

october  
2022

# *The Bear Facts*

a publication of the jessie beck parent faculty association



Thank you for making Jog-A-Thon 2022 another success.  
Please be on the lookout for details and pics of the event in our next edition.



## *Dates to note*

Spirit Fridays - Wear your Jessie Beck attire every Friday!

Early Release - Every Wednesday @ 2:15 PM

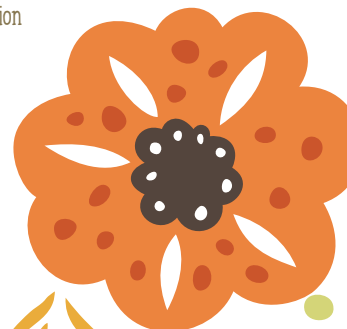
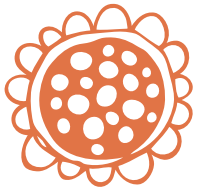
October 16-23 Strolling Scarecrow Contest

October 19 Scarecrow Festival

October 21 End of Grading Period

October 21-27 Conferences & Staff Appreciation

October 28 JB Golf Tournament



# PFA NEWS



Our first month of school is behind us and the year is in full swing! We are so excited to have had a couple of great events this past month including our first skating night as well as the Charleston Wrap and Jog A Thon and I am really excited for October as we have our annual Scarecrow Festival as well as our strolling scarecrow contest for our neighborhood families that was made popular during the Covid lock downs.

A few other things to highlight:

Our annual budget was approved at our September General Meeting

There are 123 families signed up for our PFA! This raised an additional \$2424 for our school.

The T-Shirt design contest entries have been submitted and voting will be underway. You can check out our spirit wear at [www.jessiebeckpfa.com/spirit-wear.html](http://www.jessiebeckpfa.com/spirit-wear.html).

Our annual golf tournament is coming up at the end of October. Details regarding this event can be found at [www.jessiebeckpfa.com/golf-tournament.html](http://www.jessiebeckpfa.com/golf-tournament.html).

Our PFA board would love to have you involved in any of these events or the other opportunities that we have at our amazing school, so if you are interested please reach out to us at any time!

We are excited for what the year will bring!

Bri Sullivan

PFA President

[BeckPFA@gmail.com](mailto:BeckPFA@gmail.com)

[brianne.sullivan@moneytreeinc.com](mailto:brianne.sullivan@moneytreeinc.com)



**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!



## Charleston Wrap

A huge thank you again to all of the family, friends, and staff that participated in our Gift Wrap Fundraiser through Charleston Wrap! Our sale ended on September 7th and over \$17,000 of inventory was sold. That will go a long way toward reaching our goals for this year. Keep an eye out for updates on when you can pick up your goodies and final totals for funds raised!

## *the Principal's pen*

Happy October Jessie Beck Bears!

I hope you all had a restful and relaxing Fall Break! I cannot believe that the 1st Nine Weeks of the school year are behind us! Thank you for a great opening and 1st quarter. It has been so nice to truly have a “normal” year so far! Granted....we had some smoke, but once it cleared out it has been so nice and the rain too! Thank you for supporting our Fall Fundraisers as well: Charleston Wrap, Spirit Wear and our Apex Jog-A-Thon. Our students had so much fun running and the event was wonderful! It was so great to have perfect weather too!

We are looking so forward to bringing back our very loved, traditional Scarecrow Festival. This year, the event will be on Wednesday, October 19th starting at 2:30. I know this newsletter will inform you of all the activities and events, so I would like to send an advanced shout out to all of our parent volunteers, our teachers and our PFA for making this year's Scarecrow Contest such a continued success! A special shout out goes to Cheri Valentine and her committee for organizing this wonderful Jessie Beck tradition. We cannot do this without so many wonderful parent volunteers!

