

September 2<sup>nd</sup>  
2016

# The Valley Voice



Issue #1

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Contact us at:  
[valleyvoice@beltschool.com](mailto:valleyvoice@beltschool.com)

## Welcome Back

Belt Valley Schools welcomed students back to class Thursday morning, August 25<sup>th</sup>. Students were ecstatic to begin their first year or another year here in Belt. As the bell rang at 8:02 a.m., the students gathered together in the gymnasium for the first assembly of the year. There have been changes for the 2016-17 school year. The two major changes to the handbook are the dress code and the bell times. School starts 5 minutes earlier (8:02) and ends 5 minutes later (3:30 except on Friday), but the extra time each day cuts two days off for the school year.

Over the last

few years at Belt School, the parking lot has been difficult for the students to park and maneuver around. A week before school began, the student parking lot was redone to look its best. Now it is easier to drive and park at the school.

Three teacher left the district since last year, including: Mrs. Gerke, Mrs. Stimpson, and Mrs. Williamson. Belt School has gained three new, enthusiastic teachers: Mrs. Haas, Mr. Nordquist, and Ms. McNally. Other teaching assignments have been rearranged as needed.

Belt gained thirteen new students, two

being foreign exchange students. Belt School is happy to welcome the new students and staff to the building.

Fall sports have already kicked off the middle of August. The Husky football team had their first home game of the season here in Belt on August 26<sup>th</sup> against CJL. Volleyball also just had their first game last night against Fort Benton. These two fall sports are off to a good season with the support of students, friends, family, and especially the Belt Cheerleaders. Students don't only have to be involved in sports, but extracurricular activities as well.

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## Husky Football

The cool fall weather calls for football season in the Belt Valley. The Belt Huskies kicked off their season with a match up against the Chester/Joplin/Inverness Hawks on August 26<sup>th</sup>. The Huskies prevailed on their home turf with a 49-0 margin.

Head coach Jeff Graham enters his 10<sup>th</sup> year with the Belt football program. Paul Maki

and Alan Lake assist Graham on the sidelines. After a 5-4 season record last year, the Huskies are looking to improve on it with the help of seniors Jess Bodner, Harry Green, Jaren Maki, and Taylor Olson. Juniors Nolan Myrstol, Antonio Heaton, Troy Hennes, Robbie Flinn, and Keagan Stroop are key contributors to the

Husky team. The Huskies took advantage of their speed and scored on numerous big plays throughout the contest. The boys scored 49 points while only running 34 plays. Belt drew first blood and Bodner received a pass from Green on the 7 yard line. The extra point was added to the score after a successful

*Cont. pg. 2*

## Husky Football (Cont.)

kick from Bodner. After a key stop on defense, the Huskies offense was intact once again. The Green to Bodner pass worked well for Belt, as Bodner ran for a 75 yard touchdown after the catch. The extra point conversion was added. The final play of the first quarter ended with a 3 yard run from Maki for an additional 6 points. By the end of the first, Belt had a comfortable lead at 20-0.

In the second quarter, the Green to Bodner duo struck again with a 65 yard toss adding to the Huskies' already superior lead. Belt was successful on the two point conversion when Maki found Hennes in the end zone. The swarming Husky defense was no match for the inexperienced Hawk offense as they could not find the pay dirt in the first half. Heading into the locker room, Belt's lead was 28-0.



After the halftime meetings, the home team continued to add to their margin, while the Hawks could not run with the pack. Stroop was the next to find the end zone for the Huskies as he received a pass from Green for a 48 yard run. Bodner's kick was good for the extra point to extend Belt's advantage. Maki found the goal line after a pass from Green. The two point conversion was added after Green found Bodner once again. By the end of the third stanza the opposing team still had no points while Belt accumulated 43.

In the final period of the ball game, the maroon and gold continued their scoring ways, while CJI did not find their way into the end zone.



Hennes captured his second touchdown of the game after Stroop tossed the ball into his hands. The two point conversion was unsuccessful but the final score was at 49-0. The final horn blew, and the Huskies earned their first win to start out their season.

