

BEACON NEWS



A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SUPPORTING OUR BEACON ELEMENTARY FAMILIES & STAFF: VOLUME ONE - ISSUE ONE - AUGUST 2018

SAVE THE DATES

AUGUST 20	Office Reopens
AUGUST 27	Open House 5:00 PM
AUGUST 29	First Day of School- YIPEE!
AUGUST 29-31	WakIDS Conferences Kindergarten Families ONLY
SEPTEMBER 3	No School- Labor Day
SEPTEMBER 4	First Day of School for Kindergarteners ONLY
SEPTEMBER 7	PTO Fall Fundraiser: Charleston Wrap
SEPTEMBER 10	First Day for Preschool
SEPTEMBER 11	PTO Mtg Beacon ES 7:30 AM
SEPTEMBER 25-26	Picture Day
OCTOBER 12	No School- Training Day
OCTOBER 25	School Board Meeting
NOVEMBER 2	Early Release 12 PM
NOVEMBER 6-9	Early Release 12 PM Conferences
NOVEMBER 12	No School- Veteran's Day
NOVEMBER 15	Picture Retakes
NOVEMBER 21	Early Release 12 PM
NOVEMBER 22-23	No School- Thanksgiving



SCHOOL SCHEDULE

REGULAR SCHEDULE:	8:20 AM-2:30 PM
EARLY DISMISSAL:	12:00 PM
MORNING PRESCHOOL:	8:20 AM-10:50 AM
AFTERNOON PRESCHOOL:	12:00 PM-2:30 PM

CONTACT US



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MONTESCHOOLS.ORG



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DEAR PARENTS, GUARDIANS, & STAFF:

It is indeed an honor to be given an opportunity to serve you and the students of Beacon Elementary School as your new principal and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to our community.

I have been dedicated to the field of education for more than 25 years. During this time, my experience included teaching elementary special education as well as 4th, 5th, and 6th grade. In addition, I have taught high school literacy, photography along with journalism, and a college preparatory program called AVID. I have been married to my husband Doug for 24 years and we have a daughter, Izabella, who will be attending second grade at Beacon. I feel truly blessed to be the instructional leader of such an amazing school community, especially since it was here, some 25 years ago, that I began my career at Beacon as a student teacher.

I have five guiding principles that may help to introduce myself. They are:

1. Develop the whole child first
2. Create a culture of caring
3. Honesty with compassion
4. Teamwork/communication
5. Empowering, encouraging, applauding

Developing the whole child is critical to early childhood education. Every child matters and is valuable; that is why we give, serve and sacrifice for the child's sake. Our job does not just entail developing academics, but entails meeting the needs of the whole child in order to gain academic success.

My desire is to help kids feel connected with a deep sense of belonging. Creating a caring learning community where everybody is somebody and creating a place that kids become responsible people in the discipline of education is essential. This is why character education plays an important role in giving students the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage

emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.

Honesty with compassion is something that is important to have with each other as we work together in the most worthy endeavor, educating children and creating a place where everyone is important and everyone cares. I will seek to do things that are right and hope you can trust me over time to work beside you to do what is best for Beacon.

When you think of your child's education, the first person who comes to mind is most likely the teacher. But it is helpful for you to know the team who is important to our school and to your child's education. If you make an effort and get to know them, you'll learn about the important jobs done by each member of the school team and also open up lines of communication that can help you and your child.

Meeting students where they are is key to their social, emotional, and academic success. A piece of this puzzle is to allow them to be empowered in the learning process. We want to ensure that we are teaching the whole child and providing each student a learning experience that meets his/her personal needs. Who knows the child better than themselves? Student are aware of their likes and dislikes, their own opinions, the things that they feel confident with, and the things that challenge them, as well as the dreams they have. It is my hope at Beacon to encourage and support those dreams.

I look forward to working with you this year and will strive to enhance the already incredible things being done at Beacon and hope to be able to make a significant contribution to our school.

In partnership,
Barbara D. Page, Principal
Educating the Heart and Mind



WHAT IS GROWTH MINDSET?

Today's scientific brain research shows that by teaching kids about something called "Growth Mindset" – you can help them become better learners and resilient overall!

A person with a growth mindset believes that their intelligence and abilities can be continually developed throughout life, and strengthened through concentrated practice and effort.

Stanford professor Carol Dweck, PhD, coined the term and it has since become a buzz word in education.

After many years of studying children into adulthood, she found that children who focus on perseverance and positive thinking struggle less as adults.

Here are some ways to promote a "Growth Mindset" in your child.

TEACH YOUR CHILD ABOUT THE BRAIN

According to Dr. Dan Siegel, M.D. author of *The Whole-Brain Child*, kids start to develop a growth mindset just from learning about how their brain works and grows.

Once kids understand that the brain actually physically grows connections as they practice and learn new skills and concepts, they get excited about the learning process and feel less worried about making mistakes.

MODEL GROWTH MINDSET THINKING

Let your kids see you: persisting with difficult tasks, trying to learn something new, and taking on challenges with enthusiasm.

