

# BEACON NEWS



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

## SAVE THE DATES

SEPTEMBER 25-26 Picture Day  
OCTOBER 9 PTO Meeting 7 PM  
OCTOBER 12 No School- Training Day  
NOVEMBER 2 Early Release 12 PM  
NOVEMBER 6-9 Early Release 12 PM  
Conferences  
NOVEMBER 12 No School- Veterans Day  
NOVEMBER 13 PTO Meeting 8:30 AM  
Chinese Acrobat Assembly  
NOVEMBER 15 Picture Retakes  
November 16 Veterans Day Assembly  
NOVEMBER 21 Early Release 12 PM

## THE MONTE APP

This is the official Montesano School District App. This app will help you stay up-to-date on events, happenings, and information. To get started search your app store for "Montesano School District" & look for this icon. Need a tutorial? Just stop by the main office.



## 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



(360) 249-4528



[MONTESCHOOLS.ORG](http://MONTESCHOOLS.ORG)



1717 BEACON AVENUE EAST  
MONTESANO, WA 98563

## SEPTEMBER IS ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH

Beacon Elementary is making a special effort to ensure that all students fully benefit from their education by attending school regularly. Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Your student can start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Consistent attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Starting in kindergarten, too many absences (excused and unexcused) can cause children to fall behind in school. Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) increases the chance that your student will not read or master math at the same level as their peers.

Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

By being present at school, your child learns valuable social skills and has the opportunity to develop meaningful relationships with other students and school staff.

### WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

We miss your student when they are gone and we value their contributions to our school. We would like you to help ensure that your student attends regularly and is successful in school.

### OUR PROMISE TO YOU

We know that there are a wide variety of reasons that students are absent from school, from health concerns to transportation challenges. There are many people in our building prepared to help you if you or your student face challenges in getting to school regularly or on time. We promise to notice when your student is missing from class, communicate with you to understand why they were absent, and to identify barriers and supports available to overcome challenges you may face in helping your student attend school.

### SCHOOL POLICIES AND STATE LAWS

It is important that you understand our Washington State Law that ensures your child is successful in school. State law for mandatory attendance, called the Becca Bill, requires children from age 8 to 17 to attend school.

We, the school, are required to take daily attendance and notify you when your student has an unexcused absence.

In elementary school after five excused absences in any month, or ten or more excused absences in the school year, the school district will contact you to schedule a conference to identify the barriers and supports available. A conference is not required if your student has provided a doctor's note, or pre-arranged the absence in writing.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
2. Prepare for school the night before, finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
3. Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required immunizations.
4. Don't let your student stay home unless they are truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomachache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
5. Avoid appointments and extended trips when school is in session.
6. Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
7. Keep track of your student's attendance. Missing more than 9 days could put your student at risk of falling behind.
8. Talk to your student about the importance of attendance.
9. Talk to your student's teacher if you notice sudden changes in behavior. These could be tied to something going on at school.
10. Encourage meaningful afterschool activities for your child, including sports and clubs.

In partnership,  
Barbara D. Page, Principal  
*Educating the heart and mind.*

Source:  
Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction



## MEET OUR COUNSELOR

Hello! My name is Angie Wisdom and this is my 3rd year at Beacon Elementary, and my 8th year as a school counselor. I am looking forward to a great year at Beacon Elementary. As your student's school counselor, I am here for your student's academic, social, emotional, and career development.



I work with students, staff, teachers, parents/guardians, and our community to provide your student with the resources they need to succeed inside and outside the classroom.

**My Schedule:** Tuesdays & Thursdays at Beacon Elementary

**List of Services:** Lessons reach 100% of the student population by teaching classroom guidance lessons. Subjects for the school year include:

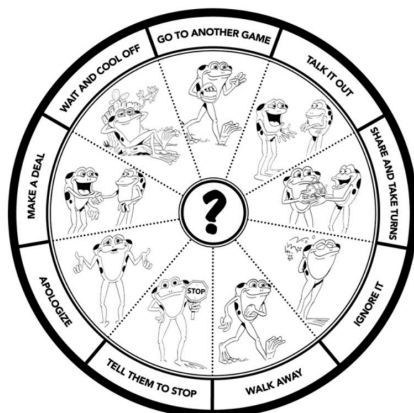
- Conflict Resolution
- Expressing/Identifying Emotions
- Friendship/Kindness
- Growth Mindset
- Small Group Counseling: Group counseling is available for students: Group topics include:
  - Friendship
  - Social Skills
- Individual Counseling: Students may be referred for individual counseling as deemed necessary by parents/guardians, teachers, or administration.

