

Weekly News

November 12, 2021

Calendar Items

Monday, November 15 - Hearing and Vision Screening for 7th grade and new students

Monday, November 15 - Girls basketball games AWAY at Oxford MS

Wednesday, November 17 - Girls basketball games AWAY at Leawood MS

Friday, November 19 - PTO Meeting via ZOOM at 9 am

Zoom link: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4617114888?pwd=ejJhZTRQZjVsNnZBOWtPbnJOelJaZz09>

Meeting ID: 461 711 4888 Passcode: b4084m

Announcements

Thank You

A big thank you to all the parents, students, and staff who supported our school library by purchasing items at our Scholastic Book Fair last week! We exceeded our goal in sales, and the funds raised will be used to purchase many new books for our school library! A very special thanks to all of the hard working volunteers who offered their time to help! We couldn't have done it without you!

BVEF Surprise Squad Visits Aubry Bend Middle School

On Thursday, November 11, 2021, the Blue Valley Educational Foundation made history with a record-breaking grant giveaway of \$479,000! BVEF's Surprise Squad needed four busses to

deliver all 117 teacher and district-wide grants across the district to make teacher dreams come true.

The Surprise Squad visited Aubry Bend to present our unsuspecting staff with (a) teacher grant(s) and an additional building grant awarded earlier in the year for \$5,000!

This year's 2021 teacher grant recipients were Lauren Martens and Alison Mayes. Their grant, in the amount of \$1900, was to fund the purchase of an electric violin for our orchestra program.

"It's one of our favorite days to work in Blue Valley," said Diana Tate, principal. "The support of the BVEF allows our teachers to be in the lead in their field. I'm so proud of Lauren and Alison for applying for a grant this year! Our orchestra is ready to ROCK ...literally!"

BVEF empowers teachers to go beyond traditional classroom limits which enables students to innovate, lead, and learn for a successful future. For more than 30 years, the Foundation has supported Blue Valley schools with nearly \$7 million in grants, scholarships, and special programs.

To learn more about BVEF, visit them on FB, Twitter, LinkedIn or the website at www.Fundbv.org.



Attention 6th grade families!

The BVS National Honor Society is organizing a science symposium for 4th-6th graders. The goals of the symposium are to educate kids with hands on learning, an exciting and bold chemical reaction, and to further inspire them with take home do it yourself projects. The secondary goal is to create excitement on being a part of the Southwest community and

experiencing how being involved can be meaningful. Our science, robotics and rocketry clubs will be present at the event to promote this. Parents are invited to join their children, and there will be BSW science teachers and NHS volunteers ensuring safety and offering instruction. Please see the attached flier for more information.



Science At Southwest.pdf

Download

674.5 KB

COVID-19 Testing and Resources for BV Staff, Students and Families

Throughout this school year, Blue Valley's priorities have been the safety of our students and keeping students in school and in person as we know this is critical to their long-term success and well-being. MAWD Labs is offering a local COVID-19 testing option that is available for students, staff and their family members. This option is available through a Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) grant provided directly to MAWD Labs.

MAWD Drive-In Testing Clinic Info

- **Location:** [14950 Newton Drive, Overland Park, KS 66223](#) (Northwest of CAPS on the Blue Valley School District Campus)
- **Hours of Operation:**
 - Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
 - Friday 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 - Sunday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- **Testing Appointments:** Call (913) 239-4371
- **Parent/Guardian Consent:** A parent/guardian will complete a consent form and must be with the student at the drive-in clinic to give verbal permission during the first test.
- **Test Type:** Nasal self-swab and saliva PCR tests are both offered at the clinic. Individuals should refrain from eating or drinking 30 minutes prior to the saliva testing.
- **Test Results:** Test results are sent to the provided email/text address and to Blue Valley Health Services generally within 12-16 hours.

Thanksgiving Schedule

- Closed: Nov. 24 - 27
- Open: Nov. 28 from 10 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Inclement Weather Schedule

- The MAWD Drive-In Testing Clinic will be closed whenever school is cancelled for inclement weather.

COVID-19 Resources

Blue Valley families can find a variety of COVID-19 resources on the [district website](#) including general COVID-19 information, community testing locations and vaccine information from Children's Mercy.

Your Feedback is Important and Valued!

The **WE Support Survey** is designed to inform schools and districts about expectations and perceptions the community has about student learning. This perceptual, anonymous survey contains about 50 questions, all rated on a Likert scale, and will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. The results will help us to better understand our community's perceptions of the school experience and their expectations of our school.

