

# The *Polar Bear Express*

February 2020

**“Poly Drives Students  
to Succeed”**



## **Poly Drive Elementary School**

**Lorrie Wolverton, Principal**  
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## **Dear Poly Drive Families,**

February is “I Love to Read” month but loving to read extends well beyond one month - it is a lifelong skill we want children to develop. We continue to foster the joy of reading at school with an extra emphasis this month. The Poly Drive PTA is once again sponsoring Poly Readers for students in first through fifth grades. Students will need to register by February 12<sup>th</sup> to attend a grade level book club during their lunch time every Thursday starting on February 27<sup>th</sup> for 4 weeks. Parent volunteers will be leading the book discussions. Thank you PTA for offering this great opportunity to our students.

Last Friday, our school supported the backpack meal program for students in our district by donating a dollar to wear their favorite team jersey. The event was sponsored by the United Way and the Billings Education Foundation.

The 28<sup>th</sup> marks the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester and means we are 2/3 through the school year - report cards will come home on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. A reminder that report cards are standards based for math, reading and science, meaning that students will receive marks of Emerging, Nearing Proficient or Proficient based on their progressions through a series of specific skill sets. The goal is to have students reach proficiency on these skills by the end of the school year. If you have questions about the targeted standards or how evidence of learning is collected, I encourage you to contact your child’s teacher.

**If you have not registered for a parent portal account on PowerSchool, please make sure that you do soon.**

Letters were mailed out on how to set an account up. If you need help, please contact the office. Back to school forms will all be on-line. Class lists will not be posted in August, instead, you will be able to see your child’s teacher by logging on to your account in August.

Have a great Valentine’s Day and spend time reading during “I Love to Read” month.

Sincerely,

Lorrie Wolverton, Principal



MANNERS ARE A TRUE REFLECTION OF OUR CHARACTER...

## ***Poly Drive Manners of the Month***

- √ Be proud of your accomplishments without bragging
- √ Follow adult instructions
- √ Put -downs to others are not acceptable
- √ Take responsibility for your actions

Please refrain from sending your child Valentine gifts to school. Save those special flowers, balloons, stuffed animals and such to be enjoyed at home.



## **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

We are inviting parents to register their child **now** so that we can begin planning for next year. Please don't wait!

### **RETISTER ONLINE AT [billingssschools.org](http://billingssschools.org)**

- Parent tab
- Parent Forms
- Enrollment Info

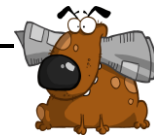
The requirements for kindergarten have not changed. The child must be five years old by September 10<sup>th</sup>, we need to have a copy of the complete immunization record, and a copy of the birth certificate.

If you have any questions, please call the school at 281-6217.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

A Lost and found box/table is located in the hallway near the gym. All coats, boots, lunch boxes and other large items can be found here. Students are reminded to check the Lost and Found box. If the box overflows the articles are given to charity.

Any small lost items such as jewelry and keys are kept at the office.



## **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

### **February**

- 11 PTA Meeting 3:15
- 13 3<sup>rd</sup> gr Music Performance 1:45-2:15
- 13 Select Choir Performance 2:30-3:00
- 17 No School – PIR day
- 24 Makerspace Monday 5:30 Library
- 28 Spirit Day- wear Poly gear
- 28 End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester

### **March**

- 6 PTA March Madness Family Fun Night
- 8 Daylight Saving Time Begins Set clocks forward 1 hour
- 9 Report Cards Go Home
- 10 PTA Meeting 6:15
- 18 Class Pictures
- 30 No School – PIR day

### **April**

- 3 Talent Show 6pm Lewis & Clark
- 9 Make up Snow Day – if more then one day of school is cancelled due to weather, otherwise this will be a vacation day.
- 10-13 Vacation Days

## **TALENT SHOW TID BIT**

We are excited to announce the annual Poly Drive Talent Show will take place Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm at Lewis and Clark School.

Auditions for the talent show will be held Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. (More info to come)

## **A WORD FROM SD #2 NURSE**

Did you know:

-Each year, approximately 4.5 million Americans will need a blood transfusion.

-Someone needs blood every two seconds and about one in seven people entering a hospital need blood products.

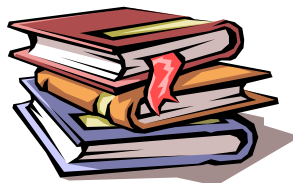
-One pint of blood can save up to three lives.

-There is no substitute for human blood.

-There is currently both a nationwide and a critical local community shortage of blood products - your donation can make a difference!!!

Dax Wilson is a student at Senior High School. When he was born his mom developed a rare blood condition and almost died. Dax and his mom are miracles but also a walking testimony within our own community of the need for blood donations. Dax's mom received approximately 600 units of donated blood products to save her life. In the months of February and March, Dax will be leading a blood drive initiative at Senior High School and challenging West and Skyview High Schools to a blood drive battle to increase awareness and participation in the BPS

High School blood drives. You can be a part of this important community effort to save lives! If you would like to contribute by making a blood donation, please contact or visit the Vitalant center at 1444 Grand Ave. If you wish to participate in Dax's project, please notify staff at the center that you are donating in honor of "Dax's Drops for Life Blood Donation" project. Thank you!



## **LIBRARY NEWS**

By Mrs. Caskey

### **Makerspace Monday Feb 24th**

you're going to LOVE the February Makerspace Monday! Makerspace Monday Family Fun Night will be Feb 24th from 5:30-6:30. The focus for this event will be MATH! Please remember all students must be accompanied by an adult.



### **February is I Love to Read Month**

At Poly we will be doing different activities to share our love of reading. Here are some things you can do at home:

- Let your child see you read.
- Encourage your child to read on her own at home
- Keep a variety of reading materials in the house
- Make sure to have reading materials for enjoyment as well as for reference.
- Encourage your child to practice reading aloud
- Write short notes for your child to read

For more ideas to encourage your child to read, visit [www.readingrockets.org/article/encouraging-your-child-read](http://www.readingrockets.org/article/encouraging-your-child-read)

BPS School Counselors



**BULLYING:** Bully behavior occurs when there is deliberate intent to harm, dominate, inflict pain, exclude or otherwise cause distress to the person being targeted. The person who bullies purposefully misuses his/her power (size, age, popularity, confidence, verbal ability), usually repeatedly. The balance of power between the bully and target is NOT EQUAL.

## IS YOUR CHILD STRUGGLING AT SCHOOL?

No parent likes hearing that their child has a problem at school. But your reaction can make the difference between helping to solve the problem and standing in the way of a solution. Answer yes or no to each question below to find out if you are helping address school issues positively:

- \_\_\_1. Do you listen to the teacher when he/she contacts you before you start explaining away your child's behavior? Being defensive doesn't build cooperation.
- \_\_\_2. Do you wait to discuss the issue with your child until you can do so calmly and without anger?
- \_\_\_3. Do you involve your child in developing a solution to the problem?
- \_\_\_4. Do you let the teacher know how you plan to handle the problem?
- \_\_\_5. Do you stay in touch with the teacher and the school to see if your solution is working?

More yes answers mean you are trying to solve problems in positive ways. For each no answer, try that idea.

*Article adapted from The Parent Institute*