



The Bear Facts

*Sponsored by the Parent Faculty Association
of Jessie Beck Elementary School*

PFA News

February 2018

Welcome back and Happy 2018!!

Please mark your calendars for our biggest annual PFA Fundraising Event: Fund The Arts on Friday March 16th at the Nevada Museum of Art. You don't want to miss this fabulous evening full of good food, drink, music and a chance to celebrate our children's spectacular artwork!

We only have two more PFA General meetings left this school year on February 13th and April 10th at 8:15 a.m. in the Library. The meetings are open to everyone in the Jessie Beck community and we hope to see you there!

This month we are introducing a kid's activity page so please encourage your child to participate.

We appreciate all of you who help make the Jessie Beck community so special!

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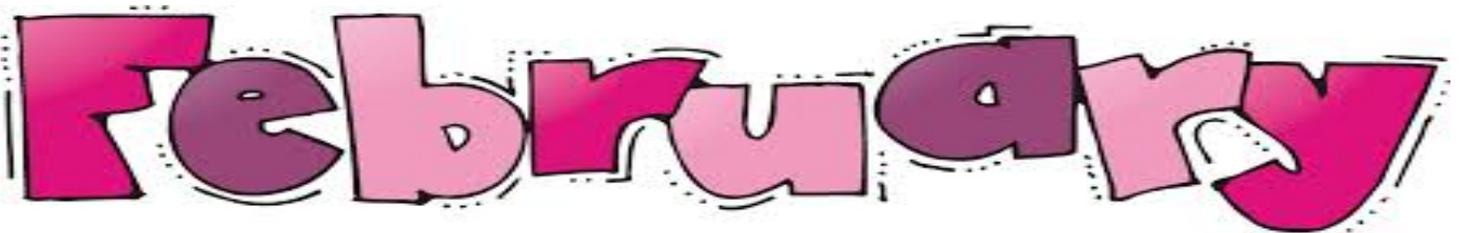
YEARBOOK HELP WANTED

We are looking for a parent who would like to help out our school with this year's yearbook. Experience with photography would be great but not necessarily mandatory. You would need to be available to attend school functions such as Fund the Arts, Dessert Night, Soccer games (not all but maybe one or two home games), Art BBQ, and Science Fair night and also be available to come in to take pictures of staff such as music, computers, cafeteria, office, etc. We'd also like pictures of our wonderful art volunteers. We would be able to compensate you for your time as well.

If you have any interest or you know someone who may be interested, please contact Lanny Hershenow (lhershenow@washoeschools.net) or Daniele Espinosa (despinosa@washoeschools.net). Thank you!

Music Program Dates:

March 22nd at 2:15	1st Grade
May 18th at 2:15	5th Grade
May 25th at 2:15	4th Grade
May 30th at 10:30 a.m.	6th Grade
Band, Strings & Choir	



Principal's Pen

Jessie Beck Families!

Happy February to all of you!

First, I would like to say thank you to our PFA for purchasing four color printers with ink cartridges. Each wing, plus Special Education, will receive one. The PFA also has funded a 30-laptop computer cart, which means that now each wing of our school will have its own laptop cart – a much-needed resource! Thank you, everyone, for your participation in our events and fundraising efforts at Jessie Beck! The PFA is able to make these greatly appreciated contributions because of the generous support from our parent community.

Thank you to all of the families that supported our **K-3 Literacy Night** on January 30th. Our committee worked hard to provide an informational and fun literacy night for our families. Remember it is so important to read to your child at night and to have them read to you! The more your child reads, the better they will become at reading.

Our Kindergarten students just completed their first ever **MAP Testing** and I was very proud of all of them! This was the first time that they took an assessment on the computer and they really persevered. Thank you to all of our Kindergarten teachers for preparing our student for these assessments.

ACCESS testing, for our English Language Learners, will be the week of **February 5th-12th**. Mrs. Waters has been working hard to prepare our students for this annual assessment, as have all of our teachers. Thank you!

