



BIG BAY DE NOC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

OUR FUTURE BEGINS NOW

November 2011

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- 11/8 * School Board Election
- * Booster Club Meeting 6:00
- 11/9 * No School - Teacher Inservice
- Parent-Teacher Conf. 1:00-6:00
- 11/15 * No School - Hunting Day
- 11/21 * School Board Meeting 6:30
- 11/23,24,25 No School - Thanksgiving
- 12/14 * Christmas Concert - 7:00 pm
- 12/23-1/2 No School - Winter Break



**Parent/Teacher Conferences
November 9 from 1:00-6:00**

**Elementary Christmas Concert
December 14, 2011 - 7:00**

Big Bay de Noc School has a Facebook Page! 

From the search bar in FaceBook search for Big Bay de Noc School with the official school logo, "Like" our page and receive updates on school activities and announcements in your News Feed! We currently have 119 "friends" and growing!

SCHOOL WEBSITE is www.bigbayschool.com

- * Annual school calendar
- * Breakfast/lunch menu
- * Announcements
- * Athletic Schedules
- * PowerSchool Access
- * And lots more!

SIGNS OF THE SEASON

The students and staff of the Big Bay de Noc School extend our thanks to the **Scott and Mary Dekeyser Family** of Cooks (pictured right) for donating a truck load of pumpkins from their patch to "create" a patch here at the school so that our younger students could wander around the pumpkin patch and pick out their perfect pumpkin for the season. As an additional treat, Mr. & Mrs. Dekeyser treated the kids to ice cream!



A big thank you also goes out to our **Parent/Teacher Organization** for organizing the Annual Halloween Carnival which was held at the school on October 21. There were games, costumes, cupcakes and candy galore for our elementary students. Thank you to all you who brought in donations or helped out in any way. This event would not have been possible without you!



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

The students and staff send out a big thank you to all the area emergency personnel who volunteered their time again this year to visit the school in October for Fire Prevention Week. The students always enjoy inspecting all the emergency vehicles, going through the smoke house as well as receiving goodie bags and fire hats.

Not only do they have a good time, they learn the important facts of how to prevent fires and what to do if one should occur. Thank you again volunteers for all you do for our community!



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

On October 31 the Big Bay de Noc School District will be visited by Representative Ed McBroom and Senator Tom Casperson. This visit will allow us to show that even with reduced per pupil funding from state aid, we have been able to provide our students an updated building facility due to our tax payers' very positive support of the sinking fund. The sinking fund millage has been in existence since 1997 and the Big Bay de Noc Board of Education through the years has used these funds in appropriate and positive manner to enhance the student learning environment and make necessary improvements to the infrastructure. Through local support, the community is doing its part to fund education. The problem that exists is the limitations of what the sinking fund money may be used for. There are two additional areas that we would like the legislature to support with sinking fund expenditures.



First is the ability to help defray transportation costs which means the purchase of buses with sinking fund revenue. We are a small, rural Upper Peninsula district that relies on the buses to get students to and from school in a safe and timely manner

with a long season of bad weather. Our student population is sparsely spread over the 500 square miles the district encompasses. If general operation dollars are expended on busing, then less money goes directly to students and teachers in the classroom where it is truly needed. If the sinking fund could defray some of the costs of transportation, the Board would have more money available to make critical curriculum decisions for our students and enhance classroom materials.

Secondly, it would be advantageous to use sinking fund money on technology needs for the school district. Again as a small, isolated rural school we need to prepare our students for the global challenges that their future will hold for them and create new and interesting learning possibilities with technology that can save money in other areas of the budget. Please help us send this message to the local politicians. Both of these items have been presented to the legislature but historically it has not come out of committee. Your support in both of these possible sinking fund expenditures would be greatly appreciated.

- Supt. William Pistulka

WEATHER WATCH

With winter season fast approaching please make sure you check local media outlets if we should experience inclement weather or power outages. When school is to be cancelled or begin with a late start, local Superintendents and Transportation Directors begin discussing this at 4:30 a.m. with contacts to the State Police and county officials to determine if school should be in session that day. The goal is to have this information to local radio and television stations by 6:00 a.m. As soon as it is decided that school will be cancelled or delayed, the radio stations and TV6 will be alerted. It is also posted on the school's website (www.bigbayschool.com). Please DO NOT contact the school; rely on the media to inform you accordingly of the plan. Your patience and understanding in this important decision is greatly appreciated.