The Husky defense dominated their competition in completing the shutout. Linemen Heaton, Hennes, Myrstol, and Olson controlled the line throughout the game. Olson earned two sacks on the night. As for tackles, Green had six unassisted tackles, while Maki

hoarded 17 assisted tackles on the night.

Green also acquired a fumble recovery to add to his stats.

Offensively the Huskies used a balanced attack to amass just over 400 total yards. Green completed 9 out of 11 passes for 230 yards, which averaged 25.6 yards per completion. He had five touchdown passes, the longest being 76 yards. The team accumulated 158 yards rushing and found the end zone once via the ground attack. Bodner in the open field was an animal with the ball. He hauled in six passes from Green and advanced the ball a total of 197 yards averaging 32.8 yards per catch. He scored

three times for Belt, including the two long pass plays.

The win puts Belt in a five way tie for first place in the conference standings. It's obviously early, but it was a rousing start to the season. Tonight the Belt Huskies will take on the Fort Benton Longhorns in Fort Benton. Kick off time is set at 7:00 pm.

Other Northern C games this weekend include: Centerville at Cascade, Chinook at Simms, Great Falls Central at Power/Dutton Brady, and Hayes/Lodgepole at Chester/Joplin/Inverness.



C.J.I.	0	0	0	0	0
Belt	20	8	15	6	49



By: Kerstyn Pimperton

## Drama 2016– 2017

With the start of this year, many extracurricular activities have flourished at Belt Public School, including the theatre group directed by Mr. Ross. The small troupe of nine students held tryouts Monday and Tuesday to figure out which characters they will be portraying in this year's play, *The Tempest*, by William Shakespeare. A schedule for practices will soon be sent out soon.



This year is an exciting experience

for the Belt Valley Shakespeare Players, as they were nominated and accepted to perform in Edinburgh Scotland at the Festival Fringe in August of 2017. There were 50 schools that were chosen to go to Scotland, and two of them came from Montana, Belt obviously being one of them. With renovations taking place at the theatre, *The Tempest* will be held at the Ursuline Center in Great Falls. The

group will be performing *The Tempest* on November 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

Fundraising continues toward the goal of financing the drama club's trip to Scotland in the summer of 2017. From selling concessions at the rodeos, to bagging groceries at Albertsons, these kids have dedicated their time to raise money for their trip. All donations are greatly appreciated in this effort.

**By: Kali Duncan**

## DECA

The Belt DECA team has reunited for the 2016-2017 school year to compete in a business competition. DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) is an extracurricular activity that teaches students how to be involved in marketing and business. For the 14 years that Belt DECA has been offered, it has also been one of the most attended extracurricular activities. Keith Hoyer is returning again this year as the head advisor of the team to help turn these students into successful entrepreneurs and leaders. "I'm really looking forward to this year. There are lots of kids returning that did very well at state last year."

This year's team consists of 19 students. These students are Harry Green, Kassie Hoyer, Kerstyn Pimperton, Alison Stoker, Trey Heitzman, Shannon Hoskins, Hannah Schweitzer, Ashely Triviso, Tori Shelton, Haley Stoker, Joely Stoker, Maggie Andrews, Keely Drummond, William Franzen, Natalie Larson, Avery Newman, Kolby Pimperton, Tori Sherwood, Andrew Stice, Hunter Vogl, and Anthony Wall. This Wednesday, the new team officers were elected and appointed Kassie Hoyer as president and Alison Stoker as secretary.

Every year students from all around the state compete at the State DECA conference to show off their projects and prove their success. Students that are awarded first, second, or third place, depending on the event, will have the opportunity to compete in ICDC (International Career Development Conference), or nationals. State is annually held in Great Falls at the Heritage Inn and this year will be held February 12-14. Keith Hoyer is confident in their group and he "likes our chances this year."