The tentative dates for **SBAC testing** will be **April 30th-May 18th** and we will be concurrently administrating our **Spring MAP testing May 7th-May 25th** and **June 4th and 5th for Kinder MAP testing**. It is imperative that students are in school for these end-of-year assessments which determine how your child progressed towards grade level standards.

Please check the District and School Website for more information, but please know that since we no longer have contingency days, if school is canceled for a **Snow Day**, the missed day(s) will be added to the end of the year. Therefore, if 1 day is canceled, then instead of ending on June 8th, we would end on June 11th. If 2 days are canceled then we would end on Wednesday, June 13th because June 12th is primary Election Day and all schools are closed on this day since they are polling sites.

Finally, I know that **parking** is difficult before and after school, however you cannot park in the red zone in front of the school and get out of your car. There will be cones in the red zone and school police will be monitoring. Thank you for your understanding. Have a great month!

Ms. Lane, Principal



Fund The Arts

Our biggest and most exciting fund raiser of the year is quickly approaching!

The Auction will be held at the **Nevada Museum of Art on March 16th.**

We still have corporate sponsorship opportunities available, so if you are interested, and have misplaced your packet, please email Michon Colovich at mcolovich@gmail.com

The Silent Auction committee is in full swing collecting donations, and the request packets will be coming home in your child's folder. Please take time to consider if you or someone you know is able to donate to the school. If you need extra or digital copies of the form, again, please email Michon.

We will be needing volunteers to help out at the event, and will be setting up link through volunteer.com again this year. We will need greeters, silent auction item runners, and people to assist our check out team. If you know that this is something you'd like to help out with, please contact us (same email).

Invitations will be coming home shortly in the Thursday folders, and we hope you can all attend. It is a wonderful event, and we are hard at work to make it better than ever. We have so many wonderful things lined up this year—you don't want to miss it.

We have so many wonderful things lined up this year—including an 8-week old AKC Papered Male Black Lab puppy looking for new loving home! You don't want to miss it!

Mark your calendar and get involved!

Fund the Arts Committee

Counselor's Comments

Upon returning from winter break, Jessie Beck students celebrated "Peace Week" along with other Washoe County School District students. The 2017 Legislature passed a bill that sets forth, annually, a week of peace. At Beck, I led students in discussions about kindness, compassion, and empathy. The students had already learned about Martin Luther King Jr. Day in their classrooms and we talked about how we could apply Dr. King's ideas at Jessie Beck. We discussed what compassion looks and sounds like. The students had lots of great ideas, including helping students who were sad or hurt, inviting others to join in games, and encouraging each other to keep trying as they are learning new things by saying "good job, nice try" and giving high-fives. To continue this discussion at home, ask your student and discuss:

What does peace mean to you?
Describe a peaceful moment in your life.
Who are the peacemakers?
Can everyone be a peacemaker?
How would you go about creating peace?

I look forward to hearing the wonderful ideas that you come up with!

We will also be celebrating National School Counseling Week from February 5 to 9, 2018. This year's theme, "School Counselors: Helping Students Reach for the Stars," highlights the opportunities that school counselors have to help students achieve academic success and plan for their futures. Thank you for all you do to support school counseling at Jessie Beck!

Robyn Davis, NCC, NCSC, MFT-Intern
Counselor, Jessie Beck Elementary School
redavis@washoeschools.net



Library News

I finally received the final financial accounting of our Book Fair which was held way back in October. Jessie Beck did extremely well thanks to all of you.

TOTAL SALES: \$11,723.33	
PROFIT TAKEN IN CASH:	\$2,300.00
SCHOLASTIC DOLLARS PROFIT:	\$1,261.66
CUSTOMER REWARD:	\$ 25.00
TOTAL PROFIT & REWARDS	\$3,586.66

I cannot thank you enough for your incredible support. Way to go!!! I will use the funds to purchase books, computers, and reading incentives.

READING WEEK – READING IS A VOYAGE- COMING MARCH 5-9, 2018.

More details will be sent home in mid-February. We look forward to celebrating the joy of reading with your students and invite you to join in the fun.

