



The Badger Barker



October 2021

Badger School District #676

Volume XXVI Issue 1

Badger Homecoming 2021

Badger School's Homecoming 2021 was an event to remember! Student Council members sponsored the week's activities that occurred from September 27 through October 1. Badger School students did a fantastic job of making this year's homecoming a success by participating in spirit week and dressing up each day. Following were the dress up days:

Monday ~ Hunter

Tuesday ~ Tourist

Wednesday ~ Country

Thursday ~ Mathletes vs Athletes

Friday ~ Extreme Gator Fans

On Friday afternoon, grades K-12 enjoyed an energy-filled pep fest. Football, volleyball, and cheer team members were introduced by their coaches. Students also competed in an entertaining scooter competition that had the crowd cheering loudly for their favorite teams. The pep fest concluded with a tug of war that was so evenly matched that it ended in a draw. Anyone in the vicinity of Badger School was sure to hear the sounds of students cheering on their classmates in this fun-filled event.

Later that evening, Badger coronation was held during half time at the Gator football game with the crowning of this year's king and queen. The 2021 Homecoming Court attendants included:

King Dalton Shirley & **Queen** Hailey VonEnde

Senior Attendants: Jasmine Christianson ~ Aulona Jasiqi ~ Greta Lee ~ Johnathon Kukowski

Junior Attendants: Riley Gust ~ Elliott Isane

Sophomore Attendants: Jordan Lee ~ Ashton Pickhartz

Freshman Attendants: Sammy Noel ~ Taylor Davy

To add to the excitement of this year's Homecoming Week, the BGMR Gator football team brought home the win against the Warren-Alvarado-Oslo Ponies with a score of 26-14. Way to go Gators!!

After the football game, students danced the night away at their homecoming dance sponsored by the Badger FCCLA.

Thank you to student council members and advisor, Miss Patience Thompson, for all of their hard work organizing homecoming. Also, thanks to the students who participated in spirit week and showed their Gator Pride! It was definitely a week to remember!



Taylor Davy, Sammy Noel, Elliott Isane, Riley Gust, Greta Lee, Dalton Shirley, Hailey VonEnde, Johnathon Kukowski, Aulona Jasiqi, Jasmine Christianson, Ashton Pickhartz, Jordan Lee



Badger School Superintendent's News



I hope this October publication of *The Badger Barker* finds you, and finds you well.

If you have not done so already, please give a warm welcome to new faculty and staff listed in alphabetical order:

Whitley Aamodt, Paraprofessional - Elementary
Karla Davy, Paraprofessional – Elementary & Junior High
Brienne Miller, Special Education Teacher – Secondary High School & Junior High
Carol Ricke, Special Education Teacher – Elementary & Junior High

Remaining Vacancies:

Paraprofessional – Secondary Junior High & High School
First Robotics Advisor
Business Manager Accountant
Substitute opportunities in all areas: Paraprofessionals, Food Service, Cleaner Custodians, Van Drivers, Bus Drivers, and Teachers

Thank you to the Badger Area Arena Association for selling the arena building next the Rocket Football Field to the school district on September 1, 2021. The dimensions of the building are 48' x 70' x 12' plus canopy located on the 3.75 acres.

Food for Kids BackPack Program for weekend meals is a new offering this year. The first distribution of weekend meals free to children started Friday, September 24. Partnering sponsors are the Greenbush-Badger Area Women of Today and the North Country Food Bank. Please contact the school office if would like to learn more about this opportunity.

October 2 was set aside as National Custodial Worker's Recognition Day. The team of Striker Hasson, Garrett Anhorn and Nicole Wilt keeps our school clean and maintains the essential mechanisms that make our building run smoothly. Our custodial crew works diligently day after day keeping the buildings and grounds healthier, safer, and cleaner. They contribute to promoting the important welcoming impression you get when visiting our Badger Community School. Please take a moment to personally share your appreciation the next time you see one of them – many thanks especially from us your co-workers.

Parent Teacher Conferences were held on Thursday, October 7. If you were unable to attend, please call the school office at (218) 528-3201 to arrange another time.

