

## Local Schools



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# Bloomfield School Board Meeting Minutes - December 10, 2018

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DECEMBER 12TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Bloomfield School Board Meeting Minutes - December 10, 2018

Bloomfield, Missouri - The Bloomfield School Board held its regular December board meeting on Monday, December 10, 2018.

The board and community stakeholder committee discussed plans for the gym lobby remodel/expansion.

The board approved Sydney Mayo as the district's representative for the Belcher Scholarship.

The board also approve the \$100 donation and use of 2 buses for project prom.

Toni Hill, superintendent, reminded the board that board member sign ups begin Dec 11th and run through Jan 15, 2019. Incumbents up for re-election are Louise Causey and Vince Lockhart.

In executive session, the board approved Larry Rogers for substitute custodian. The board also approved correction to 5 non-certified 12 month employees pay schedule to get in line with retirement requirements.

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# Poplar Bluff High School Donates Thousands of Can Goods to Local Food Pantry

DECEMBER 12TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Poplar Bluff High School Donates Thousands of Can Goods to Local Food Pantry

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - Poplar Bluff Junior High has donated a total of 5,700 canned goods to St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry, marking the largest single donation the charity has received and the most items the students have raised, according to officials.

Social studies teacher Melinda Moncier spearheaded the project, which was carried out by the history department throughout the month of November. Faculty member Aaron Duncan’s seventh grade house generated the most non-perishables – with 1,760.

The annual fundraiser went along with Junior High’s focus this school year of community service, according to Principal Candace Warren. The students, who averaged seven cans apiece, have previously raised money for the Bread Shed in a pumpkin decorating contest as well as delivered hand-painted rocks to area nursing homes.

Located on Broadway Street, St. Vincent De Paul feeds 800 families in need per month. The nonprofit operation also includes a thrift store.

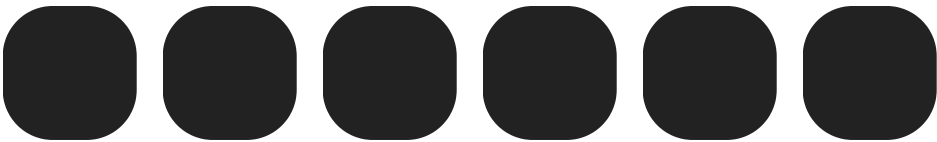
Pictured from left to right: Students Blaise Rowland and McKinzie Kendle; SVDP president Daryl Deacon; teacher Melinda Moncier; and student Kallie Knapp.

Photo and article submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

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# Bernie School Board Meeting Minutes - December 10, 2018

DECEMBER 12TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Bernie School Board Meeting Minutes - December 10, 2018

Bernie, Missouri - The Bernie School Board of Education met in regular session on Monday evening the 10th of December. below is the press release from Bernie Schools.

Filing dates were announced for election to the Board of Education. Those dates are December 11th at 8:00 AM through January 15th at 5:00 PM. Positions up for re-election this year are David Mayberry and Zack Tanner.

The Board announced the opening for nominations to the Hall of Fame. Nominations will be accepted through the end of December and will be reviewed at the January Board Meeting.

Program Evaluations on Technology and Guidance were approved.

The Board reviewed bids for the north gym roof and accepted the low bid from Pyramid Roofing Company. The project is to be done in the summer of 2019.

The Board reviewed & approved the 2017/18 Financial Audit and approved paying the bills and replenishing petty cash.

During executive session, the administration presented a mid-year staff review and Mr. Hicks presented his goals to the Board.

The Board approved adding Kelley Lambert to the Substitute Employee Listing.

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## Extreme Math Class Captures Student Interest

DECEMBER 12TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Extreme Math Class Captures Student Interest

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - Six graders were issued surgical masks and latex gloves upon entering math class on Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Poplar Bluff Middle School.

A scenario about a zombie outbreak was detailed over the SMART Board using the online tool Flippity, and students had to problem solve in groups in order to unlock the cure.