Frequently I am asked: **HOW WILL I KNOW IF A BOOK HAS AN AR QUIZ?**

You can visit the AR BookFinder at arbookfind.com to search all available books with AR quizzes. Students can also search the Renaissance (AR) database at school.

BOOK RETURNS:

As we begin the New Year and the second half of the school year, please remind your students to return their books when they are due. That will help eliminate any fines at the end of the school year.

Thanks for your help!

Mrs. Cox, Librarian

Technology Tips

This month in the Computer Lab we are focusing on our typing skills! As students practice these skills they are able to have a higher WPM (Words Per Minute) and much better accuracy. Here are some free resources to help your child become a more proficient typist:

Kindergarten – Second Grade

<http://www.abcya.com/> - Free online educational games to help children become more comfortable and familiar with the computer keyboard. Grade-level lessons incorporate areas such as math and language arts while introducing basic computer skills.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3c6tfr> - Dance Mat Typing is a free online typing program run by the BBC which includes 12 levels and is designed to be fun for kids. Typing lessons feature an animated character with an off-beat accent.

Third Grade – Sixth Grade

<https://www.typing.com/> – This website is a great resource that tracks your progress and records each improvement. It also has engaging games that students enjoy.

<https://www.nitrotype.com/race> - This website allows you to compete with friends to see who the fastest typist is.

<https://sense-lang.org/> - A great website that offers both free and paid subscriptions. There are a variety of typing tutorials and practice tests.

Nicole Norwich,
Educational Technologies Specialist

Jump-A-Thon Fundraiser

Mark your calendars for this mini fundraiser on Friday, February 23rd! Please watch your child's Thursday folder for more information on this event.



Reading Bites

Thank you to all the families who attended Jessie Beck's first Family Literacy Night on January 30th! We hope you are having fun reinforcing those literacy skills at home with your readers through games and together-time. Remember to check in with your child's teacher if you have any questions on how you can further reinforce literacy and learning at home. And as always: Read together EVERY DAY!

Dana Hardt
K/1st Two-Way Immersion (English) & Learning Strategist
Jessie Beck Elementary
775-689-2520

Jessie Beck Family Archery Experience

The third family archery experience of the year will take place on **Saturday, February 24th** from 9-11:00 AM. These experiences were designed to offer an out-of-school place where Beck families could get together and have some fun. It will take place at Wasting Arrows indoor archery range. Keep an eye out a few weeks before the event for flyers coming home with more information. Although the online registration for this event is not yet available, this FREE event (sponsored by Wild Sheep Foundation) did fill up in December. So, make sure to sign up early if you plan to attend. For more information, or to get the information emailed to you once it becomes available, contact Dr. Brock at Rbrock@washoeschools.net.

PFA

Free Money For Jessie Beck

Please help raise funds for Jessie Beck at the places you already shop. Check out the Jessie Beck PFA website to see a full list of stores that participate and how to sign up! Some of the stores include Amazon, Target, Walmart and Raleys. By registering with many of these programs, you can take advantage of coupons that are linked to some of these programs and websites, and save money. Last year, Jessie Beck families raised over \$7000 just by being mindful of the Free Money Programs! Please go to jessiebeckpfa.com to participate in the Free Money Program On Line! We appreciate your support!

El Adobe Night:

On the 1st Tuesday of each month, the Beruman family restaurant donates 25% of the evening's proceeds to a scholarship fund for college-bound Jessie Beck alumni in honor of their daughter Natalia, a Jessie Beck student whose courageous fight with cancer ended her life too early. Please join us on February 6th!



Jessie Beck Elementary

1900 Sharon Way, Reno, NV 89509
Phone: 689-2520 Fax: 689-2598
www.washoecountyschools.org/beck

Absence Line: 689-2520

Principal: Erin Lane

email: elane@washoeschools.net

Secretary: Marianne Norwich

Dates to Remember

February 5-12.....	ESL ACCESS Testing
February 6th.....	El Adobe Night
February 13	PFA General Meeting
February 19	President's Day – No School
February 23	Jump-A-Thon