October 11-15 is National School Lunch Week. Created in 1962 by President John F. Kennedy, National School Lunch Week celebrates the benefits of the child nutrition program. The Badger School would like to extend our appreciation to Jody Randall, Angela Monsrud, and their supporting cast of co-workers for all of their efforts. Each school day the Badger students are served a warm breakfast as well as a satisfying lunch in the afternoon. Jody, Angela, and their co-workers do a wonderful job preparing and serving the food with a smile on a daily basis. On behalf of our students, staff, and community members, I would like to thank Mrs. Randall and Mrs. Monsrud for all of their great meals.

The Badger School is a vital part of our vibrant community. Your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions are welcome. Through continued cooperation, our district will continue to be a source of pride and a great place to learn and work. Thank you to all who help to make Badger Community School a gem of excellence in northwest Minnesota and for making Badger “the school where every student belongs.”

Thank you,

Kevin Ricke, Superintendent & Principal K-12



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Gator Sports

By: Masen Swenson

For changes in schedule go to www.badger.k12.mn.us and click on "Gator Athletic Schedules."

Dates to Remember

By: Caden Wojciehowski

October

Football

- 1 Warren/Alvarado/Oslo @ BGMR
- 8 @ Win-E-Mac (Erskine)
- 14 Kittson County Central @ BGMR
- 19 @ Stephen-Argyle Central (Stephen)
- 26 Section Quarters (high seed home site)
- 30 Section Semis (high seed home site)

Volleyball

- 4 @ Red Lake Falls
- 5 Northern Freeze @ BGMR
- 8 Warroad @ BGMR
- 12 Kittson County Central @ BGMR
- 16 @ Goodridge-Grygla (Grygla)
- 18 @ Roseau
- 25 Section Pigtail (high seed home site)
- 28 Section Play-in Round (high seed home site)
- 29 Section Quarters (high seed home site)

November

Football

- 4 State Prep Bowl @ Fargo Dome
- 26 Sectional Tournament @ U.S. Bank Stadium
- 27 State Tournament @ U.S. Bank Stadium

Volleyball

- 1 Section Semis @ Bagley
- 5 Section Finals @ Crookston
- 11-13 State Tournament @ Exel Center

Girls Basketball

- 29 Northern Freeze @ BGMR

October

- 1 Badger Homecoming
- 5 1st Quarter Midterm
- 5 ECFE "Registration" 6:00 pm
- 7 Parent-Teacher Conference (dismiss at 12:30 pm)
- 11 School Board 7:30 pm
- 12 ECFE "Fall Fun" 6:00 pm
- 14 Pre-ACT grade 10
- 14 ASVAB grade 11
- 19 ECFE "Fire Trucks" 6:00 pm
- 22 No School ~ MEA
- 26 ECFE "Halloween Party! Dress in costume" 6:00 pm
- 27 Northern Valley Career Expo, Grade 10

November

- 1 Math League Meet
- 1 Reggie Dabs Assembly
- 2 No ECFE ~ General Election
- 5 End of Quarter 1
- 5 Northland Community & College Rep
- 7 Daylight Savings Time ~ turn clocks back
- 8 No School Staff Development
- 8 School Board 7:30 pm
- 9 ECFE "Camping Fun" 6:00 pm
- 11 Veterans Day Program 10:00 am
- 16 Solo Music Contest @ Lake of the Woods
- 16 ECFE "Art Night" 6:00 pm
- 17 National Honor Society Blood Drive
- 18 National Honor Society Induction
- 22 Math League Meet
- 23 University of North Dakota Rep.
- 23 ECFE "Thanksgiving Feast" 6:00 pm
- 25 No School ~ Thanksgiving
- 26 No School
- 30 ECFE "Bake with Me! Bring your own apron." 6:00 pm

Random Riddles

www.riddles.com

By: Bethany Thompson

1. What has a head, a tail, is brown, and has no legs?
2. You live in a one-story house made of redwood. What color would the stairs be?
3. What runs around the whole yard without moving?
4. What can you catch but never throw?
5. What is more useful when it is broken?
6. I am white when I am dirty and black when I am clean. What am I?
7. How many sides does a circle have?

1. B 2. D 3. A 4. A

Trivia Answers





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Senior Spotlight Ashley Stainbrook

Parents: Jerry & Teresa Stainbrook

Siblings: Amelia, Austin

Nickname: Ash

Favorite:

Sport: Basketball

Food: Tacos

Color: Baby Blue

Quote: "No matter how broken you are, you can always find a way to rebuild yourself."

If you found a genie, what would be your three wishes? To be able to pay for college without having debt/loans, to travel anywhere on the planet at the spur of the moment, and to get my dream job once I finish my education.