Our Leadership Team is in the process of creating our annual goals for our School Performance Plan. While the state has taken a “pause” with the Star Rating system, I am very proud to share that Jessie Beck received an overall score of 92.0. The last two years we received scores of 91 and prior to that a 95.5 9(pre-Covid), so we continue to do great work! This score is based on multiple factors when our 3rd-6th grade students take the annual SBAC Summative Assessments every spring: growth of our students in both Math and ELA, Academic Achievement in both Math and ELA, Opportunity Gaps in ELA and Math, our ACCESS scores for our EL learners and finally Student Engagement which encompasses Chronic Absenteeism. Chronic Absenteeism is an area that I know we can improve on. We received a 6/10 this past year. As a staff, we will continue to brainstorm ideas to make sure our students are coming to school. It definitely takes the support of our families as well and why routines are so important to young children. What they are learning now with coming to school on a daily basis will only transfer to their work ethic and success in their future.

I just want to say great job to all of our students on their SBAC and thank you for the commitment, dedication and encouragement you provide to your child everyday! Continue to have open communication with your teachers if you have any concerns with your child's progress and check Infinite Campus if you have questions about assignments. If you need assistance logging in, you can always call our front office. Fall Conference Week is October 21st-24th-27th. Friday, October 28th is the Nevada Day holiday.

Happy Fall!

Ms. Lane - Principal

## *Message from the Dean*

The school year is off and running and I have really enjoyed getting to know many of the students these past few weeks. This year we are really focusing on restorative practices for positive behavior. Most of our teachers have implemented a “calming corner” in their classrooms. These calming corners are intended to help students who are getting off track in their behavior or feeling overly anxious to take a few minutes to calm, reflect and reset. This is intended to be a place where they use breathing strategies, tools and calming activities restore their behaviors and quickly get back to their learning. In order to continue to encourage a school of safe and positive behavior, please remind and discuss at home what each of the Jessie Beck pledge phrases looks like and sounds like. The Jessie Beck Pledge: Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Kind.

Nia Waters - Dean of Students

nwaters@washoeschools.net

## *Counseling Update from “Mrs. C”*

Hello Jessie Beck Families! September continues to be a very busy month for us here at Beck! Our APEX Jog-a-thon continues - all our students/families have been so engaged with this program and I cannot wait for our run day! In addition to this, all second and fifth grade classes are in the process of taking the GT assessment which will conclude at the end of this month! I have also started to hand out self-manager badges to 5th grade students who have turned in their applications. Many of them have already expressed their interest in wanting to volunteer to help with the Jog-a-thon or assist younger students to the bus each day so thank you all for being such great role models here at school! Fourth grade students will be able to earn their self-manager badges in the next few weeks so stay tuned! Lastly, I have been pushing into all classrooms to deliver guidance lessons on Conflict Resolution this month and next I will be transitioning into my Bullying Guidance Lessons for the month of October!

## *From the Library*

This month, students learned about animals that adapt to great heat, heard a (mostly true) story about the first balloon flight, and remembered 9/11 with a moving story from a tree’s perspective. Upper grade students started learning how to sign into and use the library catalog.

We also celebrated Dot Day by reading Peter H. Reynold’s book and decorating paper plate dots. Every student now has a colorful reminder in the library that they belong here.

If you have any questions or comments,  
please contact me at [becklibrary@washoeschools.net](mailto:becklibrary@washoeschools.net).

Happy fall from the library,

Mrs. Cantu

### **September read-alouds:**

The Dot by Peter H. Reynolds

Hot air : the (mostly) true story of the first hot-air balloon ride by Marjorie Priceman

This very tree : a story of 9/11, resilience, and regrowth by Sean Rubin



## Letter from your Trustee

Happy New School Year, Jessie Beck families! Big things are ahead for WCSD. We have an excellent new Superintendent, Dr. Susan Enfield, and you'll have the chance to meet her at multiple Town Halls in the coming months. It was great to see some of you at the first Town Hall held in late August as well. Some of my priorities over this year include improvements to older schools in established neighborhoods with our WC-1 funding, advocating for our staff at every level, school safety, and raising awareness about Dual Language Learning.

Hearing from you allows me to represent you in the best way possible. Your opinions and perspectives on the decisions being made matter to me. Please feel free to email me anytime at [elizabeth.smith@washoeschools.net](mailto:elizabeth.smith@washoeschools.net). Being your Trustee is an honor. Thank you!