**Contact Me:** Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at: [awisdom@monteschools.org](mailto:awisdom@monteschools.org)

## SEPTEMBER: CONFLICT RESOLUTION MONTH

**Classroom Guidance for 1st & 2nd grade. Kindergarten will learn about Kelso's Choices later in the year!**

Conflict or disagreement is normal and often happens when children get together. Beacon Elementary uses a system called Kelso's Choices to empower children to solve their own small (bothersome, but not threatening) problems. Kelso's Choice posters hang in every classroom, and are visible from the playground to remind students they have 9 options for solving small kid-sized conflicts. Kelso teaches students that they are smart enough and strong enough to resolve



conflicts. Kelso's Choices also teaches students the difference between tattling and reporting. What is great about this program is that it can also be practiced and implemented at home to solve small conflicts. When your child comes to you to solve their "small problem," encourage them to try one

to two of Kelso's Choices first. If that doesn't work then an adult can intervene. Make sure your kids know how to ask an adult for help in the event of a "big problem". For more information about the Kelso's Choice program, please visit: <http://kelsoschoice.com/community/parent-page/>



TATTLING	REPORTING
Getting someone <b>IN</b> trouble	Getting someone <b>OUT</b> of trouble
Unimportant	Important
Harmless	Harmful or dangerous
Accident	Being mean on purpose

**Tattling vs. Reporting- one part of the KC Lessons-**

Helpful books for teaching your child the difference between tattling & reporting:

- A Bad Case of Tattle Tongue- Julia Cook
- Armadillo Tattletale- Hellen Kettman
- Little Miss Tattletale- Konni Jo Bryant
- Tattlin' Madeline- Carol Cummings Ph.D

## WHEN IS SICK TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?



### SEND YOUR CHILD IF...

They have a running nose or just a little cough, but no other symptoms. They haven't taken any fever reducing medicine for 24 hours, and they haven't had a fever during that time. They haven't thrown up or had any diarrhea for 24 hours.



### KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME IF ...

They have a temperature higher than 99.6 degrees even after taking medicine. They are throwing up or have diarrhea. Their eyes are pink and crusty.



### CALL THE DOCTOR IF ...

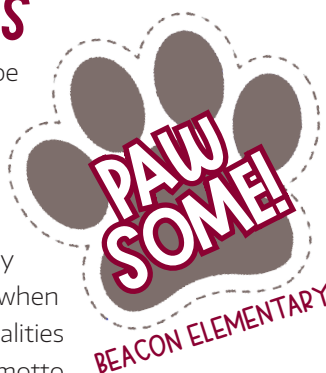
They have a temperature higher than 99.6 degrees for more than two days. They are throwing up or have diarrhea for more than two days. They've had the sniffles for more than a week and they are not getting better.

Source: CDC- Guidelines for School Admin

## PUPPY PAWS

Your student may be coming home with a special slip called the "Puppy Paw". Students are given these slips by any adult on campus when demonstrating qualities that promote our motto

of *WORK hard. BE kind.* Puppy Paws are read daily during the morning announcements to recognize student achievement. We encourage you to celebrate at home with your child. It's a big deal!



## TITLE I SUPPORTS MATH

Title I is a federal program designed "to provide all children significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps." At Beacon, Title I supports our K-2 math program. Our programs and services provide customized instruction that helps students meet academic standards and take an active, engaged interest in what they learn and can do.

## DROP-OFF & PICK-UP

Drop-off and pickup from the parking lot can be challenging parts of the Beacon day. Please keep these tips in mind for a good experience for adults and our children.

1. When dropping off/picking up students in a private car, please do not pull around cars that are also doing the same. **Patience is the key**; we do not want to injure any of our children. **Drop-off/pick-up in front of the ORANGE CONES is strictly prohibited.**
2. Please be mindful of the traffic behind you. Yes, we are all in a hurry, but the traffic will move faster if you pull forward as far as possible.
3. For your child's safety, please have them exit or enter the car at the curb only. Remember that if your child needs extra help with backpacks, kisses, etc., finding a parking spot rather than staying in the drop-off line is the best choice. Please do not get out of your vehicle in the drop-off/pick-up zone.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Please be courteous to the staff enforcing the safety rules in the parking lot. They are trying to keep your child safe and your wait time down. A team is working on revamping this process. Stay tuned for new guidelines.