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be? Negativity.

If you could take a road trip with one person, who would it be and where would you go? I would go somewhere warm with my sister.

What do you think you'll be remembered most by? I feel I will be remembered for my stubbornness and my positivity.

What is the craziest thing you've done in high school? I'm not known for doing crazy things so I honestly don't know.

What is your favorite hobby? I don't have many hobbies. I'm a workaholic but in my little spare time I like to go four-wheeling. I also like to go shopping.

What one thing are you proud of that happened to you in high school? I am proud of being able to get my academics back up after distance learning for a year.



Senior Spotlight Kadeyn Keller

Parents: Jason & Murrie Keller

Siblings: Donna, Lynny, Josh, Jauna, Katie

Nicknames: Keller, KK

Favorite:

Sport: Football

Food: Burgers

Color: Green

Quote: "Don't pursue happiness, create it."

If you found a genie, what would be your three wishes? To live in a bigger town, to get my dream job, and to meet my favorite artist.

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be? Stereotypes

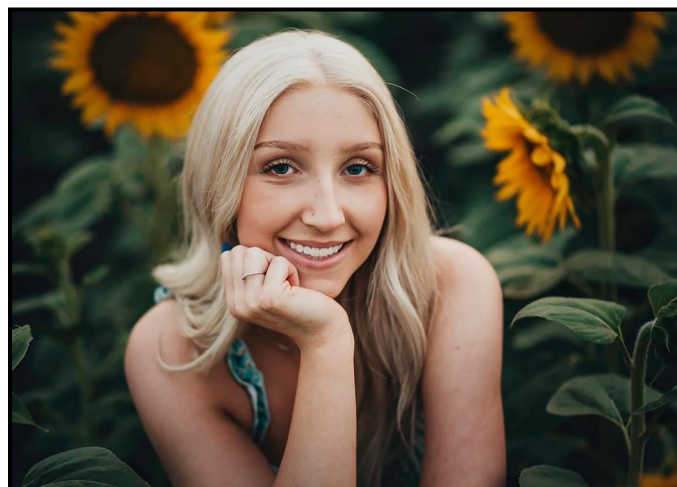
If you could take a road trip with one person, who would it be and where would you go? My mom because wherever Murrie goes, adventure follows.

What do you think you'll be remembered most by? My personality.

What is the craziest thing you've done in high school? Wouldn't you like to know?

What is your favorite hobby? Spending time with my friends and family.

What one thing are you proud of that happened to you in high school? Able to be in the National Honor Society.





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Senior Spotlight Brooke VonEnde

Parents: Jedd & Jandi VonEnde

Siblings: Emma, Bethanie, Keegan

Nickname: None

Favorite:

Sport: Football to manage ~ Trap Shooting to be in

Food: Tacos

Color: Blue

Quote: “Don’t get so busy making a living that you forget to make a life.”
~ Dolly Parton

If you found a genie, what would be your three wishes? Obviously more wishes, reach my life goals, and be successful in life.

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be? I would change the way people look at one another—to be more open.

If you could take a road trip with one person, who would it be and where would you go? I would go to Montana on a hunting trip with my dad.

What do you think you’ll be remembered most by? Work ethic.

What is the craziest thing you’ve done in high school? I have not done anything crazy in the school.

What is your favorite hobby? Hunting and fishing.

What one thing are you proud of that happened to you in high school? Got into National Honor Society.



October Wacky Celebrations

By: Taylor Davy

<http://www.holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/October/nobeardday.htm>

Kale Day ~ October 6

Today eat healthy and don’t forget to throw in some kale with whatever you’re having for your dinner. Kale is known to be very healthy and full of minerals and vitamins. That’s why we should eat it often, so you can keep a good, healthy diet.

Old Farmers Day ~ October 12

Find a farmer and thank him or her for feeding the community. The harvest is mainly complete by mid-October, so they can even celebrate the day with you. Thank a farmer for their hard work on this day or any day.

No Beard Day ~ October 12

This is the day you have an excuse to shave your beard that you haven’t shaved for a while. Maybe after you shave, you will impress the ladies. Then you’ll be looking fresh!

Count Your Buttons Day ~ October 21

Count your buttons? Well, just look at your shirt and if it has buttons, make sure none are missing. If you are missing any buttons, you might want to look for some laying around your house.