Beth Smith - WCSD Trustee, District D



## New Trees

About six or so years ago, during one of our strong drought winters, a few of our larger maple trees died that both provided shade and beauty to the parking lot. Luckily, plans began last year to try to get a few donated. The first week of school Jessie Beck lucked out, as three families each donated a tree. Shovels began coming into school and many students in Dr. Brock's class spent several recesses digging holes. Dr. Brock and Mr. Newman took turns taking about six student volunteers per recess out to dig.

"It was actually very similar to the book Holes, by Louis Sachar," recalled Dr. Brock. The mid-day sun belted down from above, no breezes to cool them down, sweat dripping (honestly), and yet the students never complained. Actually, they constantly talked about how surprised they were that digging holes was so much fun. Recess after recess, most of the same students begged to be the volunteers to dig.

The soil (rocks and clay actually) was so bad in one hole that water had to be poured in night after night, letting it sit, so that a pick ax could loosen it for the shovels to remove. Eventually the hole was dug even deeper than needed and wonderful compost from the garden was loaded by students into a wheelbarrow and used to create a nice five-inch base below the tree to help the roots get established. Diggers of another hole were surprised to find a giant bolder halfway down that was unable to be moved or broken, resulting in the hole shifting to one side.

The result of all this fun work, three beautiful trees planted to provide new greenery and shade for countless years to come. Thank you to the Hitti family for donating the maple, the Ball family for the oak, and the Weed family for the pear tree. Thanks for keeping us shady!



# Get to know your Jessie Beck staff.



## Mrs. Lemons

Hello, I have lived in Reno most of my life, I attended elementary, middle, and high school here in Reno. I then went away to college and attended the University of Southern California, I graduated with a BS in business communication. After graduation I lived in San Francisco for a short time and then returned to Reno and started working on a master's degree in elementary education at UNR. I have been teaching for 22 years, I have taught Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades. I have been married to my husband Craig for 28 years, he retired from the WCSD/Reno High in June of 2021. We have 3 boys; Austin is the oldest and a senior at UNR and the twins Cole and Graham are in 11th grade at Reno High. I love teaching at JB! When not teaching I like to spend time with my family, read a good book and enjoy the outdoors!



## Mrs. Sperske

Hola! I graduated from the University of Nevada with an honors degree in elementary education with an emphasis in English Language Learning and minors in Spanish and Spanish translation. This is my fourth-year teaching and my first at Jessie Beck as the Dual Language kindergarten teacher. I grew up in small-town Illinois, moved to Reno for college, and decided to stay for the mountains, culture, community, and eventually my husband and our two dogs. When I'm not teaching I enjoy hiking, trips to Disney, snuggling up with our dogs and a good book. Becoming a Jessie Beck Bear has been a dream and I'm so thankful to work with all the wonderful families and staff at this school.



## Mrs. Jeffrey

Hello! My name is Polly Jeffery and I absolutely love teaching Kindergarten at Jessie Beck! I grew up in Washington state and am a graduate of the University of Washington. I moved to Reno in 2000 and attended Sierra Nevada College where I earned my teaching credential. I'm a mother, stepmother, wife and sister. When I'm not working I enjoy spending my time with my wonderful family and exploring the outdoors.

# Sensational Scarecrow Contest 2022

Hello Jessie Beck families!

I'm Cherie Valentine and I'm heading up the Scarecrow Contest committee this year. I'm super excited that we get to bring back the full-scale Sensational Scarecrow Contest that veteran families know and love and for families new to the school to enjoy one of the most fun events of the school year.

**Sensational Scarecrow Contest @ Jessie Beck  
Wednesday, October 19 from 2:15 - 6:00 PM**

Complete with bake shop, food, carnival games, face painting, 5th grade pumpkins and scarecrow entries submitted by classrooms.

**Strolling Scarecrow Contest and Yard Decorating Contest is back by popular demand  
October 16 - 23, 2022** We invite all of our Jessie Beck families to participate.

