Reflecting Back, Moving Forward

Message from the Director:

2020 has been a year of change for Big Lake Community Education. Reflecting back as a department, we had our fair share of challenges, but we look forward to a year filled with new ideas, exceptional programs, and strong relationship building.

March 13, 2020 will always be a date ingrained in my mind as the first district COVID-19 meeting. On this date, Community Education programs began to get suspended, as health and safety measures were the top priority.

As the pandemic progressed, Community Education provided essential childcare services and shifted our Early Childhood Family Education and Little Learners’ classes to Distance Learning along with the rest of the district. Our recreation and enrichment programs remained suspended until June when we slowly began to reopen.

With the retirement of longtime Director Brad Schnitzler, we are moving forward with different leadership. I am the new Director of Community Education & Communication Services, Sarah Fritsch joined us as the new Early Learning Coordinator and Tate Fowler rounded out our team as the Community Education Program Coordinator.

This upcoming year will be filled with new challenges and opportunities. We know now, more than ever, that Community Education provides essential resources that help raise the quality of life in our community. We invite you to join us as we embark on this new year!

Sincerely, Allen Berg
Director of Community Education & Communication Services

Get Involved

Big Lake Community Education Advisory Council is looking for new members to help us move forward. The council’s responsibility is to make recommendations regarding programs, classes, policies, budget and staffing. This is a volunteer opportunity for you to get involved and have a voice in before and after school Community Education activities.

Gymnastics update

Due to the changes of the MN State HS League winter schedule, our Community Education Gymnastics program will have a delayed registration. Please watch for more details on our Facebook page and school website.
Classes:
- Baby Steps
- Family Fun
- 0-3 Play with Me
- 0-5 Play with Me
- Family Fun for Everyone
- Preschool Pals
- Music Makers

Special Classes:
- Ooey Gooey Day
- Little Picassos
- Gingerbread Adventures

Early Childhood Screening (ECS)
Free ECS appointments are available throughout the school year. **Next available dates are Jan. 27 & 28.** ECS is required to be completed before children enter kindergarten. Children can be screened as early as 3 years old. Earlier is better!

Call Jeanne at 763.262.3233 to schedule

Is your child in our census?
Make sure we have all of your children in our census so you don’t miss out on important mailings like kindergarten registration and information about our programs and services. Call 763.262.3233 to get your census information added!
Babysitting 101
Ages 10-13 years
Learn current practices for safety, injury prevention, first aid basics, plus feeding and caring for infants. Bring a bag lunch.
Instructor: Emergency Outfitters
Mon, Jan 18 1 Session
8:30 am-4 pm $69
Ind. Elem. Rm 147 YB-117

Amazing Athletes
Ages 2.5-9 years
Build self-confidence, practice teamwork and improve motor skills in this youth fitness program.
For ages 2.5-6, fundamentals are introduced in baseball, volleyball, lacrosse, football, basketball, soccer, golf, hockey and tennis.
Ages 2.5-6
Wed, Feb 3-24 4 Session
2:45-3:30 pm $46
Lib. Elem. Gym YB-113

The older group, ages 7-9, will focus on advanced motor-skill development by playing different sports, a fitness obstacle course and games.
Instructor: Amazing Athletes
Ages 6-9
Wed, Mar 3-24 4 Session
3:45-4:30 pm $46
Ind. Elem. Cafeteria YB-114

NEW! Drone Camp
Grades 3-9
COR Robotics' Stay-at-Home camps provide an awesome opportunity to keep your child engaged, entertained, and challenged. Pick up and drop off kit at the CE Office.
Instructor: Ryan Swanson
Fri, Jan 8-22 At home
$75 YB-100
14 sessions

Kids Staying Home Alone
Ages 7-10 years
First Aid and Safety Trained Kids is a 4-hour course which helps prepare children for staying safe at home and away. Lessons cover basic first aid, water and vehicle safety, home emergencies, and more.
Instructor: Emergency Outfitters
Wed/Thu, Feb 10-11 3:45-5:45 pm
Ind. Elem. Art Room $52
YB-103 2 sessions

