the Beatrice HS campus and people in Beatrice.

Nate Rohr

Nate Rohr was recently named the public-address announcer for Nebraska Football home games at Memorial Stadium.

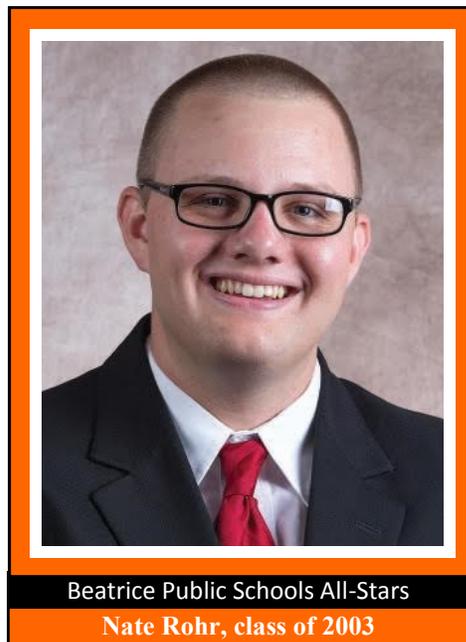
Jim Rose, Nebraska Athletic Department, said, "Husker fans, meet Nate Rohr, proud son of Beatrice. If pulling for the home team counts, we just got the best one in the business."

He also works on the Husker Sports Network's broadcasts of Nebraska Football road games as a spotter and statistician (he has worked in that role since 2007). He has done play-by-play for the Husker Sports Network's broadcasts of Nebraska Softball since May 2004, including every game since 2010.

Rohr also does play-by-play of high school football and basketball on Time Warner Cable Sports Channel in Lincoln. On top of all of that, he arranges where all the ads go on all the

Husker Sports Network's broadcasts as HSN's traffic manager.

His intro on Facebook sums up his life. It says, "I read about sporting events, watch sporting events and talk about them as they happen. Not a bad life."



(right) Nate Rohr announces a Husker softball game. He will be the announcer for Husker football games this fall.

Board Briefs

A look at what happened at the board of education meeting

Handbook approval given

Superintendent's Report

Pat Nauroth said he was pleased with the turn out at the elementary facility meeting and felt it went very well. He noted that the custodial and maintenance crews have done a great job with the summer work projects.

Committee of the Whole

Vice-President Jon Zimmerman presented the Committee of the Whole report for July.

A summer work update was provided by John Brazell, business manager.

Jackie Nielsen, director of curriculum, discussed the plan for improving student writing in the district.

An early childhood update was provided by Theresa Smith, principal, and Missy Timmerman, birth to 5 coordinator. The focus was on the recent growth of the program.

The meeting ended with a fairly lengthy discussion on the elementary facility options. He asked the board to narrow down the options to present to the public.

Community Meeting

Nauroth said he found one of the comments from the survey to be a good indicator of how people in the community felt. The respondent said, "I'm not sure

what the best answer is in order to meet the needs of schools and have community support, but feel like continuing to communicate with the community members will help in being successful."

Board members then talked about how they felt about the community meeting. Janet Byars said she thought the meeting went well and the community was very engaged.

Andy Maschmann said he would like more meetings of this type for community members.

Jon Zimmerman said he would also like more of these type of meetings.

Lisa Pieper said since the meeting she has had many people stop and tell her they were happy with the opportunity to share their comments and concerns.

Action Agenda

The board approved changes to the Certificated Staff Handbook, the Classified Employee Handbook, and the Substitute Handbook. It also reaffirmed the Board of Education meeting pamphlet.

The board then went into Executive Session to discuss administrator salaries and benefits. After returning to open session the board voted to table approval of administrator and the superintendent salaries and benefits until the August board meeting.

The August Committee of the Whole Meeting will be Aug. 25 at 6 p.m. and the September Board of Education meeting will be Sept. 12 at 7 p.m. Both meetings will be at the Central Administration Building.



Curriculum Director Jackie Nielsen talks to staff members about the district's continued focus on staff evaluation and utilizing the feedback to help all teachers continue to grow.

One aspect of the Strategic Plan is to "insure 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 enhance each student's educational journey by creating compelling and innovative learning experiences, promoting individual goals, interests, and aspirations.

Specific Result 2: Increase student and faculty engagement by developing compelling innovative learning experiences.

Action Step: Provide professional development to help connect student learning and their individual learning and their individual goals to 21st century skills-critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creativity.

The professional development provided teachers with opportunities to continue to explore Marzano's instructional framework, so they can plan research-based, engaging lessons to help all students move forward with the content.

Board of Education Meetings

Aug. 25, 6 p.m.

Committee of the Whole Meeting

Sept. 12, 7 p.m.

Board of Education Meeting



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

Go to <http://www.beatricepublicschools.org/vcalendar/>

in the know

www.beatricepublicschools.org

Beatrice Public Schools Board of Education

**Janet Byars, Doris Martin,
Andy Maschmann**

Lisa Pieper, President

**Nancy Sedlacek, Jon Zimmerman
Pat Nauroth, Superintendent**