

JAN/FEB

◀ 2023 ▶

The Bear Facts

a publication of the jessie beck parent faculty association



We are so excited for our Annual Fund the Arts Event on February 24th. The art production is in full swing, and all the kids are working hard to produce their collaborative art pieces. Every year the teachers and 60+ art volunteers work to produce these pieces to be auctioned off at the Annual Fund the Arts event. The funds raised support the PFA's mission to enrich the student and staff experience, provide technology, interventionists and class aids, literacy programs, PE teacher and equipment, library books, supplies, fully fund and operate the Art to Grow program, staff appreciation, and much, much more!

**To Donate and Sponsor,
Preview Auction Items and check out our
Event Sponsors visit jessiebeckpfa.com**

- Dates to Note -

- 1/14 Youth Wildlife Conservation Experience, 10 AM - 4 PM Reno Sparks Convention Center
- 1/16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School
- 1/19 Science Night 5:30 - 7 PM
- 1/19 Report cards issued
- 1/29 Ice Skating event, 3:45-4:45 PM
- 2/20 President's Day - No School
- 2/24 Fund The Arts
- Early Release - Every Wednesday 2:15 PM
- Spirit Fridays - Wear your Jessie Beck Spirit Wear

PFA NEWS

Welcome back Bears!

We hope you all had an amazing winter break filled with family, food and relaxation.

January and February will be exciting months for us as we have both our next community event as well as our next (and biggest!) fundraisers coming up!

In January we have our 2nd Annual Ice Skating Event at Reno Ice.

This event is fun for the whole family and is simply a day to come out and enjoy the Jessie Beck Family. This event is meant for our students, their parents, siblings etc. so bring out the whole family to enjoy some fun on the ice. Tickets are limited based on capacity constraints, so get them now at www.jessiebeckpfa.com before they SELL OUT.

February 24th we have our annual Fund the Arts auction at The Depot. This event is adults only and is a fun night filled with food, drinks, dancing, and of course the art! Our students work really hard on the collaborative art pieces they put together and those in turn help us raise a big portion of the funds that are used to support the school throughout the year. This year the theme is 80's prom so bust out those shoulder pads, the Aqua Net and all the neon and party with friends, family and supporters throwback style. For more information about the event or to purchase tickets checkout www.jessiebeckpfa.com.

We look forward to seeing you at these winter events and to helping support our Jessie Beck students.

Sincerely,

Bri Sullivan

PFA President

BeckPFA@gmail.com

brianne.sullivan@moneytreeinc.com

For information about all things PFA and the community events we are offering check out jessiebeckpfa.com

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the
ARTS

the Principal's pen

Happy 2023 Jessie Beck Students and Families,

We hope you all had a wonderful and restful Winter Break! It was so nice to see so much snow and precipitation! We sure need it and I know how impactful it will be in the summer months ahead!

As January and February unfold, lots will be happening at Jessie Beck! We have our STEM night to look forward to in mid-January and our Ice-Skating Night at the end of the month too! Both wonderful events that will be hosted by our teachers and our PFA. We look forward to seeing our students and families there!

We have also just started a Robotics Club. Thank you in advance to Alise Porto for volunteering to chair this club and for her volunteers who will be helping too. There was such a wonderful interest in the program, that we did have to cap it at 35 students, but hopefully next year if your son or daughter was not able to participate this year; they will next year. Students will be engaged in exciting activities related to engineering, programming, team building and robotics. I look forward to seeing this new club take off.

We finished our MAP Assessment K-5th prior to Winter Break, so our teachers will be analyzing their student data on Monday, January 9th as we partake in staff professional development. We will also be looking at our attendance, discipline, and MTSS data as well to make any needed changes in our delivery of instruction and communication of attendance or behavioral concerns. As we all know, attendance in school is the most important variable for student success across the board; academically, socially and emotionally. At the elementary level, we are instilling a positive work ethic and the importance of showing up every day ready to learn for "work". This is our student's "job" at this level so being in school, present every day, engaged in learning and completing in class and homework assignments is paramount! We appreciate all of the dedicated families who support their child's learning. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns!

We will begin ACCESS testing in January/February for our English Language Learners and then will move into our summative SBAC assessments for 3rd-5th in ELA, Math and Science (5th) in April. In the meantime, continue to enjoy the wonders of Winter and all the exciting activities that are coming up! Mark your calendar too for our annual Fund the Arts in February! This is always a wonderful event and I know how hard our students and parent art volunteers work creating the art for this event!