Bologna Day ~ October 24

This is a day for one of the most well-known meats: “baloney” as most people spell it. It is consider a sausage and mainly used for lunches. It contains beef, pork, chicken, and spices. So on this day, don’t forget to pack a “baloney” sandwich with your lunch.

Plush Animal Lover Day ~ October 28

Today give your stuffed or plush animal some loving! The day is pretty simple. Find a plush animal and appreciate it. Even if they have lost a little of their plush, you still should give them some love.



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Band Musician of the Month

Greta Lee

Grade: 12th

What instrument do you play and why did you choose this instrument? Clarinet because it's what my mom played, and I was really drawn to the elegance of it. It is an instrument that allows you to manipulate the dynamics beautifully.

If you had to change your instrument, what would you pick? I would play percussion because I would be able to breathe and play at the same time.

What is your favorite song to play? *Fate of the Gods* because of its complexity. It gave us the chance to show off our skills through a beautiful piece

If you could pick a theme for Music Revue, what theme would you pick? Adam Sandler because I love all of his movies, and I think it would give the audience a good laugh.

What is your most memorable moment in band? Going down to play at the Minnesota School Board Association Convention in Minneapolis in ninth grade.

What advice would you give to younger musicians? Practice, practice, practice. Believe me, I know it's annoying, but it makes a world of a difference.

Who inspired you to be part of band? My mom because she played in her high school band, and music is still a part of her life today.



Choir Musician of the Month

Jasmine Christianson

Grade: 12th

What section are you in? Alto

How long have you been in choir? 6 years

What kind of music do you like to sing? Any Music Revue songs.

What is your favorite part about being in choir? Being with my friends.

What are you looking forward to this year? Music Revue.

What advice would you give other vocalists in choir? Sing loud and proud!

What is your favorite choir memory? Becoming an alto my senior year.



Trivia

By: Hannah Wilt

- How long do elephant pregnancies last?
 - 6 months
 - 22 months
 - 9 months
 - 24 months
- Which animal can be seen on the Porsche logo?
 - Lion
 - Tiger
 - Elephant
 - Horse
- Which is the largest technology company in South Korea?
 - Samsung
 - Apple
 - Sony
 - Microsoft
- Cynophobia is the fear of what?
 - Dogs
 - Spiders
 - Heights
 - Oceans

- A penny.
- What stairs? You live in a one story house.
- A fence.
- A cold.
- An egg.
- A black board.
- Two, an inside and outside.

Random Riddles Answers



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Smokey Bear Wildfire Prevention

Submitted by: Mary Langaas, Kindergarten Teacher

Thank you to Park Rangers Shawn Olsen, Hannah Hinrichs, & Amelia Knoll from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Wannaska for bringing in Smokey the Bear to visit with the kindergarten and first grade classes. Smokey and the rangers discussed how to stay safe when building a fire and the importance of fire prevention. The lesson ended with students role playing a skit on fire safety.



Kindergarten

Back:

Ranger Shawn Olsen
Ranger Hannah Hinrichs
Azalea Haugen Johnson
Hannah Kjos
Smokey Bear
Hadley Forst
Elena Lindemann
Ethan Haugen
Ranger Amelia Knoll

Front:

Zoey Sanden
Decland Moore
Cora Langaas
Isabel Mather
Joseph Carlson
Maverick Murphy

Grade 1

Back: Rangers
Shawn Olsen
Hannah Hinrichs
Amelia Knoll

Middle:

Annalie Yonke
Matthew Stoutenburgh
Tobias Thompson
Smokey Bear
Shelby Lee
Liam Wojciechowski
Brielle Byre
Oliver Briese

Front:

Liam Sanden
Sawyer Jenson
Eric Jones
Conner Kazmierczak
Elliot Mather
Giuliana Sovde
Parker Stoppelman
Janiya Jenson





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Students Helping Students

Way to go students and staff! The Badger Student Council sponsored a special Hat Day on Friday, September 17. The proceeds are going to two northwest Minnesota boys who have recently been diagnosed with cancer and are being treated at the Mayo Clinic: Alex Gullingsrud of Red Lake Falls School District and Dylan Witcherman of the Red Lake County Central School District. The donations totaled over \$600! Thanks to all who supported these two families in need. Pictured are the Badger Student Council members.



