



Points of Interest
and
Upcoming Events

**Scholarship
Information:**
Page 3

**Edline
Information:**
Page 3

**School
Messenger
Information:**
Page 3

**STAR Program
Information:**
Page 3

Open House:
October 18th,
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

All school buildings that were renovated with the bond project will be holding an Open House. All members of the community are welcome to walk through the schools.

**School
Calendar on
Back page**



Wenona Teacher Receives National Milken Educator Award



A surprise announcement was made during a student assembly to Matthew Reid, Wenona Center's English Teacher. Mr. Reid was recognized as one of the National Milken Educator's of the Year on Tuesday, October 6th. The award also carries a cash award of \$25,000 which will be given to Reid later this school year.

Jane Foley, Milken Family Foundation Senior Vice President, Mike Flanagan, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and members of the State Board of Education as part of the Milken Family Foundation's National Educator Awards Program all visited the Wenona Center to present the award to Mr. Reid.

Reid is one of more than 50 teachers nationwide to receive the Milken National Educator Award. This award is dubbed the "Oscars of Teaching" by *Teacher Magazine*.

The criteria for the selection of outstanding elementary and secondary school teachers, principals and other education professionals as Milken Educators include the following:

- Exceptional educational talent as evidenced by effective instructional practices and student learning results in the classroom and school;
- Exemplary educational accomplishments beyond the classroom that provide models of excellence for the profession;
- Individuals whose contributions to education are largely unheralded yet worthy of the spotlight;
- Early- to mid-career educators who offer strong long-range potential for professional and policy leadership; and
- Engaging and inspiring presence that motivates and impacts students, colleagues and the community.

Congratulations Mr. Reid!!!

Parent/Teacher Conferences
Wednesday, October 21st, 2009
3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Superintendent Newcombe's Message



We are very excited as the 2009-10 school year got off to a terrific start!

We had the final five school buildings under construction this past summer: Washington Elementary, Kolb Elementary, MacGregor Elementary, Mackensen Elementary, and Handy Middle School.

Most of the work was completed by the start of school. Some work has continued into fall, particularly on the exterior of Washington Elementary. There will be some minor remaining bond projects during the school year and some outside work needed on building grounds, such as the Central courtyard, that will occur in Spring 2010.

Student enrollment is slightly higher than we had anticipated with the state of our economy and declining birth rates. Last year, we had 9,094 students. Originally this year, we estimated an enrollment of 8,924. Our enrollment to date, although not yet official, is about 50 students over that estimate. To accommodate the higher student numbers, we have added classrooms as well as teachers and teacher aides at eight of our 14 school buildings.

Other items of interest to share:

As part of our push on technology, the District re-designed our main webpage at www.bcschools.net. If you have not visited it yet, please check it out and let us know what you think. Our goal is that the webpage will be easier to navigate for community, parents, staff, and students. On a similar note, one of our goals underway this year and thereafter is to update school webpage information regularly.

For the second straight year, one of our art teachers has received the Michigan Art Education Association's elementary "Art Educator of the Year" award. This year's recipient, Ms. Colleen DeSanto, teaches at McAlear Elementary and at Kolb Elementary. We are very proud of Ms. DeSanto who symbolizes the hard work and dedication of our teachers. Last year's award recipient was Diane Brown who teaches at Auburn Elementary, Forest, and Kolb Elementary.

On September 22 we hosted the Taiwanese delegation at Western High School. The Taiwanese government and Bay City Public Schools have partnered on the Mandarin Chinese language program. This year we have nearly 200 students at our middle and high schools taking Mandarin Chinese as one of our foreign languages.

In September, our board of education approved the purchase of new foreign language textbooks for French, German, Spanish, and Mandarin Chinese as part of our regular textbook replacement schedule put in place several years ago.

Our middle school and high school security camera systems will be installed during October and November.