Here's to a wonderful start to 2023!

Cheers,

Ms. Lane



Counseling update from "Mrs. C"

I want to welcome all our students and staff back to Jessie Beck – I hope everyone had a restful and relaxing winter break!! For the remainder of the month, I will be finishing up my Better Safe Than Sorry guidance lessons that focus on the topic of safety – all Kinder, 1st, 3rd, and 5th graders will be receiving these lessons. Passive permission slips will go home and ONLY need to be signed/returned if parents/guardians do not want their child participating in this. Our 4th Grade students have done a wonderful job earning their self-manager badges and this will continue in the month of January!

I also wanted to thank all the families, students, faculty, and members of the New Opportunities Committee/PFA, especially Alison Butler, who were instrumental in helping organize and sponsor families in need for Christmas this year! We received an outpouring of support and monetary donations that helped make Christmas a little brighter for those in need here at Jessie Beck, and we are beyond thankful for this!

Lastly, in the month of February I will continue running "Small Group Tuesdays" and I will also be pushing into all classrooms to deliver guidance lessons on Self-Awareness and Social Skills.

Clinic Corner

Welcome back to school! It's wonderful to see our students happy, healthy, rested and ready to learn!

Big news in the Health Office this semester is there have been changes regarding exclusion practices. In essence, the 5-day exclusions will be done if a student is diagnosed with a lab confirmed test or home test. Please notify the health office of such circumstances. Other WCHD warranted exclusion can also include student illness and/or a classroom or school "outbreak", these may differ by type of illness.

If your student isn't feeling well, and has:

Fever (>100.4) they need to be fever free for 24 hours without medication prior to return.

Vomiting or diarrhea – has been 24 hours since last occurrence and without medication prior to returning.

Those are the main culprits of exclusions. If you have any questions or would like some clarification please call the health office. Student Health Services is working with WCHD on a "general" illness screener for families to use to know when to keep their students home from school. General rule of thumb is if your student isn't feeling well and not learning ready, keep them home.

Also, this snow and rain has created quite the muddy conditions on the playground! Please pack an extra set of clothes with your student. The health office doesn't always have the resources to provide extra clothes, in which case we will have to call parents to bring clothes.

Here's to a Healthy & Happy 2023!

Northern Nv Dental Health Programs is hosting a Dental Clinic/Free Dental Screenings
Saturday, February 4, 2023 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. @ TMCC, 7000 Dandini Blvd, Red Mtn Building, Rm 415.
Appointments are required. Call Jessie Beck Health office 775-689-2520 for more information.

From the Library

We finished the year in the library with several holiday books and a cute snowman craft. All students filled out a library book wish list and are eagerly waiting for the new books to arrive. Thank you PFA for your generosity towards the library and all our students!

Happy New Year from the library!

Mrs. Cantu - Library Assistant

December read-alouds:

Snowmen at Christmas by Caralyn Buehner

Tiny Reindeer by Chris Naylor-Ballestros

For questions or comments,
please reach out at becklibrary@washoeschools.net.

Natalia's El Adobe Nights - The third Wednesday of every month is Jessie Beck Night at El Adobe Restaurant, 55 W. Arroyo Street 25% of all proceeds will go into the Natalia Berumen Scholarship Fund.

Natalia was a Jessie Beck student who passed away in August of 2013. To keep her name and memory alive, the PFA is offering high school seniors who have graduated from Jessie Beck a chance to apply for one of these scholarships. So take your family to El Adobe once a month and support the Berumen family and this wonderful scholarship fund.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Thanksgiving Baskets

Thank you to all for supplying us with food and monetary donations so we were able to make sure each of the 26 Jessie Beck families had a full Thanksgiving basket to enjoy this season. Turkeys were donated by Nina Keller.





Erica Elliott

I'm a native Nevadan, attended Reed High class of 92, UNR and Sierra NV College with bachelor's and master's degree in Education. Taught 2-6th grade in Title I for 14 years and was lucky to land at Jessie Beck for the last 8 years. My amazing husband of 15 years and I are blessed with two great kids 14 and 10. I love the summers in Nevada for camping, boating, hiking, and a new love for snowshoeing. My other interests are cooking, fashion, and interior decorating.