DISCUSS NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE SELF-TALK

Talk to your kids about their "inner voice" and how it sometimes tells them things that aren't always helpful.

Teach them to challenge those negative inner statements with more positive alternatives.

RECOGNIZE EFFORT OVER SUCCESS

Instead of focusing your attention on the times when your child is successful, recognize the times when they are putting effort into what they are doing.

TEACH THEM THE POWER OF "YET"

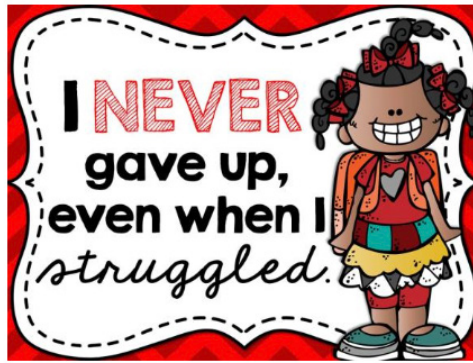
I can't read. Have you heard these words? It can be heartbreaking to hear your child say these things. Next time you hear such a phrase, add on the word "YET" to the end and point it out to your child. "I can't read, YET."

CELEBRATE MISTAKES AND STRUGGLES

Allow your kids to fail and make mistakes.

AVOID LABELING YOUR CHILD

Whether it's a good label (You are so smart!) or a negative one (Don't be such a lazy bones!), when we label our kids, we are placing them in a figurative box that outlines how they are supposed to be.



OPEN HOUSE

Please join us for an open house on Monday, August 27, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Parents and students may visit the classroom, meet the teacher, and receive other important information.

CLASS PLACEMENT

Parents can expect to receive instructions by mail in early August to update student information in Skyward Family Access. Class placement can be viewed in Skyward after the information update is complete.

MEAL PRICES

\$2.00-Breakfast \$2.80-Lunch \$0.35-Milk
* Prices subject to change.*

Your student has an individual account with Child Nutrition Services that is setup automatically once he/she is enrolled in the Montesano School District. This allows every student the opportunity to prepay for meals. Parents may deposit money for the day, week, month, or for as long as you wish.

Cash or check payments can be made in the school office. Online payments can be made via Skyward Family Access using a VISA, MasterCard, or Discover debit or credit card. Please visit our website for more information.

OUR MOTTO

WORK hard. BE kind.

Because you can't just work hard. And you can't just be kind. "Amazing things" happen through the magic created by both pieces, the tough and the tender, working together in harmony. Here's why I believe at Beacon Elementary we should do both — and expect the same of our kiddos.

We may all agree that meaningful schoolwork promotes students' learning of academic content. But why stop there? Meaningful work can also teach students to love challenges, to enjoy effort, to be resilient, and to value their own improvement. In other words, we can partner together to present learning tasks in a way that helps students develop thinking, which leads to not just short-term achievement but also long-term success.

Maya Angelou famously remarked, "People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." She was right. We must be kind. Teaching kindness is a powerful way to create an affirming and supportive culture.

Teaching and modeling both qualities; even for brief periods, can build community and promote positive interactions. Please join me in supporting our students and staff to *WORK hard. BE kind.*

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Montesano School District is excited to announce that all student supplies will be provided by the school for the 2018-19 school year. You will still need to provide a backpack, lunch box and water bottle (if necessary) for your child.

Please make sure to visit our website: <http://www.monteschools.org/beacon-school-supplies> for details regarding school supplies for each grade level. Should you have specific questions, contact the main office or your child's teacher (you'll need to complete the annual update in order to access your child's placement).

SLEEP IS CRUCIAL

You probably know that sleep is necessary for your child's growing body. But did you know that sleep actually helps your child's brain work better? Getting enough sleep allows them to be more alert, pay closer attention, and remember material with greater accuracy. As the new school year approaches, please take a minute to review some helpful tips to start off the school year on the right foot and get the recommended 11 hours of sleep each night for your child:

- **Develop a sleep schedule. Have your child go to bed and wake at the same time each day.**
- **Enjoy some physical activities. Exercise and fresh air help kids sleep better.**
- **Follow a bedtime routine. Take a bath, brush teeth, and read a story. Talk about something positive from the day. Then lights out.**

PTO

The Montesano PTO is a nonprofit parent-teacher organization whose membership includes all parents, legal guardians, and staff at Beacon and Simpson Elementary Schools.

The PTO's mission is to promote open communication and understanding between parents and staff of the Beacon & Simpson Elementary Schools. Our efforts serve to enhance and maximize the education of every child while aiding them in achieving their highest potential.

The PTO sponsors assistance to teachers in the classroom setting, holds fundraisers for supplemental educational materials and experiences, supports school and family social interaction, and provides a non-biased forum for sharing information on issues that impact our children.

It is our belief that the team effort of a parent-teacher organization offers the best possible learning environment for our children. For more information on how to get involved visit our Facebook page "Montesano PTO".