



BAY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AUBURN ATTRACTIONS

MARCH 2017 EDITION

AUBURN ELEMENTARY MISSION

The Auburn Elementary Staff is committed the enhancement of leadership skills, fostering individual creativity and the pursuit of academic excellence.

Through diverse learning opportunities each student's unique abilities will be developed to achieve their potential; making a positive contribution to our global society.

Reading Relevance

March is reading month; although research indicates that the focus should be year round and the early years of a child's educational development lays the foundation for their life success. Children's parents, caregivers, and educators play an important role in ensuring that children successfully progress in their literacy development.

Of utmost importance is reading aloud to children and providing opportunities for them to discuss the stories that they hear. Children who are read to develop background knowledge about a range of topics and build a large vocabulary, which as-

sists in later reading comprehension and development of reading strategies. They become familiar with rich language patterns and gain an understanding of what written language sounds like.

Reading aloud to children helps them associate reading with pleasure and encourages them to seek out opportunities to read on their own. Children also become familiar with the reading process by watching how others read, and they develop an understanding of story structure.

If you have concerns about your child's ability to read,

please discuss this concern with your child's teacher. The Auburn Elementary Content Coach, Joan Anderson, can also provide connections to resources for parents within Bay and Midland Counties. It's never too late to begin building good reading skills.



The Bay City Public Schools "20 Minutes a Day!" Reading Celebration will be held at Handy Middle School on Saturday, April 8th from 11:00a.m. to 1:00p.m.



SCHOOL DAY

School Office Opens	8:00a.m.
Student Arrival	8:10a.m.
Transition to Class-	8:30a.m.
School Begins	8:40a.m.
Student Dismissal	3:32p.m
School Office Closes	4:00p.m

MARCH IS READING MONTH

Want to spend time with your child building reading skills and a love of books? You can do this when you read aloud to your child. Here are some ideas:

Read regularly. Try to read to your child every day. You might aim for 20 minutes of bedtime reading for a peaceful end to the day.

Take turns choosing books. Your child might want to hear old favorites again and again. Use your turn for new titles and variety.

Let them participate. Ask your child to turn the pages while you read, or finish sentences. Go slowly so they have time to understand the story and look

at illustrations. **Be playful.** You can use different voices for different characters. Substitute your child's name for one of the main characters.



You don't have to be an expert reader. Your child will love it when you read aloud because it's time spent with you.

2017/18 Homeroom Placement

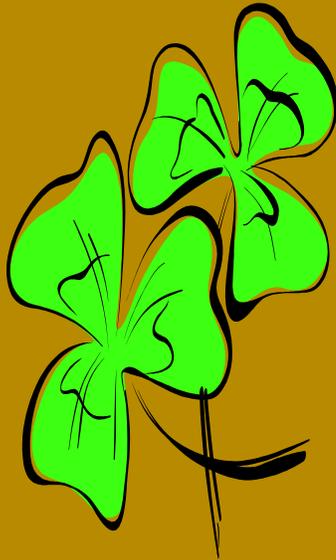


“Classroom Placement” input forms due **Thursday, March 23rd** by **4:00p.m.**

Auburn Elementary employs a process that utilizes a student’s academic performance, personality and social/behavioral characteristics, and gender to create classroom homeroom rosters each school year. Our goal is to create focused classrooms where teachers can teach and children can learn in a balanced learning environment. If you wish to provide input into the process, you are welcome to

share your thoughts about your child’s individual characteristics by completing a “Homeroom Placement Input” form, attached with this newsletter, for students in grades 1, 2, 3 & 4. Kindergarten, and 5th grade teachers “team teach” so students have the opportunity to have all of the teachers at these grade levels, everyday, for content instruction. No request for homeroom placement will be necessary. Your specific request for a homeroom teacher in grade

1, 2, 3 & 4 will be considered by instructional staff but does not guarantee a placement with the teacher you have requested. If you have any questions about the “Homeroom Placement” process, please contact Nicole Kingsbury; Administrative Assistant, at (989) 662-4921, extension 2102 or kingsburyn@bcpschools.net or your child’s current homeroom teacher.



Miscellaneous

STAY CONNECTED
www.bcpsauburn.com

LOST & FOUND

Lost and found is located near the Cafeteria. Claim items by Thursday, March 24, 2017. Unclaimed items will be donated to charity.

Parent Pick-Up at Dismissal

If you are a parent frequently picking-up your child (ren) after school please wait in the yellow cone zone and find a consistent spot for your child(ren) to easily find you; our staff will walk your child(ren) to your location. As always, we encourage you to consider using our BCPS Transportation service to help ease congestion in our parking lot.

MARCH CALENDAR

3/10: 1/2 Day of School.
Student dismissal at 12:22p.m.
3/27-3/31: No School

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

- Tuesday, March 14, 2017
4:15-7:15p.m.
- Thursday, March 16, 2017
4:15-7:15p.m.

Your child’s conference schedule is on-line. Contact Nicole at (989) 662-4921, extension #2102 for questions about your scheduled appointment.