As a reminder, we are holding an open house at our newly renovated school buildings on Sunday October 18 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Elementary schools renovated with our May 2006 bond initiative are Kolb, Linsday, MacGregor, Mackensen, McAlear-Sawden and Washington. Other schools included in the renovation project were Handy Middle School, the Western Middle/High School complex and Central High. Thanks to the support of our community, the school buildings look awesome and have significant renovations from heating and cooling to the electrical systems, floors and windows along with many other changes. If you have a chance, please visit any of those schools that afternoon.

Finally, related to the H1N1 flu concern, our schools are stocked with soap and hand sanitizer and are cleaned regularly. Information has been provided to parents and students about ways to help minimize the chance of getting sick, including the most important way which is washing hands thoroughly on a regular basis. We are also working closely with our local health officials.

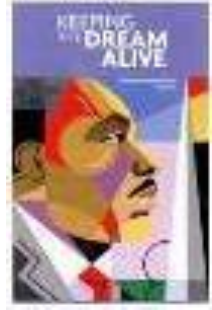
In closing, I am always open to your comments or questions and can be reached at 671-8165 or at newcombed@bcschools.net. Thank you for your interest and support of the Bay City Public Schools.

Sincerely,
Douglas L. Newcombe
Interim Superintendent

Bay Area Community Foundation Scholarship Information

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional Scholarship

- Available to Seniors in Bay, Midland or Saginaw County
- Must have minimum 2.0 GPA
- **Deadline: November 13th, 2009**
- See Ms. Whaley, Counselor to apply



Several other scholarships available to seniors starting December 1, 2009

- **Deadline: March, 1, 2010**
- www.bayfoundation.org
- See Ms. Whaley, Counselor to apply

School Messenger

Thanks to The Bay City Public Schools District for purchasing a license for School Messenger, Wenona now has an automated system to help monitor attendance.



Important Information regarding attendance:

- School messenger will call home for all **UNEXCUSED** Absences.
- School messenger calls home for an absence from one (1) period to the Entire Day.
- Students more than 10 minutes late to class are marked absent.
- School messenger, motivated students, and parent support have increased our attendance.

To change your phone number, please call 989-895-5550 and speak with Terra Arnold.

Edline Information

www.edline.net

Edline gives parents and the school the opportunity to expand communication. You will be able to monitor your child's progress in all his/her classes. Edline includes information on attendance, assignments, tests, and grades.



- Enclosed you will find your parent activation code.
- Please follow the directions carefully to activate your account and start using Edline.
- **There will be an Edline demonstration given during Parent/Teacher Conferences on October 21st.**
- Questions/Concerns, please call Wenona at 989-895-5550 and speak with Terra Arnold

S.T.A.R. (Striving To Achieve Results) Program

The S.T.A.R. Program is an employability skills program for students that helps prepare them for life after graduation. Monetary incentives are provided as students accomplish tasks related to their education and career exploration. We are currently enrolling new participants. Students must meet the following eligibility criteria:



- Must be in regular K-12 education or alternative education
- Must not have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- Must be "at risk of dropping out" as defined by the school district
- Must be at least 16 years old, but no older than 18.
- Must have junior or senior academic standing (minimum of 10 credits)
- Must meet family income eligibility requirements as defined by the Workforce Investment Act.

MUST QUALIFY WITH ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Deficient in basic literacy skills
- Homeless, runaway, foster child
- Pregnant or parenting
- Juvenile offender
- Require additional assistance to complete an educational program (i.e. behind in credits)

School Calendar

Upcoming Events

School Picture Day

Delta College Rep. at Wenona

Open House

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Delta College Career Pathways

Field Trip

Davenport University Rep. at Wenona

No School: Professional Development

ITT Technical Institute Rep. at Wenona

2nd trimester begins

No School: Thanksgiving Break

Tues., October 13, 2009

Thurs., October 15, 2009

Sun., October 18, 2009

Wed., October 21, 2009

Fri., October 23, 2009

Wed., October 28, 2009

Tues., November 2

Thurs., November 5, 2009

Mon., November 23

Wed., November 25 – Fri., November 27



Wenona High School
201 Woodside Lane
Bay City, MI 48708
Phone No.: (989) 895-5550
Fax No.: (989) 895-6517