

BEARCAT BOARD STORY

Educating for Excellence....the Bearcat Way!



IT'S ALWAYS EXCITING TO BE A BEARCAT!

The Gasconade County R-I School Board met Thursday, February 13th in both regular and executive sessions.

During the regular session, the board accepted monthly reports from the administrators and departments. Dr. Smith presented the board with an update on the district's financial status and facilities.

The board recognized Trent Gleeson for his All-State Football honors, as well as Coach Landolt who was named the MHSVCA Class 2 Coach of the Year and Mrs. Leigh Rogers who received the Rising Star award from the National Journalism Education Association.

Kindergarten Enrollment will take place on February 21st and 22nd. If you know of a child that will be in kindergarten next year, please make sure they take part in Kindergarten Enrollment so staff can begin to prepare for each child to have a great educational experience. Appointments can be made by calling the elementary office at 486-3197.

The district is taking action in response to the request for mental health training and services. In an effort to provide tools, training, and support to staff, students, and community members several action steps have been put into place. In addition, a grant has been applied for through the Community Foundation for mental health support. Intensive mental health first aid training has been scheduled for the March 9th PD day through a federal grant. The district is continuing to look for ways to provide additional services to help meet the mental health needs within our district and community.

Board members traveled to Jefferson City on Monday, February 10th to attend the MSBA Legislative Forum and Public Schools' Day. Students and staff appreciate the continuous support of the board and the efforts taken to help protect public education.

Candidate filing for the board positions closed on January 21, 2020. There were three open positions and three candidates filed. The candidates are Jeff Englert, Becky Whithaus, and Mike Pratte. An election is not required since there were only three individuals to file for the three open positions.

Blue and White Night was held on January 25th. This event was another huge success. The event raised \$32,664 this year, with a grand total of \$295,062.81 since the event began in 2011. The district is extremely grateful for the support from the committee and community to help raise money to allow students the opportunity to enhance their learning through the funding of grants written by teachers. Additionally, the Music Boosters presented the board with a \$8,500 check as agreed upon last year to help cover the new Marching Band uniforms. Their continued support is greatly appreciated.

During old business, the consideration of high school soccer was discussed. This was an extremely difficult decision, however, at this time the board determined that this was not the appropriate time to add an extra-curricular activity with current budget concerns.

In new business, middle school and high school course offerings for the 2020-2021 school year were approved, as well as the academic calendar.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is March 5th, at 6 pm at the Central Office.

Please join us for these upcoming events:

- *Feb 18 - Courtwarming*
- *Feb 22-28 - District Basketball Tournament at Winfield*
- *March 12 - Choir Concert*
- *March 27-28 - Spring Play*