Scholastic Readers

Mrs. Dostal's 2nd graders are so excited after receiving their first Scholastic books for this school year! Many generous people donated enough money for each of these students to receive a Scholastic book of their choice every month of the school year. We cannot thank those people enough for helping to support their love of reading.

Back: Eli Haugen, Abel Stoutenburgh, Carter Kjos, Trey Rinde, Brentley Williams **Middle:** Carter Jenson, Zaya Bieber, Gavon Pulczynski, Collin Matthews, Blair Przekwas, Owen Olson **Front:** Tucker Rinde, Shalyn Kukowski, Mia Kjos, Alexie Berger, Avani Washington **Not Pictured:** Layla Otto, Chesnie Berg

Shout Out To.....

Gary 'Jackie' Erickson & Joan Erickson for weeding and pruning the school's north sidewalk flower beds along Carpenter Avenue. Fall sports coaches for all the time and energy you put into our student athletes! You make a difference!

All the grade school kids at the football game on Friday who stopped what they were doing behind the stands, placed their hands over their hearts and showed their respect during the singing of the National Anthem. Their parents should be very proud.

Mrs. Carol Ricke for helping with FCCLA football concessions.

Nellie Hagen for popping corn at football games.

FCCLA seatbelt safety day workers: Emily Burkel, Morgan Hickey, Cale Lindland, Peyton Lee, & Greta Lee.

Jasmine Christenson, Jenesssa Isane, Kadeyn Keller, Greta Lee, Hannah Rud, Brooke VonEnde, Hailey VonEnde, Hannah Wilt, Tali Hamann, Brandon Secord, and Shalyn, Jaryn, Quentin, & Jaden Kukowski ...for picking rocks and sod clods at the Badger Heritage Wall, as well as helping to serve at the T & C concession stand during the Badger Fall Fest.

Jody Randall for getting food for all of us. It's been a struggle with all the food shortages, but she is rocking it!

Roseau County Sheriff's Office for providing PreK-Grade 6 with child safety material. The sheriff's office provided classrooms with pencils, coloring books, and other classroom materials sharing a message of child safety in our classrooms. "Safety Pup" is a trusted friend who is used as their mascot to help promote child safety.



Badger School's Ramp-Up to Readiness Program Enters Eighth Year

Submitted by: Stacey Warne, Dean of Students

The Badger School is pleased to offer the Ramp-Up to Readiness program to our students again this year. As a reminder, Ramp-Up's curriculum focuses on preparing students for postsecondary education and life by targeting five specific areas (Readiness Pillars):

1. **Academic Readiness:** Students have the knowledge and skills to do first-year, college-level work.
2. **Admissions Readiness:** Students have completed requirements for admission for the postsecondary education that matches their goals, interests, and abilities.
3. **Career Readiness:** Students understand how education determines income and opportunity in the global economy, which types of jobs need skilled workers, will pay enough to support a family, and will be a good match for their interests and abilities.
4. **Financial Readiness:** Students will be able to cover the cost of one term of study at a postsecondary institution through savings, loans, work-study, and/or financial aid.
5. **Social & Emotional Readiness:** Students know how to set educational goals, make progress toward those goals, and build relationships with peers and adults that support the achievement of those goals.

Badger students in grades 6-12 meet weekly with their grade level advisors to complete activities that will help prepare them in the five areas above. In addition, students will create a Readiness Rubric that allows them to continually monitor their progress toward reaching their academic goals. Students also create a Postsecondary Plan to help them plan their academic and career life beyond high school. Students meet with their advisors in a workshop setting that could involve guest speakers, interest inventories, career surveys and exploration, filling out college applications, and more.

Here is a snapshot of the topics students will study in October:

GRADE 6: Students will focus on the importance of college readiness and the main components of the Ramp-Up program, how to calculate GPA, and why it is important for them to do well in their classes. Sixth graders will also work on the PREP (Personal Readiness for Postsecondary) Survey.

Workshop: Career Cluster Interest Survey

GRADE 7: Seventh grade students will learn how important having good habits like being organized, taking effective notes, showing up ready to learn each and every day, studying, and setting goals will help them be more successful academically. Study groups and learning about their individual learning styles will also be addressed. Students will learn more about SMART goals, the importance of self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. Post-Secondary Plans will be updated.