Drivers Education
Ages 14½ +
This complete Drivers Education program consists of 30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of behind the wheel training. Pay $50 to secure spot, balance of $300 due first day of class payable to Wreck-Less Driving Academy.
Mon-Fri, Jan 25-Feb 12
4-7 pm Zoom-Online
$350 YB-177 10 sessions

Science Explorers
Grades PreK-8
Join Science Explorers online for a great STEM adventure. Check for take home kit details on the Community Education web page at biglakece.com
Tue, Feb 16 9-Noon
Lib. Elem. Art Rm #146 $38
YB-111 1 session

Fencing
Grades 3-6
Classical fencing emphasizes the practice of the sword as an art, a science and a recreational activity. No class: Feb. 16
Instructor: MN Swordplay
Tue, Jan 12-Feb 23 3:55-4:55 pm
Ind. Elem. Cafeteria $79
YB-170 6 Sessions

Fri, Mar 2-Apr 6 3:55-4:55 pm
Ind. Elem. Cafeteria $79
YB-171 6 Sessions

Friday Night Ski/Snowboard
Grades 6-8 & 9-12
Join your friends at Powder Ridge for this 6x Ski/Snowboard Program. Note: Fees will not be withdrawn until Nov. 30. Mandatory parent/student meeting Tues. Dec. 1 from 7-8:30 in HS Cafeteria.
Grades 9-12 YB-116 HS
Fri, Dec 1-Jan 29 2:30-9:30 pm

Grades 6-8 YB-116 MS
Fri, Dec 1-Jan 29 4:00-9:30 pm
$319 Lift/Rental/Transportation
$259 Lift Ticket/Transportation
$159 Transportation only
$25 Helmets or Lessons

NEW! Magical Pink Unicorn
Ages 3-6 years
Once upon a time, in a land far, far away, lived a magical pink unicorn who loved going to art class! Your child will work with air-dry clay and paint to create a sculpture of a unicorn.
Instructor: KidCreate
Tue, Feb 16 1-4 pm
Lib. Elem. Art Rm #146 $38
YB-111 1 session

NEW! Valentine's Candy Mosaic
Ages 4-9 years
It's Valentine's Day, and romance is in the air. Sign your kids up for some fun of their own while you enjoy an evening out with your Valentine.
Instructor: KidCreate
Tue, Feb 16 1-4 pm
Lib. Elem. Art Rm #146 $38
YB-111 1 session

Register Early
The decision on whether a class will run or not is made about a week before the class start date.
Aquatics

*Seahorse 1 & 2 Parent/Child
Ages 6mo-3 years
In this class, parents work with their child on body position, blowing bubbles, floating, and entering/exiting the water on their own. This class is intended for swimmers to learn to be comfortable in the water. $42

*Turtle Level 1 Preschool Aquatics
Ages 3-5 years
Turtle Level 1 will focus on water exploration; learning how to float, blow bubbles, push off the wall, kicking, and small distance forward motion. Swimmers will learn personal water safety along with basic swim competency. $42

*Turtle Level 2 Preschool Aquatics
Ages 3-5 years
This class will build on the Turtle 1 class allowing swimmers to swim and kick longer distances, submerge under the water to pick up a ring from the bottom of the pool, and jumping in from the side. The benchmarks for passing will be submerging underwater, swim to float, and learning to jump and swim to safety. $42

*Otter 1 (Level 1)
Ages 6+ years
In the Otter 1 class, swimmers will be introduced to underwater streamline, swimming and kicking longer distances, building on their treading skills, jumping in from the side and swimming a certain distance. $42

*Otter 2 (Level 1 Advanced)
Ages 6+ years
In this class, swimmers will explore simultaneous arm and leg motions on their stomach and back. Swimmers will focus on body position, control and directional change. $42