The **We Support Survey** is structured around three main constructs:

- Rigor
- Relevance
- Relationships

A couple of things to keep in mind:

- The **WE Support Survey** takes 10-15 minutes to complete.
- Your responses are anonymous, so please answer all questions honestly.
- Participation in the survey is voluntary; you can opt-out at any time.
- Please try to provide your perceptions and expectations of the school or district overall.
- Your input is important to us and highly valued.
- Thank you for your time and participation.

To access the WE Support Survey, follow these steps:

1. Go to www.wesurvey.org
2. Enter the case sensitive password (copy > paste works best): **CBV1ABM**
3. When all questions have been answered, click *Submit* for your responses to be recorded.

Thank you in advance for completing this survey by November 15, 2021. The insight you provide will be valuable in our ongoing efforts to improve our learning environment for all.

Community Service Club

These are hard times. The ABMS Community Service Club (which will be meeting soon) AND the VERY generous families in our community sponsor families for the holidays with gift cards, gifts, clothes, and/or household items.

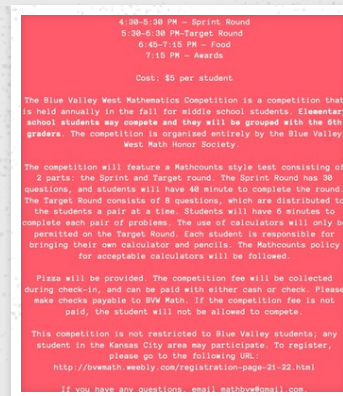
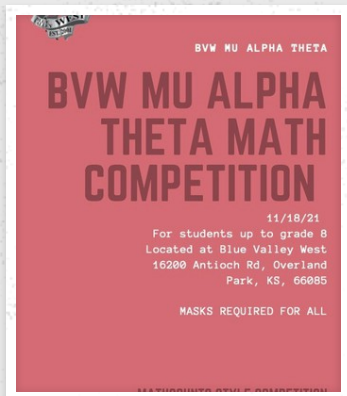
If you are in need of some assistance in any way, please contact Kim Vail at KSVail@bluevalleyk12.org. It will be completely confidential. Kim will be the only person who knows the identities of the sponsored families.

Kim will call you and talk through any needs we can help with. For some, a few gift cards would really help. Others might have specific items they would love to receive. Please reach out to KSVail@bluevalleyk12.org and Kim will call you soon.

The ABMS Community Service Club has not met yet, but we will start meeting after Thanksgiving. Watch the weekly news and the Canvas clubs and activities page for announcements. All students are welcome to attend community service club anytime! If one week doesn't work, come another time!

Math Counts

Math Counts will meet Monday, November 15th from 3:00 to 4:00 pm in Mrs. Redlin's room (313). See the images below for a local math competition that would be great practice for our Math Counts School competition.



Debate Club

Debate Club will meet Wednesday, November 17th from 3-4 in the library. Students need to fill out the Google form at tinyurl.com/joinabmsdebate

ABM Spirit Wear

Get your **ABMS Spiritwear (Including PE shirts)** in time for the holidays! **SHOP NOW** orders need to be in by **11/14/2021** (next Saturday) to ensure delivery by winter break!

<https://www.bvswden.com/abms>

PTO News

Have you been wondering if your 7th grader, or new student can hear you even though they seem to be ignoring you? Do you want to see if they can truly not see the mess they leave behind when they are looking right at? Do you love to volunteer and want to get out of the house for a few hours? Well, do we have a deal for you! Come help out on Monday, November 15th from 7:40-9:30am with hearing and vision screening! New Students AND 7th Graders will be tested! We would love to have 6 people for the whole time. Thank you for your help! Please click on the link to sign up!!



Aubry Bend Middle School PTO

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054BA4A62EA3FE3-abms2>

If you have any questions you can contact our Nurse, Brandy Glass at bglass@bluevalleyk12.org.

Get your **ABMS Spiritwear (Including PE shirts)** in time for the holidays! **SHOP NOW** orders need to be in by **TOMORROW** (Saturday) to ensure delivery by winter break!
<https://www.bvswden.com/abms>

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN....

ABMS Holiday Bags

Thank you for supporting our ABMS staff! The tradition of Filling and Decorating a bag is a wonderful way of showing our appreciation for the Amazing staff at ABMS! Thanks for choosing to be a part of this event!

What to Do:

Sign Up! Please sign up for a bag below. (you can sign up for more than one bag) Bags will be anonymously assigned to an ABMS staff member.

Pick up Bag! Your student can pick up your bag(s) in the office starting **Tuesday, November 16th**.