HIGH SCHOOL BOWL WINNERS

Big Bay's High School Bowl Team WON 230 to 90 against Cedarville in October and will play again on November 9th against Menominee. The October match will be broadcast on WNMU TV13 on November 12 at 8:00 p.m. Pictured below L to R: Allison Farley, Christine Knudson, Stephanie Hubble, Holden Pelletier, Shiloh LaButte, Advisor Christy Eagle. Not pictured: Clayton Bradshaw.



BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

The Board of Education at its October 10 regular meeting:

- * approved the agenda as amended and the minutes of the September 19, 2011 regular meeting as presented.
- * Donna Winkel, Business Manager, updated the Board on the bids received for the Tax Anticipation Note with the award going to the State Savings Bank.
- * approved the monthly expenditures for September, 2011 in the amount of \$305,595.87, which includes general fund accounts payable in the amount of \$175,398.05.
- * Bill Pistulka, Superintendent, updated the board: The C.U.P. athletic conference is exploring adding Munising and establishing a north and south component to the conference. The official student count is 239. There will be a finance committee meeting on November 17, 2011 to discuss the amended budget. Jackie and Laurie from food service are setting up visits to other schools to view kitchen facilities. In the near future, we should receive cost estimates from IDI concerning future Sinking Fund renovations. DeeDee, Mary Gollakner and Bill met with Doug Smith to review possible playground renovations and equipment as the first step in forming a Playground Committee. John Denholm informed the Board about the search for grant money to be used for community recreation enhancements. Tom Casperson, and possibly Ed McBroom will be visiting our school on October 31, from about 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- * DeeDee Thill, Principal updated the Board: The Garden Peninsula Economic Task Force will be holding a Career Awareness Program for our students. The BEARS behavior rewards program is being used with excellent results. Fire Prevention Day was a huge success with Garden, Inwood, Nahma, Thompson and Hiawatha fire departments participating.
- * adopted the Resolution to Protect School Aid Fund Revenue as presented.
- * Joy Bloom informed the Board about the services the district receives from her through MapleRidge Computers. They include extensive hardware and software support, as well as program assistance in numerous areas.
- * moved into closed session at 7:00 p.m. to discuss attorney-client communication. Reconvened regular session at 7:19.
- * adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

SCHOLARSHIP MEMORIALS

In memory of **GLORIA PETERSON:**
Dave & Roberta Johnson Mark Martin & Sandy Casey
Colleen & Tim Weinert Kay & Jerry Cousineau
Gary Linn & Cindy Winn Sandra Groleau
Wade & Marlene Groleau Phil & Lisa Groleau
Craig & Cathy Knudson David & Kay Pelletier
Louis & Sally Lauzon Craig & Brenda Johnson
Herman & Ellen Robere Mary & Craig Gierke
Jeanne Nedeau Jim & Carol Dalgord
Susan Watson & Mac Robinson Lynda Brown & Family
Leon & Dorothy Duquette Diana Thill
Walter & Rosemary Garvin John & Sara Bagley
Rex & Judy Napora Donna Floore
Alpine Family Eyecare (Keith Moulds)
Summer Island Association: (Terry & Sandra Brooks, Mark & Kendra Sable, E Dan Stevens, Tom & Chris Ellinboe, Fritz Dodge, Richard Chute, Todd Marlatt, Richard McLellan, Karen Adams)

In memory of **JOSEPH REID:** From the Reid Family
In memory of **JANICE GUERTIN:** Janice Guertin Golf Memorial
In memory of **TYLER FRANKOVICH:** The 2011 Senior Grad Party
In memory of **ANDREW FASE:** Wade & Marlene Groleau
In memory of **JOHN MOBERG:** Rosalyn Plas
In memory of **EMMA HARDY:** Mark Martin & Sandy Casey
In memory of **KENT PETERSON:** Bruce & Janet Lozuaway
In memory of **PEGGY GRAY:** Bruce & Janet Lozuaway

