

a publication of the jessie beck parent faculty association

The Bear Facts

MAY/JUNE
2023

PFA NEWS

I can't believe how quick this year has gone by and that this is our last issue of the newsletter for the 2022-2023 school year!

I want to thank everyone for the support we have received over the past year that has made it a successful year here at Jessie Beck. I am proud to be a part of such a great group of parents, staff and of course the amazing students.

I want to take a moment to welcome our 2023-2024 PFA board:

President: Kami Hitti

VPs: Brandi Quaglieri and Alise Porto

Treasurer: Lauren Murray

Secretary: Betsy Lau-Hertel

Asst. Treasurer: Teresa Quaglieri

At large: Scott Husbands and Christine Maxwell

Staff Representatives: Ryan Brock, Laura Fermoile and Suzan Lemons

Past President: Bri Sullivan

In June we will hold our annual budget meeting for the 2023-2024 school year.

In order to maintain our additional interventionists help our students on a one on one basis we spent \$75,000! This includes a PE teacher, Computer teacher, supplementing the attendance clerk, as well as 5 additional intervention aides.

Additional items we have been able to support this year are:

- Supplies for the soccer and cheerleading teams
- New chairs for the multipurpose room
- Community events that allow students from all grades throughout the school to attend
- New books for the library
- Art supplies and our art coordinator
- Putting on a science night for our students to do hands on science
- And a number of other misc. expenses throughout the year

Without your support, these things will never come to fruition. Thank you again, it's been a pleasure to help this past year!

Bri Sullivan - PFA President • BeckPFA@gmail.com

For PFA information and community events we are offering check out jessiebeckpfa.com



Dates to Note

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 1-5

Strolling Art Show

May 17

4th Grade Concert, 2:15

May 18

5th Grade Concert, 2:15

May 19

Dual Language Celebration

May 19

STEM night, 5:30-7:00

May 30

Last of school June 14th

Jessie Beck

the Principal's pen

Thank you in advance to all those attending our Bingo Night and for those students who participated in the Talent Show. There are so many things happening this spring! A huge shout out too for all of our students who have worked so hard on their SBAC and MAP testing as well. We are very proud of all the students' efforts!

Both Mrs. Waters and Mrs. C shared in their portion of the newsletter all the positive behavioral incentives and supports we have been working on since we have returned from Spring Break. These include a school wide re-teaching behavioral assembly, reviewing our school wide and playground rules, and reviewing our dress code as well. The assembly went well and all students were very attentive!

We are continuing to see enrollment of students who have been home schooled since Covid and many of our students have been exposed to severe trauma and other outside stressors in their young lives completely out of their control. Since we have seen an increase of behaviors in different areas and aspects of the school day, it has been imperative to address these concerns. This year our staff has engaged in the following school wide trainings to support their understanding of how trauma affects the brain and student behavior and how they as educators can support their students in and out of the classroom.

Below is the professional development our staff has engaged in and that I have organized:

PD Provided:

Trauma Informed Practices

Jessie Beck Behavior Flow Chart

Paws for Success

Restorative Practice

District Attendance PD

Beck Attendance Letter and Progressive Steps for Improvement.

MTSS Structures and Processes.

Calming Corners and Restorative Questioning Cards.

Mindful Breathing Strategies

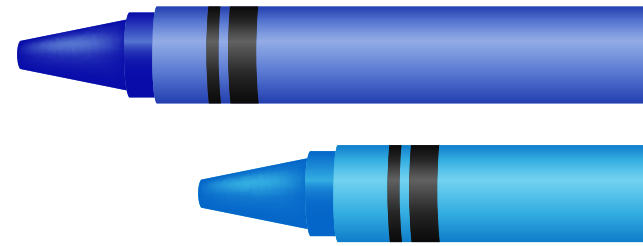
March 13th Webinar: Teaching between the BOOMs & De-escalation Strategies.

April 18th-Incorporating a Trauma-Informed Approach into WCSD's MTSS Framework.

FBA/PTR and Data Collection and the implementation of behavior plans to support student success or increase behavioral supports and interventions.

Then as a staff during Leadership team meetings and weekly grade level MTSS meetings we also discuss behavior and look at our Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 supports and determine what necessary steps must be taken to give the required level of support needed for a student.