GRADE 8: Students will review the habits they have that make them successful and how to set goals to help them be even more successful. Using a planner, taking Cornell Notes, and setting SMART goals are important to helping students succeed in school. Eighth graders will also investigate what motivates them intrinsically and extrinsically, as well as what academic knowledge they will need for college. Students will also be preparing questions for a career panel. Post-Secondary Plans will also be updated.

Workshop: Career Panel

GRADE 9: Freshmen will be looking at the standards required by the State of Minnesota and the Badger School in order to earn a high school diploma, and what courses and requirements they would need to complete before being accepted into a four-year university like the U of M. Students will also be addressing the concept of a global economy and preparing questions for a panel of community members who will discuss their careers and the education/training it takes to achieve those careers. Freshmen will update their Postsecondary Plans.

Workshop: Career Panel

GRADE 10: Sophomores will learn an effective note-taking method called Cornell Notes and how to use them for studying individually and with groups. They will also be introduced to Design Thinking to creatively solve problems and practice how to manage their time successfully. Time management is another key topic that will be addressed. Sophomores will update their Post-Secondary Plans.

Workshop: Considering Connections between Types Intellect and Future Careers

GRADE 11: Juniors will be administered and reflect on the PREP (Personal Readiness Evaluation for Postsecondary) Survey. They will also focus on delaying gratification so that they will be ready to set and complete longer term goals before they will get their reward (education first, well-paying career to follow). Juniors will finish the month by studying what learning looks like at the college level. Students will update their Post-Secondary Plans.

Workshop: Career Interests Survey

GRADE 12: Seniors will be looking at their "to do lists" for fall, winter, and summer, concerning postsecondary options. They will also be getting ready to complete postsecondary applications, learning about the FAFSA, and learning how to get the most from a college visit. Seniors will update their Post-Secondary Plan.



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Giving Blood, Saving Lives

The Badger High School National Honor Society (NHS) sponsored a blood drive on September 21 at the Badger Community Centers. NHS members Hannah Rud, Greta Lee, and Brooke VonEnde worked hard organizing both before and after the blood drive while Jenessa Isane, Hailey VonEnde, Jasmine Christianson, Kadeyn Keller, and Aulona Jasiqi handled the registration during the event. Our gratitude to all the Badger students and community members who donated blood. A special thank you goes to KC's Country Market for donating cookies and for Badger Community Center for providing a location for the blood drive. Mark your calendars as the second of three blood drives will be held on November 17.





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BADGER SCHOOL 2021-2022 YEARBOOK ORDER FORM

Orders must be paid for at time of ordering

The Badger Yearbook includes Preschool through 12th Grade.

The costs are:

By January 1:

\$35 for the yearbook

\$5 extra for personalization (student name)

After January 1:

\$40 for the yearbook

Personalization not available

Name _____

Grade _____

Phone _____

Date _____

		Per Item	Total
	Number of Yearbooks	35.00	

Personalization per person (list how you want name printed):

Name		5.00	
Name		5.00	
Name		5.00	
Name		5.00	
TOTAL COST			

Payment method (to be filled out by the school):

Cash _____

Check # _____ (written to Badger School)

Date _____

Received By _____



BUILDING READERS®

How Families Can Help Children Become Better Readers

Badger Independent School District #676

Be your child's reading buddy to boost fluency and comprehension

Some children struggle to sound out every word as they read. This can actually make it hard to understand what they are reading. Helping your child read more accurately and fluently can make reading easier and more fun for him.

To be a reading fluency buddy:

1. **Look for a short passage** that your child would find interesting. Make sure it is at his reading level, too.
2. **Read the passage aloud** while he listens and follows along.
3. **Have him read** the passage aloud. If he has trouble reading it, read it to him again. Then have your child read it after you.
4. **Ask each other questions** about what you read. What was the biggest challenge characters faced? Discuss your favorite characters or the most entertaining part. This will help build your child's comprehension skills.



Work with the teacher to set reading goals

It is important to be on the same page as your child's teacher when it comes to reading. Work together to set appropriate goals for your child. Talk to the teacher about your child's:

- **Reading level.** Is your child meeting expectations for her grade? What kinds of materials are best for her? How can you tell if a book is the right level? How can you help her improve her literacy skills?
- **Reading habits.** Many teachers expect students to read for a certain number of minutes each day. Should your child keep and turn in a log to track the time she spends reading? What other ideas does the teacher have to motivate your child and instill good reading habits?