Debi Welch

I began my teaching career after graduating from UNR. I started teaching 1st grade in Wells, NV and stayed there until I was married and moved to Reno. While in Reno, I have taught at a few schools, but always in first or second grade. (I love teaching the primary students, because they are excited to learn, are amazed about different things and love sharing.)

I have two boys, who are now grown and both have good jobs. On my summers and breaks, I love to go camping, exploring and fishing with my husband and dog. I also enjoy playing golf, reading good books, crafting and visiting with my family.



Laura Hurley

I love the warm weather, but also love Powder Days. I received my Bachelor's degree in Psychology and a M.Ed. in EI Education. For the last 14 years, I've taught at several schools in many positions, K-6 SpEd, 4th grade, 3rd, and 2nd. Every year I think this is the "Best Grade, and the Best School" but I think I just truly like them all, and love what I do. Besides teaching, I have an amazing family, John, Kendall (6) old pup, Bella (15) and new pup Skunk (10 weeks, guess who named her). We love the outdoors and we love traveling. We also enjoy camping, biking, skiing, swimming, and just recently, boogie-boarding.



Nayma Boyce

Hola, I am the second and third grade Spanish teacher in the Dual Language program. This is my 9th year working in the Dual Language program at Jessie Beck. I graduated from UNR with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. I was a first grade teacher at Mariposa Language and Learning Academy. I moved to Austin, TX for 6 years, where I was a first grade Dual Language teacher. When I first returned to Reno, I worked as an ESL teacher at Bernice Mathews elementary school. I am very grateful and happy to be part of the Jessie Beck community.

Get to know your Jessie Beck 2nd & 3rd Grade Staff.



Laura Fermoile

Hello! My name is Laura Fermoile and this is my 22nd year of teaching. I absolutely love teaching at Jessie Beck with the fantastic staff and students. I graduated from UNR with a Bachelor of Science in Education. My husband, Doug and I have three adult children. Shawn works for a non-profit in Reno, Ashley works for the National Health Service in Dunbar, Scotland, and Nick is a gaming manager here in town. We have two granddaughters, and a grandson on the way! Can't wait to visit him in Scotland this summer. I love exploring our area, especially Lake Tahoe. At home, I enjoy gardening, cooking, reading, rooting for the Buffalo Bills, SF Giants, and spending time with family and friends.



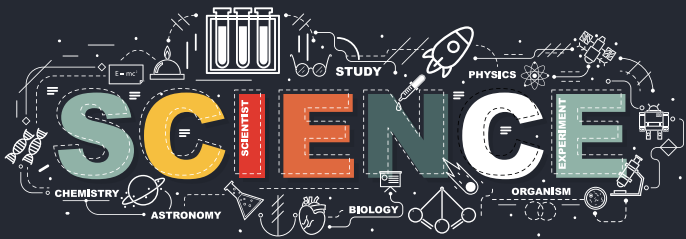
Suzette Champagne

Hi! This is my 27th year teaching, and my 9th year at Jessie Beck. My 2 children and I are all Jessie Beck alumni, and I loved being a student here so much that I came back to teach as soon as I could. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from Willamette University and a Master's Degree from the University of Nevada. I have been married for 27 years to my husband, Justin, who is an attorney. My daughter graduated from Boise State University and now lives in Idaho working in public relations, and my son attends the University of Nevada and plans on attending law school after he graduates. When I'm not teaching, I love to travel, ski, and spend time with my family and friends.



Karri Woodhead

With a Masters in education, this is my 24th year of teaching. My favorite grade is 3rd but have taught 2-4th. Not much time for hobbies with two teenage boys (15 & 17), two crazy puppies, and I am also a spin instructor! I do love watching my sons' sports and taking naps when I can!



It has been a few years since Jessie Beck Elementary has had a night dedicated to inspiring students in the realm of science. Science Night is back this year! We will partner with Sierra Nevada Journeys to provide hands-on experiential learning mini-labs on January 19th from 5:30-7PM. Mark your calendars and keep your eyes open for more information as the date gets closer.