We have the following levels of support to offer our students:

**Tier 1 Whole School Interventions**

Reteaching Expectations
Calming Corners/De-escalation Strategies
Classroom Meetings
Bear Paws/Class Rewards
Restorative Practices
Guidance Lessons

Tier 2 Behavior Interventions:

Restorative Recess
Zones of Regulation (groups and guidance)
Friendship/Lego Groups
Behavior Charts and Home Notes
CICO (Check in Check Out)

Tier 3 Behavior Interventions:

CICO Behavior Charts and Home Notes (frequency increased)
FBAs (Functional Behavioral Assessments)
Behavior Plans
Break Cards/Tickets

As you can see, I am guiding and supporting the staff in a multitude of ways when it comes dealing with behavior and the high level of trauma exposure support and care some of our students require and need, while still doing everything that we can to provide a safe and respectful learning environment for all. It is imperative however that behavior plans are implemented with fidelity and data collection is taken in order to meet the needs of our students. It obviously takes a village, and we appreciate the support from our family community.

Thank you,

Ms. Lane



Counseling update from Mrs. C

I hope everyone enjoyed their Spring Break and time off from school as we inch closer and closer to the end of this school year! Since returning from break, I have been wrapping up my Guidance Lessons for April which includes teaching SHARE to all 4th and 5th grade students and continuing my lessons in every class school wide on self-regulation. When I complete this topic, I will be rolling out a whole unit on the topic of CAREERS. This is a topic that doesn't get a ton of attention at the elementary level, and it is my goal to change that! This year, I plan to do an entire week of CAREER DRESS UP days as well as plan an assembly centered around different occupations!

We also had a welcome back assembly for all grade levels to reteach behavior expectations and school rules since many of our younger students haven't had this opportunity since Covid began – it went great, and I am so proud to say I have seen an increase in positive behaviors school wide! During the assembly, I shared an update regarding our "BEAR PAW STORE". We met with our Leadership Team and decided to revamp our Bear Paw store to make the incentives more motivating and rewarding for students. We will no longer be doing an actual "store". Instead, we have formed a new list of rewards that students may earn every 2 weeks on Wednesdays just like we did with the store. Teachers and students will know what the reward is ahead of time (our first one is an extra recess) so students can save up their paws – all rewards will cost 20 Bear Paws each!

Thanks, Mrs. C

Dean's Corner

Happy Spring! I can't believe this school year is already wrapping up! We are ending our year focusing on 4 core values to make sure students end the school year being the BEST BECK STUDENTS. We will be teaching and reteaching Integrity (The quality of being honest and doing the right thing even when no one is looking), Self-Regulation (being able to control your emotions and behavior in an appropriate manner), Empathy (understanding how your behavior or actions feel to others or understanding others feelings) and Perseverance (continuing to give 100% even when things get tough or challenging) throughout the school. It would be appreciated if our outstanding Jessie Beck Families could reinforce these at home as well. Students will have opportunities weekly to be entered into drawing if they are showing these values around school. We went over all of these at our assembly on April 4th! Wishing everyone a safe and relaxing summer!

Nia Waters
Dean of Students
775-689-2520

Library

Happy Spring from the library! The past months have been filled with fantastic read-alouds, short STEAM projects, and lots of new books.

We currently have 218 overdue books. As we are approaching the end of the school year, please make sure your students return all library books, pay the lost book fine, or bring in a replacement. All books are due May 26th! If your family is facing hardship, please let me know and I will work with your student to find another way to pay off the fine.

April read-alouds: I talk like a river by Jordan Scott & Listen to the Desert/Oye al Desierto by Pat Mora

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at stefanie.cantu@washoeschools.net.

Have a great summer,
Mrs. Cantu

Clinic Corner

The 22/23 school year finish line is in sight and temperatures are on the rise!

With that said, it's time to be Sun Smart! SLIP on sun protective clothes, SLOP on sunscreen, SLAP on a hat, SEEK shade or shelter, SLIDE on sunglasses! And STAY hydrated!

Other safety measures to keep in mind is bicycle safety, always wearing a proper helmet, proper shoes, and well-maintained bicycle. If your student does ride their bike to school, please remind them to be aware of others on the road as it's very busy in the morning and dismissal time!

Also, please make sure your student is wearing appropriate, supportive footwear to school. Shoes that they can run and kick in, we see a lot of toe and ankle injuries in the Health Office this time of year.