Last year, nationals was held in Nashville, Tennessee. The large group was very successful, with many finishing in the top 20% in the country. The team of Zak Anderson, Koltin Haugrose, and Harry Green finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Public Relations Project, and Julia Vogt placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Principals of Finance. Not only did they present their projects to judges, but they also traveled around Nashville. "It was a very cool experience," Hoyer stated. "There were 20,000 DECA students in one building! You'd have to see it to believe it." This year, ICDC will be held in Anaheim, California on April 26-29. It will be another great experience for the DECA team

In order to get to ICDC in Anaheim this April, students are required to help in fundraisers. In June this last summer, the students helped in the Spring Fling Hoop Thing selling concessions. A new fundraiser that has only begun last year is the Homecoming Dance. This dance is casual and welcomes everyone from the school to join. The Homecoming dance is coming up quick on Saturday, October 1st from 8-11pm. The cost to get into the dance will be \$2 or 2 cans of food. Pizza and pop will be donated and provided at the event. One of the most popular fundraisers is the Carnival, set on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. The Carnival is a fun family activity that consists of games, scary houses, cake walks, dinner, and the silent and live auction. It will be fun time for everybody. Hoyer and the entire DECA team hopes to see the Belt community at the Carnival this year. Finally, the DECA team will be selling yard signs for \$20, hitch covers for \$25, and window decals for \$10. Each of these maroon and gold items represent Belt School. If anybody is interested in purchasing any of these three items, please contact Keith Hoyer at [khoyer@beltschool.com](mailto:khoyer@beltschool.com).

**By: Alison Stoker**



## Middle School Sports

Along with high school sports, the middle schoolers have also began their road to athletic success. Football, cross country, and volleyball are available for students to participate in. Practices for the young athletes started on August 12<sup>th</sup>.

The football team, led by Tim Lords and John Metrione, has already partaken in their first game of the sea-

son. They defeated the Chester/Joplin/Inverness Hawks 42-14 at home. Today, the team will be heading to Fort Benton. Kick off will be at 4:30 p.m.

Yesterday, the volleyball squad kicked off their season with a competition against the Fort Benton Longhorns. Dayna VandenBos and Jill Gliko coach the ladies. Lastly,

the cross country runners travel to Cut Bank today for their first meet of the year. Mark Garber of Centerville coaches both the high school and middle school runners here at Belt School. Results from these events will be reported in the next issue of the Valley Voice.

**By: Kerstyn Pimperton**

## New Foreign Exchange Students

This year, Belt has gained two exchange students, one from Brazil and one from Spain. They are both very excited to start the school year here in Belt, Montana and can't wait to see what this year has in store for them. The two students are Francisco Javier Infantes Lobo from Spain and John Coelho from Brazil.

Francisco Infantes Lobo prefers to be called by his middle name Javier or his nickname Javi. He is 15 years old, turning 16 in March, so he will be a sophomore. He just arrived to the U.S. on August 28<sup>th</sup>, last Saturday. He was more than excited to finally arrive in America to meet his host family.

The Newman's are elated to be Javi's host family for the next nine months and are glad that they are going to be able to share this experience with him. Isabelle Newman, senior at Belt High and Avery Newman, freshman at Belt high are both ecstatic that they were able to have an exchange student this year. Both kids already have two older siblings who live out of the house, so accepting Javi into their home was an easy adjustment.

The Newman's have never housed a foreign exchange student before, but are more than happy to open their home to Javi. He says that he misses his younger brother, Payello, his parents, and other extended

family, but that he frequently Face-time's them so he doesn't feel as homesick. Javi is very much enjoying his classes so far and can't wait to see how this year turns out.



(Javi Infantes Lobo)



(John Coelho)

John Coelho was very shy at first when he arrived in the United States on August 17<sup>th</sup>, last Friday. The night he arrived in Mon-

tana, he went to Belt's football game against CJI and stated that he enjoyed the game, but "I still don't understand how the game works."

His host family, the Andrews, are very excited to welcome John in to their home as well. John, who is also a sophomore this year, is getting used to the school, his new home for the following months, and is excited to see how this experience will play out for him.

Richie Andrews, 6<sup>th</sup> grader at Belt School, and Maggie Andrews, freshman at Belt High are excited to have a third kid in the house. Being the only two children of the family, they are more than excited to have an 'older brother' for the next couple months. This is also the Andrews' first time hosting a foreign exchange student, but they have nothing but good things to say about John and the experience that they are all sharing.

