

The Monthly Howl

Three Forks Elementary School

SPRING SCHOOL NEWS

Kindergarten Screening Preparations

Three Forks Elementary is starting to gear up for the 2023-2024 school year. One of the funnest parts about this preparation is kindergarten screening. Kindergarten Screening is held each year to assist TFES staff with identifying the development of incoming K students. It also provides a great opportunity to give some helpful information to parents. If you live within the Three Forks District and have a child that will be 5 by September 10th, it is highly encouraged to have your child attend screening. Screening will take place on Friday, May 19th. There will be two separate sessions, an AM and PM block. If you are interested in securing a screening session for your child, please contact Laurie in the elementary office. It is important for parents to know that within the e-registration system they will be responsible for uploading a birth certificate, residency identification, as well as current immunization records. Please call 285-6830 for more details.

TFES Summer Enrichment Opportunities

Three Forks Elementary Enrichment will once again be offering a robust summer enrichment program for the summer of 2023. TFES will offer 2 sessions during the summer (please see dates below)

1st Session (4 weeks)

June 19-July 20 (week off during July 4th)

2nd Session (3 weeks)

July 31-August 17

Sessions will tentatively run from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, with a field trip taking place every Thursday. A more detailed description and schedule for the summer will be coming out soon!

TFES Teacher Request Process 23-24

Spring is in the air (FINALLY) and it is once again time to start preparing for the next school year. One portion of preparing for the next school year is building class rosters. Each year TFES has a teacher request window during the month of April. Any parent that wishes to request a specific teaching style for their child needs to do that during this request window. Requests can be submitted until May 1. **Late requests will not be accepted.** It is important for parents to understand the factors that do come into play when determining classroom rosters. **All requests will be considered, however there are no guarantees.** An electronic Google Request Form has been shared on the District Facebook page as well as on the District website. Paper request forms are also available and can be obtained at the school office. If you have questions about this process please contact the office @ 285-6830.

APRIL / MAY EVENTS

April 21 @ 7 p.m.	Missoula Children's Theatre Production
April 22 @ 1 p.m.	Missoula Children's Theatre Production
May 1	SBAC Testing Begins (Grades 3-5)
May 1	Teacher Request Window Closes
May 2	Election Day
May 19	Kindergarten Screening
May 24 @ 2:45 p.m.	Grades 3-5 Spring Concert
May 29	No School, Memorial Day Weekend
May 31	TFES Track and Field Day
June 1 @ 2:45 p.m.	Grades K-2 Spring Concert
June 7 @ 9:00 a.m.	TFES 3rd Trimester Awards Celebration
June 8	Last Day of School

Stay up to date with TF District information by stopping by the District website,

<https://www.tfschools.com/>

MCT: The Little Mermaid

Missoula Children's Theatre is back in Three Forks this week!! This year MCT is preparing the production of "The Little Mermaid". Students have been preparing all week and are excited for the productions. The shows will take place Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday at 1:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium. To assist with bringing MCT back to Three Forks each year there will be an admission fee. Adults will be \$10, elementary age \$5.

SBAC Testing

All students in grades 3-5 will once again participate in statewide assessments this year. The testing window will open on May 1st. Classroom teachers will be reaching out to parents regarding individual testing schedules, procedures, etc. It is our goal to test 100% of our students so student attendance is critical during this time. Please avoid planning any long absences during the first couple weeks of May. Thank you for your assistance!

-From the Desk of Mr. Fanning: May Election***How do I vote?***

If you have not already, you should be soon receiving a mail-in ballot from Gallatin County. Three Forks School District has been working to provide valuable information to voters to assist them with making an informed decision. The biggest piece of advice that I can share is to vote!! In the 2022 spring election Three Forks School District only had approximately 900 voters participate. These numbers are extremely low and we ENCOURAGE you to get out and vote. Ballots can either be mailed or dropped off at the Gallatin County Elections Office, with hours being 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. The Three Forks School District is a unique District that consists of 3 different counties. This has led to some confusion and issues in the past. If you know that you reside within the TF District, and you are registered to vote, you should receive a ballot. If you do not, we encourage you to reach out to the Gallatin County Elections Office @ 582-3060 to determine what needs to be done.

What is on the ballot?

Good question! Voters have two items on their ballot, School Board Trustee seats as well as the elementary and high school operational mill levy. We are fortunate this year to have 5 individuals running for 2 open board seats. It is great to see this much interest in TF Schools. All 5 individuals participated in a forum last week where they were tasked with answering some board related questions. If you were unable to attend you can go back and watch the forum on the District's Facebook page. School board members have a tough job. They represent their community while also taking into consideration what is best for the school, its staff, and its students. Trustees are invaluable to the school. We have a strong and committed board currently and I look forward to adding two more supportive and respectful members in May. The other item(s) on the May ballot will be the elementary and high school general fund mill levy. TF Schools has and will continue to keep voters informed as to why we are requesting the mill levy. The mill levy is specifically for operational costs that have inevitably increased as a result of the additional 32,000 square feet of space. These operational costs are occurring due to related staffing, custodial, maintenance, insurance and utility expenses. TFS also has a commitment to academic programming and wants to continue to provide a top notch education across the K-12 campus. A supported levy will allow for more staffing to add more requested 6-12 class sections as well as the proper staff to best meet the needs of our diverse K-5 learning population. More detailed information can be found on the District website and Facebook page.

When is Election Day?

Election Day is May 2nd. The County Elections Office is open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on election day.

The Three Forks Elementary School team works collaboratively with parents and community members to encourage and inspire students to be respectful and responsible life-long learners by providing a quality education in a safe and supportive environment.