Fill your bag! Inside each bag there will be a list of your staff member's favorite things. You can use this list as a guideline to purchase their favorite things. If your staff member wants to be surprised, you can fill with whatever you choose, a few examples are, but not limited to: gift cards, candy, treats, candles, etc. We do ask that you keep the cost between **\$35-\$45**.

Decorate! Get creative and decorate your bag! You can get as creative and festive as you'd like, or you can simply add the gifts and tissue paper. Please make sure the number on the bag is visible so we can match it to the correct staff member!

Return! Please return your gift-filled, decorated bag to the ABMS office no later than **Thursday, December 9th!**

Thank you so much for choosing to participate in this wonderful tradition to spoil our staff!

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Beth Ravanese 918-849-0398 or mbravs@gmail.com - subject line "ABMS Holiday Bags. See the sign up below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C49ABAA2DA2F49-abms>

Blue Valley Educational Foundation (BVEF) is holding their 10th Anniversary Battle of the Bands at RC's Restaurant & Lounge on February 26, 2022. This is an adult night out and 5 parent former champion bands will be performing for Best Blue Valley Band! This event raises money to support district-wide music programs.

Sponsorships are available now, see flyer for information and pledge form. Get your business or a group of friends to sponsor or reserve a table for the night.

Donations are being collected for silent auction baskets. ABMS will be donating a basket (min. \$200 value), we are requesting gift cards to local restaurants or entertainment. If you have connections to local establishments and could get a gift card donated, please email Season Lentz at seasontitus@hotmail.com for Non-Profit Tax ID and collection arrangements. Season is also your go-to person if you have any questions.

SAVE THE DATE!!

WOLVERINE NIGHT (AKA WAN) IS 1/28/2022. MORE DETAILS TO COME!



Sponsorship package for Battle of the Bands form.pdf

[Download](#)

722.2 KB



ABMS PTO Membership Form 2021-2022.pdf

[Download](#)

124.7 KB

6th Grade News

ELA

ELA students started reading the class novel this week titled *Amal Unbound*. We completed pre-reading activities to inspire curiosity about the book, learn about the author, and explore the setting of the book. We read chapters 1-8 and worked on discussion questions and summarization skills after reading. We are also connecting what we learn to this quarter's essential question, "How can new information impact our view of the world?". Every student has their own copy of the book this quarter, even though we are reading it together in class, students can re-read at home if needed, or make up the reading if absent from class.

Math

Math classes started a new unit this week about rates and ratios. Students participated in small activities that gave them exposure to the vocabulary that they will learn throughout this unit. We will be starting an in-class project next week to learn more about ratios and unit rates.

Social Studies

This week your child learned about their "homeland" along the silk road. Ask your child where their "homeland" is and what they learned about this location this week. Next week, we will start our journey along the silk road. Your child will be moving to either India, China, or the European/Mediterranean region to gain new knowledge and resources.

7th Grade News

Band

7th Grade Band has sectional practices next week from 3-4 in the band room. (We will have full band rehearsals after Thanksgiving to prepare for our concert.)

Monday: flutes, clarinets, saxophones

Wednesday: trumpets

Thursday: trombones, euphonium, tuba, bass clarinet

ELA

We are learning about character and personality by taking personality tests! It's a fun transition from reading *A Christmas Carol* and seeing Scrooge's development, to going more personal and seeing our own. It's great reflection to see how impactful each individual's contribution to the world is!

Math

Next week we are continuing our work with solving equations and growing a foundation for algebra in future years. There will be an assessment at the end of the week where students will need to solve one and two-step equations and apply them to real world situations.

Social Studies

We are starting our human geography unit by learning just how big 7 billion really is- it's HUGE! And so hard to comprehend! I can't imagine 7 billion of anything, and we're at 7.9 billion people habitating on this orbiting sphere. The kids are working on posters to break down 7.9 billion into something more bite sized, such as 128 4-person hot tubs full of rice, or 70.7 years of flights from MCI on Airbus A380s, or even how long into the past it would take to watch the entire series of *Phineas and Ferb* 7.9 billion times (hint- you'd be with the dinosaurs). Next week we'll look at how other people live: what they eat, what belongings they have, and what kids play with. It's very engaging and eye opening. We hope they enjoy learning about it.