Fire up your imaginations and make your yard a spooky, creepy, or hilarious visual feast! This is a fun family activity, see if you can visit all of the entries and vote on your favorites. Entry forms and contest details are on the Scarecrow page [jessiebeckpfa.com](http://jessiebeckpfa.com) enter by Thursday, October 13. Map of participants will be posted on our website as well.

We welcome any volunteers who want to help with their classroom scarecrow, bake and/or decorate our famous Jessie Beck Almond Pumpkin Sugar cookies, help set up, tear down, run games and SO many more things. There are copies of the famous recipe and cookie cutters available to check out from the office so that your family can bake cookies to donate (We sell out EVERY year!)

We will be requesting volunteers to help decorate cookies before school and in the evenings on the October 17 & 18. We will also send out a call for families to donate pies and other baked goods for the bake sale.

Feel free to contact me to see how you can be involved in this fantastic fall event!

More information on bake shop, games and more related to the Sensational Scarecrow Contest will be available as the event nears on the Jessie Beck PFA website.

Thank you for your support to make this event fantastic for our children and families!

Cherie Valentine  
[Cherievalentine0721@gmail.com](mailto:Cherievalentine0721@gmail.com)





# Art to Grow

It is so nice to be back in school and to be able to have volunteers on campus again. Our Art Volunteers are excited to be in the classrooms teaching the kids great lessons about art and creativity. One concept I really think can be inspiring is that individuals are great, but we can be even better if we work together.

A couple of weeks ago I had the fun opportunity to meet with the teachers during their Wednesday afternoon meeting. We talked about how we are all wonderful as individuals, but we can be even better when we work together as a group. I had the teachers work with me on a collaborative art piece where each teacher created a piece with concentric circles. I then brought them all together to make one big collaborative art piece which is now hanging in the cafeteria for everyone to enjoy.

The Art To Grow program is a great opportunity for the students to explore their individual creativity but also learn to work together to make something amazing. With the Scarecrow Festival approaching the students will get to put these skills to use. Working together they will get to create a fun project that they can all be proud of.

If you are still interested in being involved with the art program please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Whitney Stodmeister - Art Coordinator

whitstod@gmail.com or text me at 775-657-0572



# Jessie Beck Garden Club

We kicked off our first month in the garden with our Garden Salsa Workshop. We had 18 classes, almost 400 students, visit the garden. Our wonderful parent volunteers read "Harvesting Friends/Cosechando Amigos" in both English and Español, and we made a salsa from a recipe in the book. Most of the students were willing to try the salsa, and many liked it enough to want to make it again at home. The students were able to see how much the vegetables and flowers that they planted in the spring grew over the summer. It was wonderful to see them enjoy the beautiful space they created.

Our two worm factories found their homes for the year in Ms. Champagne's and Ms. Condon's classes. The students will feed and tend to the worms over the winter. They will get to see how the worms break down compost to create wonderful "Black Gold" worm casts that will help enrich our garden's soil. We will be learning more about composting in November. Keep Growing! Follow us on Instagram @JessieBeckGardenClub





## Halloween Archery Fun

This month's archery clinics, which are designed to help build the Jessie Beck community, while also learning on of the oldest Olympic sports, are based around the fun Halloween theme. No experience is needed, and all equipment and range time fees are paid for by the Wild Sheep Foundation. The first youth clinic will be Saturday, October 22nd from 1:00-2:30 and will be held at High Desert Archery. There will be a variety of Halloween themed items to take aim at! The second clinic is the Zombie Shoot, taking place on October 23rd from 9:30-11:00 at Wasting Arrows. To sign up for one of these clinics, or both, contact Dr. Brock at [Rbrock@wildsheepfoundation.org](mailto:Rbrock@wildsheepfoundation.org).



## SPIRIT WEAR



ORDER ONLINE @ [jessiebeckpfa.com](http://jessiebeckpfa.com)

## Dual Language Advisory Council

September 15-October 15 is Hispanic Heritage Month!