Over the summer, please review your student's immunization records to make sure they stay current, otherwise exclusions will be made if they are non-compliant. Any immunization exemptions are to be applied for every school year. Also, if medications are needed at school, check that their prescriptions are current and not expired. A new medical form must be submitted every year. Please call the Health Office with any questions.

Another school year of changes has come and gone, Nurse Janet and I would like to thank you for your continued support and patience as policies and protocols are ever changing.

We wish you all a fun and safe summer break!

Ms. Melissa and Nurse Janet

Field Day

Once again, we have scheduled an interactive Field Day to occur on the second to last day of school. This annual event is not only a wonderful way to end school-year, but also is one of the few events that the entire school participates in at the same time, allowing for interactions between students that usually do not occur. Various sport-related activities and games are spread over the entire school grounds. Students spend two hours participating in the different activities and then conclude with a Popsicle.

This year, the event runs on Tuesday, June 13th from 9:15-11:15.

With so many stations, we are in need of volunteers to help run them. If you would like to volunteer at a station for either one or two hours, please reach out to your child's teacher or Mrs. Espinosa at DEspinosa@washoeschools.net

Get to know your Jessie Beck Staff



Melissa Bliss-Neil

Hi, I'm Ms. Melissa the Clinical Aide at Beck and I've been here a dozen years! Life at Beck is the best, and I consider all here my 2nd family. It's been an honor watching the students learn and grow and my mind is blown when they come back for a visit or come to apply for the Beck scholarship when they're high school seniors! When I'm not here handing out ice bags and taking temperatures, I'm shopping, hanging out with my family and friends, or planning my next getaway! I was born and raised in Carson City and moved to south Reno about 30 years ago. I've been married 29 years, raised 2 daughters, one still lives and goes to UNR here in Reno, the other lives and goes to school in New York City. My interests include crafting, traveling, going to Lake Tahoe, or vegging out watching reality tv.



Janet Ruyak

I was born in upstate New York and I have been an RN for over thirty years and 17 of them have been with WCSD. I am a Swope MS and Reno High School Alumni. I went to Boston College undergrad and received my Masters Degree in pediatric nursing at UCSF and worked in the San Francisco/Oakland area for over 8 years. My main focus of practice has always been working with families and children of all ages. I am a parent of two young adults- my daughter is at my alma mater in Boston in her Junior Year and my son is serving our country as an Infantry officer in the Army in South Korea. I am an avid skier and enjoy spending time at Tahoe during all seasons.



Rafael Zertuche

This is my second year being the computer teacher here at Jessie Beck. I really enjoy being here, not just teaching the students but also working with the staff. On my free time I like to hangout with my family and being outdoors. I love watching baseball GO DODGERS!!!



Paola Avila

I'm Paola Avila if I'm not at the office you will find me with my family either at the multiple sport games, practices or relaxing at home watching movies. When I do get some time to myself I look forward to binge watching reality tv shows! :)



Stefanie Cantu

This is my second year as the librarian at Jessie Beck. I love working with the students and staff here! I was born and raised in Switzerland. I have a degree in Translation and Multilingual Communication from the Zurich University of Applied Sciences and speak English, Spanish, German, and French. Books have always been important to me, and I am passionate about passing my love for reading on to our students. Other than reading, I enjoy spending time with my husband and three kids. I like arts and crafts, baking, and spending summers in Switzerland with my extended family.



Anarita Ibarra

Hello, my name is Anarita Ibarra, I also go by Ana. I graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno with a Bachelors in Human Development and Family Science and a Minor in Development Disabilities. I'm currently in a Masters program in Human Development and Family Science at the university as well. Some fun facts about myself, I got engaged a year ago and we have a wild fur baby named Daisy. We love to camp and explore new places. I'm excited to be a part of the Jessie Beck community.



Julie Schmidt

I am the learning facilitator at Jessie Beck. I enjoy sharing teaching strategies and modeling lessons for other teachers, but my true passion is providing interventions to small groups of students.

I am an avid runner, cyclist, swimmer and skier. My husband is a wonderful chef and spoils me with delicious meals. I have been teaching at Beck for over 20 years and have taught just about every grade! I am looking forward to being the new music teacher at Beck next year... it will be exciting to do something different and use my musical talents to bring joy to our students.



Joanne McAndrews

I am the resource teacher at Jessie Beck and I love it here! I started my career as a dietitian in the hospital then was asked to teach nutrition in schools which I loved! I found my new path teaching, so I pursued my teaching credential with elementary students and have enjoyed it ever since. I grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area. In my spare time, I love swimming, skiing, ice skating, kayaking, camping, backpacking, traveling, going to the beach and spending time with my family.