PLAYGROUND MEMORIALS

In memory of **WAYNE SEAMAN:** Ivonette Robere
In memory of **CLEO HERMES:**
Ron & Helen Peterson Lois Saxon
Jim & Carol Morrison Ivonette Robere
In memory of **EMMA HARDY:** Ivonette Robere
Lois Saxon Jim & Carol Morrison
In memory of **FERN GRENIER:** Ron & Helen Peterson
In memory of **VIRGINIA VANDYCK:** Lois Saxon
John & Linda Thill Jim & Carol Morrison
Barry & Bonnie Rochefort Ron & Helen Peterson
In memory of **GLORIA PETERSON:**
Lois Saxon Ron & Helen Peterson
Jim & Carol Morrison Ivonette Robere
Jon & Jennifer Hermes John & Linda Thill
John & Bea LaTulip Tom & Pat Flint
Glenda McArthey Alfred & Eleanor Swanson
Graham & Daniel McNamee Ray & Pat Hentkowski
Randy & Laurie VanRemortel Richard & Marcella Tatrow
Pat Thill Myron & Mary VanEffen
Penny Gierke Don & Shirley Thennes
Wayne LaVigne & Dawn White Steve & Brenda Tibbetts
In memory of **VIRGEL WINTER:**
Barry & Bonnie Rochefort Ivonette Robere
In memory of **JANET GOLDI:** John & Linda Thill
In memory of **JANICE GUERTIN:**
4th Annual Memorial Golf Scramble

LIBRARY MEMORIALS

In memory of **EMMA HARDY:**
Marie Guoin Carol and Jim Dalgord
In memory of **VIRGINIA VANDYCK:** Phyllis Strassler
Carol and Bernard Lund Morgan and DeAnna Tatrow
In memory of **GLORIA PETERSON:** Marie Guoin
Herb and Donna Pomeroy Ivan and Kathleen Rochefort
Bill and Connie Hardwick Morgan and DeAnna Tatrow
Lorelei and Hank McRoberts Mike and Trina Nedeau
Brenn and Michelle Kurth Dennis and Shirley Guertin
Doug and Charlene Thennes Jeff and Becky Thennes
Greg and Val Morrison Pat Rasmussen
Robert & Karen Berbohm Dave & Sharon Rudden
Lisa Boudreau John Gierke
Anne & John Thousand Catherine & Thomas Coveyou
Murry & Penny Patz William Doyle
Eunice Peterson Grant & Patricia Heslip
Anthony & Verlene Hoskey Jill Bentgen

In memory of **WAYNE & VERNON SEAMAN:** Ethel Peterson
In memory of **BUD WINTERS:** Herb and Donna Pomeroy
In memory of **FERN GRENIER:** Morgan and DeAnna Tatrow
In memory of **ROSIE FOSSE:**
The Slavinsky Family Rebecca Tatrow
In memory of **JOE REID:** Herb and Donna Pomeroy
In memory of **JANICE GUERTIN:**
Annual Memorial Golf Tournament

* A donation was received from the Retired School Personnel of Schoolcraft County.
* Ethel Peterson also donated a two year subscription to Smithsonian magazine

BOOSTER CLUB MEMORIALS

In memory of **GLORIA PETERSON:** Peter Nusbaun
Medical Management Asso. Inc. Martha & Don Grothe
Gerald & Diane McPhee Whitefish Hunting Club
Keith & Mary Rochefort John & Jacqueline LaVallee
Mackinac Straits Fish Co. Darrel & Margaret LaVigne
Gerard & Mary Jean Bernier Vernell O'Hara & Family
Sharon Seaman Ivan & Kathleen Rochefort

SENIOR CLASS NEWS

The senior class is selling 2012 'birthday' calendars over the next month. These calendars will have a colored, class photo of each grade from pre-school through the senior class. All of the students', faculty, and staff birthdays will be listed on the calendar on the appropriate dates. The calendars will be selling for \$10 each until November 21st. Calendars will be delivered the week of December 19th -in time for Christmas! They make a great gift! Please contact a senior to place your order or call school at 644-2773 ext. 129 to leave a message/order.

The next pasty sale will be Friday, November 4th. Pasties are selling for \$3 each and make a great, quick meal on cold fall days or for hunting camp. Get your orders in quickly-we ran out in October! Again, contact a senior to place your order or call 644-2773 ext. 129. If you're leaving a phone message, be sure to include your name, phone number, and how many pasties you want. Thank you for supporting the senior class!



Boys' Basketball Schedule

Coaches: Pete Schlenvotg and Steve Pelletier

Date	Day	Time	Site	Opponent
12/5	Mon	6:00	Home	Superior Central
12/8	Thurs	6:00	Home	Gladstone
12/15	Thurs	6:00	Away	Bark River
12/28	Wed	4:30	Away	Carney
1/3	Tues	6:00	Away	Gladstone
1/5	Thurs	6:00	Away	Munising
1/9	Mon	6:00	Home	Carney
1/16	Mon	6:00	Home	Mid Pen
1/19	Thurs	6:15	Away	North Central
1/24	Tues	6:00	Away	Rapid River
1/27	Fri	7:00	Home	Hannahville
1/31	Tue	6:00	Home	Bark River
2/4	Sat	6:00	Away	Engadine
2/7	Tues	6:00	Home	Munising
2/10	Fri	6:00	Home	North Central
2/14	Tues	6:00	Away	Mid Pen
2/21	Tues	6:00	Home	Rapid River
2/24	Fri	6:00	Home	Engadine
2/28	Tues	6:00	Away	Superior Central
3/1	Thurs	6:00	Away	Manistique