No classes: Jan 18, Feb 15, Mar 1, Mar 15 & Apr 5

All classes held at Big Lake High School Pool-Door M

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Dolphin 1 (Level 2)
Ages 5+ years
In Dolphin 1 class, swimmers will develop stroke technique in front and backstroke, introduce breaststroke kick, and diving. Swimmers will continue to build on their endurance by learning rotary breathing. $44

Dolphin 2 (Level 3)
Ages 5+ years
This class will focus on stroke introduction, continue stroke technique and diving. Swimmers will be introduced to the dolphin kick, butterfly and timed swimming events. $44

Shark 1 (Level 4) Stroke Improvement
In Shark 1 class, swimmers learn all four competitive strokes and work on how to improve their swimming abilities. Swimmers will be introduced to starts and turns while building their endurance for Shark 2. $49

Shark 2 (Level 5) Stroke Refinement
In this advanced class, swimmers will refine their strokes and learn about competitive swimming. Swimmers will gain endurance and learn skills to incorporate swimming into a healthy lifestyle. $49

* One family member is required to be in the water for this class with the participant.

Class will be billed 1 week before session starts.

Please read COVID-19 response & guidelines located with your online registration. The interval between classes has been increased to allow staff to ensure that equipment, high-touch areas, and emergency use locker rooms are cleaned regularly for your safety.

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***Private Swim Lessons***
Please contact Kaycee Taubert at k.taubert@biglakeschools.org for dates/times available

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See Big Lake Community Education at biglakece.com for more details on these and other classes
Activities and Classes

See Big Lake Community Education at biglakece.com for more details on these and other classes

Basic Dog Obedience
Ages 6 mo+
Sit, stay, down and heel will be covered in this class. Location: 4134 School Blvd. Monticello, MN. Enter Lower level of building.
Instructor: Cathy Mahr
Mon, Jan 4-25 7:30-8:15 pm
$65  AB-209
4 Sessions
Mon, Feb 8-Mar 1 7:30-8:15 pm
$65  AB-210
4 Sessions

Puppy Kindergarten
9 wks–6 mo
Your pup will learn how to sit, stay, lay down and more! Location: 4134 School Blvd. Monticello, MN. Enter lower level of building.
Instructor: Cathy Mahr
Mon, Jan 4-25 6:30-7:15 pm
$65  AB-213
4 Sessions
Mon, Feb 8-Mar 1 6:30-7:15 pm
$65  AB-214
4 Sessions

UGotClass
Online Certificates and Courses
Register online and get more info for online courses at:

Driver Improvement Classes
Ages 55+
Explore changes in laws, learn about the latest vehicle technologies, and learn easy-to-use defensive driving techniques. This class is offered through and taught by MN Safety Center.
To register and pay please call MN Safety Center at 1-888-234-1294

4 HR Refresher Class
Tue, Feb 9 9 am-1 pm
Big Lake City Hall
$22
1 Session

NEW! Lap Swim & Water Aerobics for Adults
Training for a marathon or just want to grab a friend and enjoy some stress-free aqua time? Space is limited so register early!

Tue, Jan 5-Feb 9 6:30-7:30 pm
Big Lake High School Pool
6 Sessions
AB-305 Aerobics $49
AB-310 Lap Swim $24

NEW! Valentine’s Day Craft
Ages 5-12 years, with parent
Celebrate Valentine’s Day with your child. Prepare for an evening filled with love. You and your child will enjoy getting messy with clay. Air-dry clay and paint will be used to create a heart-themed trinket box.
Instructor: KidCreate
Thu, Feb 11 6:30-8 pm
Ind. Elem. Art Rm #255  YB-112
1 session  $42 per child/parent pair

Underwater Eggshall
Saturday, March 27
Join us for an Underwater Eggshall at the Big Lake High School Pool
501 Minnesota Avenue E.
Door M
All Ages
Noon-2 pm
Pay at the door $3 per person or $6 per family

Big Lake Winter Farmers Market
Third Saturday
Big Lake City Hall
160 Lake St. N, Big Lake, MN
10 AM - 1 PM

November 21 | December 19
January 16 | February 20
*March 20 | April 17
*March Market located at High School 9 AM-12 PM
Valentine Treat Bags
Bring your creativity for some unique treat bag creations. We will assemble treat bags and fill them with a wide assortment of Valentine goodies. We also will put your mind to work with a Valentine word search. This activity has a little something for everyone.