Decoding strategies help your child figure out words

When readers hit a word they don't know, they need to decode it. Decoding skills include sounding out words.

Have your child try these strategies:

- **Notice familiar beginnings** and endings.
- **Say parts of a word** slowly and then blend them together.
- **Try different sounds** for the same letters.
- **Look for smaller, familiar words** within the difficult word.



Ask your child to tell you a story for a change

Next time your child asks you to tell him a story, trade places. Let him make up a story of his own, and when he finishes, suggest he write it down. Encourage him to leave spaces so he can add illustrations. Now he'll be the author of a tale he can read whenever he likes.



Explore nonfiction with your child

To achieve in school, your child will have to be able to learn. Reading nonfiction books on topics she likes is a great way to practice.

Reading nonfiction helps your child:

- **Apply comprehension** skills to factual content.
- **Develop new hobbies** or interests.
- **Learn how authors** use text to inform and persuade their readers.





BUILDING READERS®

Elementary School • October 2021

Help your elementary schooler persevere through reading challenges

Reading is part of many home and school activities, so if your child struggles with it, it can feel as if it affects every part of his life—and his confidence can suffer.

To support your child:

- **Consult his teacher.** Ask about realistic expectations. What has your child's teacher noticed? What strategies have been taught and how can you apply them at home? What additional help is available?
- **Use reading materials at home** that minimize frustration. Choose books that are easy for your child to read and understand. This builds his confidence while he is reading.
- **Stay positive about his learning.** Focus on how his strengths can help. Remember to notice progress and praise your child for his effort.



Pumpkins can inspire reading, word play

Now that it's October, pumpkins are everywhere! Make a pumpkin the center of your family reading with books like *The Biggest Pumpkin Ever* by Steven Kroll or *It's Pumpkin Time* by Zoe Hall.

Then, play some pumpkin-related word games! Have fun as a family while you build language skills. Here's how:

- **Look at a pumpkin.** Who can make the longest list of words or phrases that describe it? (*round, lumpy, orange, future pie*, etc.)
- **Write the word *pumpkin*** on a large sheet of paper. How many smaller words can each person make from the letters in it? (*pump, pin, pink*, etc.)

Whoever has the most words in either activity wins!



Q: Our family is so busy. How can we make time for reading together?

A: Put family reading on the schedule during times when everyone is home—even if it's just once a week. Perhaps you could schedule a reading dinner or a surprise DEAR (Drop Everything and Read)

time during Saturday chores. The key is to make reading a fun part of already established family routines.

Mnemonic devices work!

A *mnemonic* ("neh-mon-ic") device is a tool used to remember information. Mnemonics can help your child with tricky spelling words. She could make up a sentence like *Big Elephants Could Always Use Some Exercise* to help her remember how to spell the word *because*.



For lower elementary readers:

- *Rubia and the Three Osos* by Susan Middleton Elya. This take on *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* includes Spanish vocabulary—and a surprising twist at the end!
- *The President and Mom's Apple Pie* by Michael Garland. When President William Taft goes to a small town to dedicate a flagpole, he is entranced by all of the aromas he smells.



For upper elementary readers:

- *Jake the Fake Keeps It Real* by Craig Robinson and Adam Mansbach. Jake is enrolling in the Music and Art Academy with a big secret—he is neither a musician nor an artist.
- *Grandma Chickenlegs* by Geraldine McCaughrean. When Tatia's step-mother sends her to get a needle from Grandma Chickenlegs, the evil woman traps the girl in her cottage.

Building Readers®

How Families Can Help Children Become Better Readers

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The Badger Barker



Campus Comment

By: Abigail Novacek

Tell us about your favorite piece of media (favorite movie, book, video game, etc.)?

Keegan VonEnde (7th grade): My favorite piece of media is either TV or reading. My favorite TV show is either *Baby Daddy* or *Arrow*. Sometimes I like to read though and my favorite book is *Hatchet*.

Morgan Hickey (8th grade): My favorite piece of media is the show *Merlin*. It is very mysterious and kind of creepy. *Merlin* is my favorite show on Netflix because I like that type of mystery.

Sam Aarhus (9th grade): I have many favorite video games and movies, but my favorite video game is *Geometry Dash*. It helps you with timing. That is my favorite video game.

Amelia Wilt (10th grade): One of my favorite movies is *Pineapple Express*. I like the movie because the plot is funny and interesting. I also like the actors.