Girls' Basketball Schedule

Coaches: Sara Roberts & Mike Lang

Date	Day	Time	Site	Opponent
11/29	Tues	6:15	Home	Carney
12/2	Fri	6:00	Home	Superior Central
12/9	Fri	6:15	Away	North Central
12/13	Tues	6:00	Away	Bark River
12/20	Tues	6:00	Away	Gladstone
12/30	Fri	6:00	Home	Munising
1/6	Fri	6:00	Away	Mid Pen
1/13	Fri	6:00	Away	Rapid River
1/17	Tues	6:00	Home	North Central
1/20	Fri	6:00	Away	Engadine
1/26	Thurs	6:00	Home	Gladstone
1/30	Mon	6:00	Away	Munising
2/2	Thurs	6:00	Away	Superior Central
2/6	Mon	6:00	Home	Rapid River
2/9	Thurs	6:15	Away	Carney
2/11	Sat	5:00	Home	Engadine
2/13	Mon	6:00	Home	Bark River
2/16	Thurs	6:00	Home	Mid Pen
2/17	Fri	6:00	Home	Menominee
2/20	Mon	6:00	Home	Manistique

BIG BAY DE NOC ALUMNI BASKETBALL GAME



Women's Game
at 6:00, men's
game to follow.

\$10.00
Donation

Concession
available

Reunite with fellow classmates over Christmas break!
Please call the school to register 644-2773.
We need your graduation year and
t-shirt size.

PLAYGROUND RENOVATION

In an effort to improve upon our aging playground, a committee has been formed to begin looking at how we can update the play structures and the area to make it more child friendly and also more accessible to students with disabilities. Mr. Pistulka, Mrs. Thill, and I recently met with Doug Smith, a recreation consultant with the Superior Play Company explore different options and costs. He presented us with several different play structures that would meet our needs. The playground improvements will be funded using the playground fund, private donations, a donation from Heritage Wind Energy and the sinking fund (for qualifying portions). We have plans to form a larger committee in the near future to include students, community members, and other teachers. Once we have chosen the new play structure modules for the playground and know the cost, we will inform the community. We plan on keeping the public informed and will welcome any monetary donations and donations of time/labor. Please contact me at 644-2773 ext. 109 or mgollakner@dsisd.k12.mi.us if you would like to help.



- Mary Gollakner

GOOD B.E.A.R.S BEHAVIOR

The elementary staff has instituted a new positive behavior system in the 2011-2012 school year. The B.E.A.R.S. program is designed to acknowledge and reward students exhibiting positive behaviors around the school. Staff members have instructed and demonstrated the rules and expectations for the playground, bathroom, cafeteria, hallway, buses, and playground to all K-6 students. Staff members are rewarding those caught **B**eing **E**ffective **A**nd **R**esponsible **S**tudents by issuing B.E.A.R.S. cards. Students are given B.E.A.R.S. cards when they make good choices, help others, come prepared for class, arrive on time, act safely, use time effectively, respect others, show kindness, and follow the rules. These cards are then put into a drum for reward drawings. Students are able to win prizes, treats, or extra gym, recess, or library time. Please take the opportunity to discuss this program with your child.

BOOSTER CLUB NEWS

The Booster Club will be holding meetings in the concession room on the following days. November 8, December 13, February 14, April 10, and June 12. All meetings will begin at 6:00. New members welcome. Also, the website for the Big Bay de Noc Team Store is <http://gtmteamstore.com/BlackBears>. The access code is bears. Any questions, please contact Mrs. LaLonde at school. 644-2773, ext. 134.

ONLINE LUNCH BALANCES

Parents and students can now view their lunch account balance online through the Student/Parent Portal used to view their grades. On the left a new button labeled BALANCE has been added. This will be updated daily Monday-Friday when school is in session. An added option also is the ability to have a low balance email sent out automatically when the funds are low. This can be setup using the EMAIL NOTIFICATION button on the left. If you have questions or need assistance setting up a parent account please contact Joy Bloom at 906-644-2773 ext 137.