Thu, Feb 11 6-7 pm
Ind. Elem. Community Room $7
W306-BL 1 Session

Pajama Bingo
Bring your pajamas! Come dressed in your best night wear for a round of Bingo. There will be an extra door prize for the most festive night wear, and of course we will have usual Bingo prizes too! No pizza available until our pandemic is over so make sure you eat dinner before this event.

Thu, Mar 4 6-7:30 pm
Ind. Elem. Community Room $7
W308-BL 1 Session

Pinecone Snowman
This little pinecone snowman is adorable. Using a pinecone, paint, and a bead, this little snowman will come to life right before your eyes.

Mon, Feb 22 6-7 pm
Ind. Elem. Art Room $7
W307-BL 1 Session

Homemade Hand Lotion
Winter can dry out skin causing unwanted skin cracks and flaking. We have a remedy for that in this class. Come join us to make a homemade hand lotion that will soften your skin with the fresh scent of baby lotion.

Thu, Mar 15 6-7 pm
Ind. Elem. Art Room $7
W309-BL 1 Session

Kids Club is a Big Lake Community Education program that offers before and after school childcare in a fun, safe environment for students in kindergarten through age 13.

Our program is more than just child care; we offer a wide variety of programming like arts and crafts, physical education, outdoor games, and more!

Visit biglake.ce.eleyo.com to learn more about Kids Club!

Opening Doors

Opening Doors is a program for anyone 16 years of age or older with a disability. To register for these and other Opening Door Classes, visit Buffalo Community Education at bhmschools.ce.feepay.org or call 763.682.8770

Adult Basic Education and GED

ABE is a free program to help adults, ages 17 years and older, prepare for the GED test, learn English, and improve basic skills such as reading and math.

Contact Information
For more information about Big Lake’s class offerings, call 763.262.2523

WEATHER CLOSINGS

If school is cancelled, Community Education classes will also be cancelled for the day. Any cancellations due to weather will also be posted on our Community Education Facebook page.
Youth Sports Associations

Becker – Big Lake Youth Hockey
www.beckerbiglakehockey.com

Big Lake Baseball Association
www.biglakebaseball.com
www.facebook.com/biglakebaseball
biglakebaseball@yahoo.com
In-house & travel

Big Lake Fastpitch Association
www.biglakefastpitch.com
www.facebook.com/biglakefastpitch
In-house, local league & travel

Big Lake JO Volleyball
www.biglakejo.weebly.com
Travel: Ages 9-17

Big Lake Lacrosse
http://sports.bluesombrero.com/biglakelax
www.facebook.com/biglakelax
In-house & travel

Big Lake Youth Basketball Association
www.blyba.com
In-house & travel

Big Lake Youth Football Association
www.biglakefootball.org
www.facebook.com/biglakeyouthfootball
Flag, local league & travel

Big Lake Youth Wrestling
www.biglakewrestling.org
In-house & travel

Great River Soccer Club
www.greatriversc.org
Preschool-K, recreational & competitive

**Contact Youth Sports Associations directly for registration information and season dates.

Stay Connected

Online at biglakece.com

facebook.com/biglakecommunityed/

Call CE @ 763.262.2523
Call ECFE @ 763.262.3233

Stop by our offices located in Liberty Elementary School

Mail registration form with payment to
17901 205th Ave NW, Big Lake, MN 55309

Paper registration forms are available in the Community Education office or one can be mailed to you upon request.