While it appeared to be a game upon first glance, the purpose of the activity was to prepare students for an exam the following day that would involve unit rates, proportions and measurement conversions.

“They’re reviewing without realizing they’re reviewing for the test,” teacher James Hunt explained. “I try to help them study without making them feel like they’re studying.”

Hunt, a third-year faculty member, goes over the top transforming his classroom the day before each chapter test. Other classroom themes this semester have included Legoland to review ratios and the ‘decimal diner’ in which Hunt dressed as a chef wearing an inflatable suit with self-contained ventilation. He said he is willing to “look ridiculous” if it means improved outcomes.

Student Elerik Stotts’ favorite activity was when he got to be an agent of the FBI and catch a diamond thief in a makeshift jewelry store, he said, noting he did very well on that unit.

“I don’t like boring classrooms because I can’t sit still long enough,” the 12-year-old said. “It’s probably one of the best math classes around.”

The parent of sixth grader Kassidy, Tori Russell, commented how she likes hearing about the creative learning techniques after her daughter returns home from school.

“Kassidy has told me several times how much more she enjoys school this year and her grades have shown improvement,” Russell said. “Thank you, Mr. Hunt, for finding ways to keep our kids engaged and wanting to learn!”

Having the appropriate administrative support is also key for an unconventional teacher. As luck would have it, Hunt’s boss, Dr. Brad Owings, could recently be spotted greeting students in the morning while wearing a red and white Christmas suit that illuminates, and the principal is known to swap the color of his neon shoelaces to coincide with the seasons.

“Rita Pierson, notable educator, says ‘Kids don’t learn from people they don’t like,’” Owings said. “Mr. Hunt does a great job in engaging students and making them like school.”

A time commitment that goes above and beyond is also necessary to maintain Hunt’s teaching style as well as out-of-pocket expenses, but the young educator has a number of online sources such as Teachers Connect and We Are Teachers that he frequents to secure materials. He has had iPads and Kindle Fires crowdfunded in the past through the channel Donors Choose. To avoid “teacher burnout,” he said he networks with other instructors across the country and shares lesson plans through social media platforms like Instagram and Twitter. “It’s about following the right people,” Hunt suggested.

Besides the changing ambiance, Hunt’s classroom features flexible seating – video game chairs and miniature barstools. He and colleague Krystal Dover, a fourth-grade teacher, are experimenting this school year with self-paced learning. Students take pre and post-tests, and advance in small groups only after they have obtained a given skillset.

“I feel like when the students are engaged and expectations are set high, students will reach their fullest potentials,” Hunt stated.

Pictured: Middle School students complete an online scavenger hunt using Google Chromebooks on Thursday, Dec. 6, in James Hunt’s math class.

Article and photo submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

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## DMS Weekly Activities for December 10th - 17th

DECEMBER 11TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

### DMS Weekly Activities for December 10th - 17th

**Dexter High School - This listing of weekly activities is a service offered by the ShowMe Times, working in partnership with Dexter High School principal, Alana Dowdy, and DHS Asst. Principal Melissa Hahn for your convenience.**

We hope you will mark your calendar and we encourage everyone to support our local students and their activities. The education and growth of young people in our community is the key to everyone's future! If you would like to submit information and a picture of a student and his/her accomplishments, send it to [news@showmetimes.com](mailto:news@showmetimes.com)

**Thursday Dec 13**

8th Grade Finals ELA/Sci

Band Concert 6:00

**Friday      Dec 14**

8th Grade Finals Math/SS

**Tuesday      Dec 18**

Cafeteria and Crossing Guard Pizza Party

MS Choir Concert 6:00 HS Gym

**Wednesday   Dec 19**

2nd Quarter Ends

Locker Clean out - during SS Classes

Operation Santa Gift Delivery

12:00 Dismissal

**Thursday   Dec 20-Jan 2    NO School**

**Wednesday   Jan 2      PD Day-NO Students**

**Friday      Jan 4      Report Cards Go Home**

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