Brogan Beito (11th grade): My favorite piece of media is a book. It is either *Angels and Demons* or *The Da Vinci Code* both by Dan Brown. They are both very good books by a great author.

Hannah Rud (12th grade): My favorite piece of media is the *Twilight* Series. They are good movies together, but separately they may be a little weird. The earlier movies are a little cheesy but the newer movies are better produced.

Valerie Truscinski (Technology Coordinator): My favorite movie of all time is *Finding Nemo*. This movie came out when my children were very young and I remember taking them to see it – we all laughed a lot throughout the entire movie. It has a great story about the lengths a parent would go through for their child(ren) and how we shouldn't take each other for granted. I purchased the DVD of it way back then and still pull it out to watch it when I need a smile. Laughter does the soul good.



Oreo Truffles

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

By: Ivan Olafson

Ingredients:

- 1 (14 oz.) package Oreos
- 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- 2 cups white chocolate chips, melted
- ½ cup semisweet chocolate chips, melted

Directions:

1. Use a food processor to crush cookies into fine crumbs.
2. Add all but 2 tablespoons crushed cookies to a medium bowl. Add cream cheese and vanilla and stir until evenly combined.
3. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Using a small cookie scoop, form mixture into small balls. Place on prepared baking sheet and freeze until slightly hardened, about 30 minutes.
4. Dip the frozen balls in melted white chocolate until coated and baking sheet. Drizzle with semisweet chocolate. Freeze until chocolate hardens, about 15 minutes.





The Badger Barker



Elementary Viewpoint

By: Aleksei Beckler

If you could have any animal as a pet, what would it be?

Shelby Lee (1st grade): A cat because I have two cats. Their names are Fluffy and Salem. They are girls. They are so much fun to play with.

Gavon Pulczinski (2nd grade): I want a cat because they are cuter than dogs. I would feed it and take care of it. I would sleep with it.

Chance Wojciehowski (3rd grade): I would want a snake. They come in a lot of colors. I would keep it in a glass container. They come in a lot of sizes. They are big and strong. They are cool.

Alex Gust (4th grade): Wolf because they are big and strong. They are cool.

Autumn Kruger (5th grade): A rabbit because when I was 9 years old I had two baby bunnies, but they both died because they were too little and the bunnies moved houses two times.

Aspen Askelson (6th grade): A horse because I want to ride and show jump horses, do horse clinics, and barrel races. I want to train and take care of it.



Student Opinion

By: Brandon Secord

If school was extended for 2 more hours but it meant no homework, would you agree with it or not?

Bethany Thompson: No, because there is no need for it because we already have eight hours of school. I don't think it'd be fun to sit in one building for 10 hours a day. I'm not saying I don't like school or anything, but there is a point of too much school.

Tryg Olson: Yes, because I would have more free time at home. It would hopefully also mean we get out of school earlier than the end of May and have a longer summer.

Katelyn Gust: Yes, I feel like it would let people get more help than they do at home because you could talk to your actual teacher about the work from that day that you didn't finish. And if you finish your homework, you could chat with your friends or help them with what they're working on.

John Kukowski: No, because I wouldn't be able to sit on my bed and play video games with my friends on Xbox. If school was two more hours, that would also mean I have less time to relax.



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110 Carpenter Avenue
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Kindergarten Korner

By: Ashley Stainbrook

Cora Langaas

What is your favorite color? I like pink because it's pretty and bright.

What is your favorite subject in school? I like reading because we learn to read.

Are you enjoying kindergarten? Yeah I like it. It's fun and you get to play and learn new things.

What do you like about fall? I like that the leaves' colors change to yellow, orange, and red.

If you could be outside a whole day, what would you do? I like to play with my brother outside when he is being nice and not a fussy bad boy.

What do you like about your teacher? She teaches me and shows us what to do.

What makes someone a good friend? When they play hot lava with me.



Zoey Sanden

What is your favorite color? Pink and purple because they are my favorite and also rainbow colors.

What is your favorite subject in school? I like coloring notes for my mom. It's my favorite thing to do in school.

Are you enjoying kindergarten? Yes because I like doing things with my friends.

What do you like about fall? Halloween because it's fun to get treats and candy.

If you could be outside a whole day, what would you do? I would play on the merry-go-round and the slides.

What do you like about your teacher? She lets me play.

What makes someone a good friend? When they play with me outside and share toys.