Dr. Brock



SPIRIT WEAR



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Dual Language Advisory Council

Would you like to have a country-wide party, with dancing, parades, and sweets? The modern version of Carnival is a party that lasts several days and takes place in countries all over South America! In fact, the celebrations are national holidays that take place in January or February, which are summer months in the Southern hemisphere. But why do they celebrate? Carnival started in the 1600's as the Candombe dance, the one day of the year that slaves from Africa could express their culture. Later it was combined with Spanish traditions and elements of each country's culture. Today some of the biggest Carnival festivals take place in Gualaguaychú, Argentina; Montevideo, Uruguay; and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

In more local news, the DLAC has voted to change its name from the Dual Language Advisory Council to the Dual Language Action Committee, as it is a closer reflection of our work to assist families in the DL program and promote diversity in our school community.

¿Te gustaría tener una fiesta en todo el país, con bailes, desfiles y dulces? ¿La versión moderna del Carnaval es una fiesta que dura varios días y tiene lugar en países de toda América del Sur! De hecho, las celebraciones son fiestas nacionales que tienen lugar en enero o febrero, que son meses de verano en el hemisferio sur. Pero, ¿por qué celebran? El carnaval comenzó en la década de 1600 como la danza del candombe, el único día del año en que los esclavos de África podían expresar su cultura. Más tarde se combinó con las tradiciones españolas y elementos de la cultura de cada país. Hoy en día, algunos de los festivales de Carnaval más grandes tienen lugar en Gualaguaychú, Argentina; Montevideo, Uruguay; y Río de Janeiro, Brasil.

En más noticias locales, el DLAC ha votado para cambiar su nombre del Consejo Asesor de Lenguaje Dual al Comité de Acción de Lenguaje Dual, ya que es un reflejo más cercano de nuestro trabajo para ayudar a las familias en el programa DL y promover la diversidad en nuestra comunidad escolar.

Jessie Beck Garden Club

We had a wonderful end to our 2022 programs. Our first ever Seed Money Campaign was a huge success. We exceeded our fundraising goal and raised \$2610! We can't wait to bring a greenhouse to our students in 2023! Thank you all for your generous donations!!

Our November workshop focused on composting and vermiculture. The students learned about creating a healthy balance of "green" and "brown" items in their compost. Ms. Champagne and Ms. Condon are tending to the two worm factories in their classrooms this year, and the students loved seeing how well the worms are doing.

In December we braved the freezing temps to plant tulip and daffodil bulbs as well as start some cold hardy seedlings under hoop frames. The older students had a great time operating the power drill to dig holes for their bulbs.

We've got a lot of fun programs planned for the students this spring. Keep growing and follow us on Instagram @jessiebeckgardenclub.

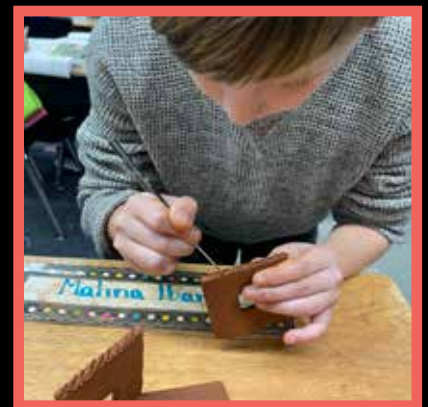
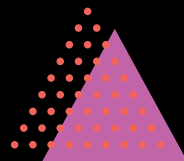


Art to Grow



We are getting so excited for Fund the Arts on February 24th. The art production is in full force, and all the kids are working hard. Every year the teachers and art volunteers work together to come up with a collaborative art piece for their class room. These collaborative art pieces will be auctioned off at the Fund the Arts event. These collaborative art pieces are a great opportunity for the kids to learn a few important skills such as different art techniques, working with new mediums, coming up with a plan and working on that plan, and working together to create one piece. I think the most important thing they learn from this group art project is teamwork. It is an amazing skill to develop, and is often not used in the creation of art because it is often thought of as an individual and singular pursuit. But, when the kids combine their skill, talent, and creativity something beautiful is created. They learn to be respectful and encourage each other. The kids can see how important the individual contribution can be to the whole. The art pieces are all different and are a great display of creativity and skill. We are so excited to have the art on display at the event for all to see up close. Come support Jessie Beck and the Art to Grow Program on February 24th at The Depot. See you there!

Thanks,
Whitney Stodtmeister - Art Coordinator



FUND ARTS

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