SPRING BREAK

Monday, March 27th, through
Friday, March 31st.
School Office Closed.



by James Casey

Spring

*Spring is a great time of the year.
Winter’s gone, now all can cheer.
Looking forward to summer,
leaving behind the winter past.*

*In a short time, glorious weather at last.
Spring brings us flowers and life anew.
All sorts of animals bid you ado.
The spring gives us budding*

*trees that will turn green.
Giving us a place where their welcome shade can be seen.
Winter water rises to a pleasing temp.
Spring truly is a time that is pleasantly sent.*

Purposeful Staff Development

As policy makers struggle to determine what kinds of interventions make the greatest difference in student learning and where to invest scarce resources in education, a growing body of research is contending what common sense has long contended; the smartest investment is to ensure high-quality instruction.

You're probably wondering...what teachers do on these days while students are not in school? What are we doing to ensure high quality instructional practices in our classrooms and what do we use to determine our staff development plan?

Assessment data is our GPS. What we learn from assessment data guides our instructional goals at Auburn Elementary. The Auburn Elementary staff development agendas are guided by

our school improvement team, which develops a plan after reviewing student achievement data from the M-Step (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress) and the NWEA (Northwest Educational Assessment).

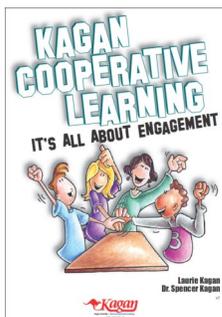
What we have discovered from assessment data is that we need to do a better job focusing our teacher resources on individualizing our instruction to meet the diverse needs of our student learners.

As part of this process we continue to explore brain researched instructional processes, collaborative learning structures, our Tier II intervention model,

team teaching and guided group learning, collaboration time for staff utilizing a co-teaching model in our inclusion classrooms and how to enrich learning opportunities in Gifted & Talented classrooms.

On March 1st, Auburn staff will spend one full day learning about Multiple-Intelligences research and Cooperative Learning strategies through Kagan Professional Development.

If you have any questions about our school-improvement plan or staff professional development topics please contact Joan Anderson at (989) 662-4921; extension #2112 or andersonj@bcschools.net.



Parent Teacher Organization

NEXT PTO MEETING

Monday, March 6, 2017 @ 6:30p.m.
Media Center

PARENT & EDUCATION FOCUS TOPICS

How are Auburn Elementary students performing on State Assessments? What does the future of education look like for an Auburn Elementary student and the role of educators and parents as a partner in their learning? Join us for discussions about these very topics and more at each monthly PTO meeting.



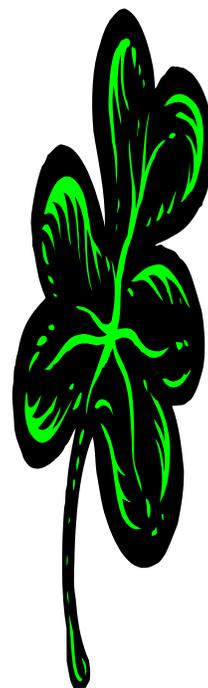
Friday, 3/3
5:30-7:30p.m.
Games
Prizes
Food
&
Fun



"Kicking Up Color 5K Color Run"

Saturday, April 22, 2017
Registration: 9:00a.m.
Cost: \$30.00

Register On-line: shop.schoolathon.org/150147



Specials Space

Media Center

Pam Simon; Media Specialist

Spring Book Fair Schedule:
Kindergarten-5th Grade Student Purchasing:
March 13th-16th.
Kindergarten & Public Purchasing:
March 14th; 3:30-7:00p.m.
March 16th; 3:30-6:30p.m.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Mr. Eleazer; Physical Education Specialist

Thank you for helping to ensure students have the proper footwear for Physical Education classes each day. Together we are making a difference.

IMPORTANT! Due by 4:00p.m. Thursday, March 23rd. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Auburn Elementary

Parent “Classroom Homeroom” Input Form

Student’s Name _____ Grade 2017-2018: 1 2 3 4

Parent input is a factor we welcome when assigning students to classrooms. Please provide information about your child’s strengths or needs in each of the following areas:

Academics:

Behavior:

Additional Information (Avoid placement with specific friends, separate or same rooms for siblings who are twins, etc.):

There is no requirement to name a teacher of your choice, but some parents may choose to do so. Requests are made with the understanding that they are only requests and may not be honored due to any of the following reasons:

1. Teacher recommendation for a specific teacher placement.
2. Principal recommendation for a specific teacher placement.
3. Balancing student academic achievement and social / emotional performance in each classroom.
4. Balancing gender within the room and class size.
5. Program specific classroom assignments; (Special Education, Gifted Education, etc.).
6. Form is turned in after deadline of 4:00p.m. Thursday, March 23rd. (No exceptions.)
7. Kindergarten & 5th Grade staff team teach (content specific). All Kindergarten & 5th grade students have all Kindergarten & 5th grade teachers during the school day and are assigned to a homeroom teacher for school management purposes only.
8. Staff changes. In order to maintain balanced classrooms, if there is a specific teacher request that can be accommodated and the teacher is no longer at Auburn Elementary the next school year, children will remain with the new teacher assigned to that specific classroom.

We will consider a parent’s choice of teachers. In order to give primary consideration based on the reasons provided above, we asked that you name two (2) different teachers. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to honor either of the two choices, however your input will serve to guide our decision making practices. Forms containing only one choice will not be considered and will be returned for an additional name. Parents of students in K, 5th Grade or program specific students (Gifted & Talented or Special Education Resource identified students) do not need to complete the preferred teacher request portion of this form.

My preferred Homeroom Teacher choices for my child next year are:

(Name of Homeroom Teacher)

(Name of Homeroom Teacher)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date