SCIENCE NIGHT RESCHEDULED

Weather canceled Jessie Beck’s Science Night a few months ago, but it has been rescheduled. Please mark your calendars for May 30th from 5:30pm to 7pm for a fun night of doing science. This will take place in the Multi-Purpose room and will involve two parts. It will begin with a variety of hands-on learning stations associated with different science concepts. The second half involves a science and engineering challenge. This is being supported by Sierra Nevada Journeys. We hope to see you there.

Ryan Brock, Ph.D

BECK FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

Our April community event was a HIT! 82 Guests attended, and we collected enough donations to cover our event expenses AND purchase a new popcorn machine for use at PFA and school events! Special thanks to the Smith Family, Craft Wine & Beer, and Sushi Pier for supporting Bingo night.



Dual Language

Spanish Language Summer Camp

Jessie Beck’s 3rd annual Spanish summer camp is coming the week of July 17-21, 2023! During this week-long summer camp, students will learn Spanish through fun activities like games, music, and art. Beginner classes and advanced/immersion classes are available. Enrollment is open to all incoming 1st through 6th graders. Register online today to save your spot!

Dual Language Program Graduates 2023

Congratulations to all the 5th graders who have completed the Dual Language program here at Beck! You are now well on your way to being bilingual and biliterate!

Cinco de Mayo

Cinco de Mayo is just around the corner! Don’t miss this year’s Cinco de Mayo Festival at the Glow Plaza Festival Grounds (670 W. 4th Street) May 5th, 6th, and 7th. With live music, dancing horses, regional dancers, food, and carnival rides, it will be fun for the whole family!

3 interesting Cinco de Mayo facts:

Cinco de Mayo is not Mexico’s Independence Day.

Cinco de Mayo celebrates Mexico’s victory over France at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. Although the Mexican Army was greatly outnumbered and poorly supplied, they overcame incredible odds to defeat the French.

The staple dish for this holiday is mole poblano, a sauce made with dozens of ingredients including chili peppers and chocolate, served over chicken.



Jessie Beck Garden Club

We have had a busy start to spring in the garden. In February, the students made wildflower seed bombs from native wildflower seeds and recycled paper scraps. We came back from spring break to find our garlic, tulips, and daffodils popping up everywhere!

The Hollis family and Rail City Garden Center generously donated seeds, soil and seed starter trays so that our students could start our vegetable, lettuce, herb and flowers that will be planted in the garden in June. We have two more amazing workshops planned before our students leave for the summer. This school year is really flying by!

If your family would be interested in volunteering to tend to the garden for a week over the summer, please email us at jessiebeckgardenclub@gmail.com.

Follow us on Instagram @jessiebeckschoolgarden

Art to Grow

Make sure to mark you calendars for our Annual Strolling Art Show Wednesday, May 17th. Always a crowd pleaser; this highly anticipated tradition is not to be missed. Families are invited to stroll around the school to view classroom artwork created throughout the year. Bring a blanket and your favorite lunch to enjoy on the green with your children. Watch for flyers to come home with more info.



2023 *That's a Wrap!* **YEARBOOK** COLORING CONTEST

THAT'S A WRAP! IS THE THEME FOR THE 2023 YEARBOOK!

Our Jessie Beck yearbook coloring contest starts April 24th and entries due to Mrs. Espinosa by May 5th.

Please encourage your students to participate!

Winners will be chosen per grade and the Grand Prize Winner will be featured on the cover.

Each picture **MUST** follow these guidelines:

- Follow the theme X (please include this phrase with your picture).
- Use only 8 ½ inch white copy paper
- Design and color need to be clean and copy ready
- Student's full name and grade level must be neatly printed **ON THE BACK** of the design in **PENCIL**

If you have any questions, please contact despinosa@washoeschools.net - Thank you and happy drawing!

2023 That's a Wrap!
YEARBOOK

ON SALE MAY 19TH

\$18

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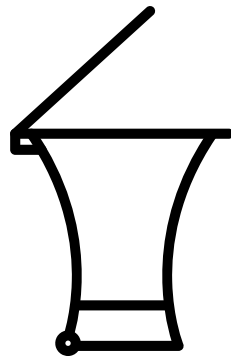
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