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage and the diverse offerings of our community (this month and throughout the year) by attending various events in the community and by patronizing Latin-owned businesses. Check out <https://latinoarte.org/>. Reno City Councilmember Oscar Delgado recently unveiled a series of bilingual community positivity signs along Wells Avenue. Take a stroll and check them out!

The end of October brings an important celebration in many Mexican-heritage circles: El Día de los Muertos, or The Day of the Dead. This joyful celebration typically takes place November 1 & 2 and involves friends and family gathering to pay respects to those who have died. People often decorate home altars called ofrendas with marigolds, sugar skulls, photos, and offerings. Want to make sugar skulls with your family this Día de los Muertos? Check out <https://mexicansugarskull.com/> for tips!

¡Del 15 de septiembre al 15 de octubre es el Mes de la Herencia Hispana!

Celebra la herencia hispana y las diversas ofertas de nuestra comunidad (este mes y durante todo el año) asistiendo a varios eventos en la comunidad y patrocinando negocios de propiedad latina. <https://latinoarte.org/> El concejal de la ciudad de Reno, Oscar Delgado, dio a conocer recientemente una serie de letreros bilingües de positividad comunitaria a lo largo de Wells Avenue. ¡Da un paseo y échale un vistazo!

El final de octubre trae una celebración importante en muchos círculos de herencia mexicana: El Día de los Muertos. Esta alegre celebración generalmente se lleva a cabo el 1 y 2 de noviembre e involucra a amigos y familiares que se reúnen para presentar sus respetos a los que han muerto. La gente a menudo decora los altares caseros llamados ofrendas con cempasúchiles, calaveras de azúcar, fotos y ofrendas. ¿Quieres hacer calaveras de azúcar con tu familia este Día de los Muertos? ¡Echa un vistazo a <https://mexicansugarskull.com/> para obtener consejos!

# DLAC

Dual Language Advisory Council  
Comité Asesor de Educación Bilingüe





The market is shifting which is bringing new opportunities for buyers, and sellers are seeing this as the right time to sell their investment property.

As the winds change it is important to have an experienced REALTOR at your side to guide you in your next stage of homeownership.



**JD Drakulich**  
REALTOR®

775.342.5883  
jddrakulich@dicksonrealty.com  
jddrakulich.dicksonrealty.com  
NV Lic #S.168383



# GRANITE™



## BUILDING BEYOND 100

January 4, 2022 marks Granite's 100th birthday – an entire century since our founding as a small construction operation on the Central Coast of California. 2022 will be a year of celebration for the company.

[graniteconstruction.com](http://graniteconstruction.com) | 831.724.1011



ATM Machines • Juke Boxes • Pool Tables

## 775-358-8600

Operating amusement equipment in bars, night clubs, restaurants, and casinos since 1931.



We offer the finest in digital music, ATMs, and coin-operated amusements to Northern Nevada and Northern California.

**NEVADANOVELTY.COM**



3rd Annual  
Nevada Day  
**• GOLF •**  
TOURNAMENT

Join us for golf and a silent auction to benefit Jessie Beck Elementary School.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28**

WASHOE GOLF COURSE  
8 AM CHECK-IN, 9 AM SHOTGUN START  
4-PERSON SCRAMBLE

Tickets include lunch and cart  
Single Player - \$110  
Foursome - \$400  
Hole Sponsor (hole sign with logo) - \$100  
Title Sponsor (foursome, hole sponsor, logo event banner) - \$500

HEAD TO [JESSIEBECKPFA.COM](http://JESSIEBECKPFA.COM) TO SIGN UP TODAY

Jessie Beck PFA is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3). Your donations are very much appreciated. Federal Tax ID #88-0252887



Ready to make a move?  
Call me for local real estate expertise  
& hands-on customer service.

*your next chapter starts here*

**NICOLLE GUST**  
(775) 338-9988  
[ngust@chaseinternational.com](mailto:ngust@chaseinternational.com)  
NV Lic # BS.0145471

 **NICOLLE GUST**  
REAL ESTATE

 **CHASE**  
INTERNATIONAL  
REAL ESTATE

**YOURRENOREALSTATEEXPERT.COM**