Science

We are working on a MAJOR project that takes us through December 9th. We have started working on the "building" portion of our arcade games (which will teach players about interactions between body systems). We are in desperate need of "thin" cardboard (ex: cereal boxes, empty tissue boxes, etc) for our prototypes, and then LOTS of cardboard, large boxes, egg cartons, rinsed out 2-liters etc (anything clean that you would otherwise recycle or throw away). Students are using these items to get creative as they build giant arcade games. Several students have asked about whether it's okay to purchase some items (pool noodles, netting, etc) for ideas they have. While that is fine, please know that purchasing items is absolutely NOT a requirement. We are not asking for you to spend money. We will happily accept anything you're willing to part with that does not require a purchase on your part. Some of our students are already building prototypes, so we happily welcome these items as soon as the kids can bring them! Thanks so much for your support. Oh, and please keep the dates December 9th and December 10th tentatively penciled in as our arcade event!

8th Grade News

ELA

We will begin reading from our textbook an excerpt from *Flowers for Algernon* by Daniel Keyes. We will explore the journey Charlie navigates as he grapples with the pros and cons of altering one's intelligence.

Algebra 1

Work with slope-intercept form equations

Social Studies

Continuing our unit about American Growth and Change over the early years of the nation. Students will begin their summative project this week, where they are taking the role of a member of the President's Cabinet & advising the President on various events. They will investigate the impact this will make on the nation and offer suggestions to the President on how to proceed.

Dear Parent or Guardian of Aubry Bend Eighth Graders:

On November 15 and 16, we will partner with a local suicide prevention organization, Give Me 20 (www.giveme20.net) to help students focus on the positives and areas of strength they can pull on during times of struggle. To do this, we will have students create a LifeBox.

"We call it a LifeBox because it is a box filled with your story; memories of great moments in your life, dreams for the future, and reminders of why your life matters...because no matter how dark life seems at this moment, the sun will rise tomorrow and you should be here to see it happen."

Please complete the linked Google Form by November 10, 2021. This form will opt your student in or out of the activities, as well as provide you the opportunity to send your student a note of care and encouragement.

<https://forms.gle/J3V3ux78b3nSNVXz8>

If you have any questions, please contact student services.

From the Desk of Mrs. Tate

Next week, we will celebrate American Education Week! Each year, the week before Thanksgiving is set aside to celebrate those who work in public education across America. From teachers to food service personnel, everyone's role is important and appreciated. We are so fortunate at ABMS and in Blue Valley to have dedicated faculty and staff members who truly care about our kids and make educating kids and supporting education their life's work.

Our staff supports 784 students every day in their educational journey. **All teachers** plan engaging lessons and units that get kids excited about learning. **Classroom teachers** work with our **instructional design coach** to further their knowledge of effective instruction, assessment and interventions. Our **library media specialist** works with students and staff to foster a love of reading and literacy skills in our school. Our **counselors** deliver lessons each

week to support the social and emotional learning of our students. Our **counselors and social worker** meet with students and families to promote a continuity between home and school. Our **school psychologist** meets with students who may need additional learning supports during their school day and follows up with parents to build the team approach.

Our **special education teachers** work with families and students to support their differentiated learning needs. Our **paraprofessionals** support our classroom teachers and students in the learning process by giving additional time and support during class. Our **special education nurse** takes care of our students who need additional care during their school day. Our **speech-language pathologist** and **occupational therapist** work with our students to develop skills to build strong relationships and abilities.

Our **food service team** cooks up a feast every day to feed over 800 students and staff. Our **custodial team** cleans and sanitizes this building from top to bottom every day so that we can be proud of the beautiful setting we have for teaching and learning. Our **school resource officers** take great pride in keeping our building, students and staff safe. Our **bus drivers** safely pick up and drop off our kids so they can attend to their learning tasks each day. Our **substitute teachers** provide a qualified teacher in each room when an ABMS staff member must be away from school.

Our **receptionist** answers the phone, organizes check-in and check-out, and welcomes everyone to our building all day. Our **bookkeeper** manages our finances to be sure that our kids and teachers have the supplies and materials they need to have a positive learning experience. Our **administrative assistants** manage the front office and the counseling office to schedule appointments, complete reports, answer questions, fix Chromebooks, and take care of issues that arise each day. Our **school nurse** takes care of us ALL as we encounter illnesses and injuries. Our **assistant principal** works with students, staff, and families to insure a safe learning environment for everyone.

As the **principal**, I burst with pride over the work that is accomplished each day at ABMS. I value and appreciate the team we have because they truly love kids and want them to be successful. Their commitment to our kids and families is extraordinary.

Thank you to our awesome community for the love and support you show to the people on our staff. If you are inclined, next week is a wonderful time to reach out to a staff member at ABMS to show your appreciation.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,
Diana Tate, Principal



Aubry Bend Middle School

 Facebook  @smorenewsletter

 12501 West 175th Street, Ove...

 AubryBendMiddle@bluevalley...

 913-624-2300

 bluevalleyk12.org/ABM