The exchange students are still getting acquainted with friends at school, their schedules, and figuring out how to open their lockers, but it's all a part of the process. It will all become easier sooner or later. John and Javi are so happy to be a part of Belt's community and can't wait for the school year ahead.

**By: Isabelle Newman**



## New Staff

## Calendar of Events

As the school year kicks off the Belt School has welcomed three new teachers. All are new to the Belt community and are trying to adjust.

The new music teacher is Mr. Gabriel Nordquist. He moved here from Great Falls in the begin-



ning of July and really enjoys the community because it is very welcoming. Mr. Nordquist has always loved music and is passionate about it. He believes he is a "student of music." What he means by this is that he learns more when he teaches the students, a teacher can never stop learning.

Ms. McNally is the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher for the elementary.



She is from Ennis, Mt. She moved here just a few weeks before the school year began. This is her first year teaching and is really excited to get to know everybody. Ms. McNally has always wanted to teach because she wants to provide opportunities for the students.

The new Special Ed teacher is Mrs. Haas. She replaces Mrs. Stacy Stimson in the elementary wing of the building. She is from Havre, where she also received her college education. She does not live in Belt, but instead commutes from Great Falls. Even though she does not live



here she loves the community and still needs to figure everything out. Mrs. Haas was inspired by her sister to teach. She saw how great her sister was and wanted to do the same or even better. Mrs. Haas wants the students of Belt to remember "Special Ed students wants to be like everyone else so try to include them."

The Valley Voice is pleased to welcome these new additions to the teaching staff

**By: Kara Neal**

Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>-Fball @Fort Benton (MS-4:30PM Var-7:00 PM)

Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>-X-Country @Cut Bank (MS-3:30PM Var-4:20PM)

Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>-Highwood Harvest Festival @Elmo's Highwood Bar (11:00AM to 9:00PM)

Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>-Vball @Fairfield (CSquad -4:15PM JVar-5:35PM Var-6:55PM)

Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> Picture Day

Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>-Vball @Geraldine-Highwood (JVar-6:00PM Var-7:20PM)

Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>-Fball @Chinook (MS-4:30PM Var-7:00PM)

Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>-X-Country @Cut Bank (Var-2:00PM)

Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>-1<sup>st</sup> Annual Jaqui Harmala Arndt Memorial Benefit @Belt Park (11:00AM to 9:00PM)

Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>-Vball @Belt (JVar-6:00PM Var-7:20PM)

Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>-Vball @GFCC (JVar-6:00PM Var-7:20PM)

Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>-Vball @Centerville (JVar-6:30PM Var-7:50PM)

Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>-Fball @Belt (MS-4:30PM Var-7:00PM)

Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>-X-Country @GF (Var-3:00PM)

*Everyone should look sharp on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. That's Picture Day for individual and classes!*

## New Students

There is a quite a batch of new students this year, from 11<sup>th</sup> grade all the way to 1<sup>st</sup> grade. The total of 13 new scholars steadies the enrollment of Belt School at about 285 students. The Valley Voice will continually introduce these new students in issues to come. The first students to be featured in this issue are eleventh graders Faith Hawthorne and Emma Six, and tenth grader Francisco Javier Lobo.

Faith Hawthorne is a junior relocating to Belt from Buhl, Idaho.



This young woman is very creative and enjoys drawing and crocheting. These talents push her to do great in school. She is loving all of her classes and is

very excited for the upcoming school year. Hawthorne is forming an interest for sports and plans on joining the volleyball team.

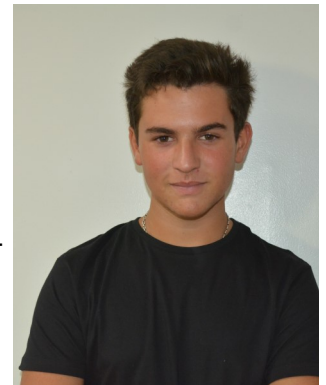
Emma Six is also a junior this year and is transitioning from Centerville, Montana. Even though the city she came from is not far



away, it is quite the change for Six. Six is enjoying the differences that Belt has from Centerville and is enjoying her new friends. The outdoors is definitely something she enjoys; anything adventurous will drag her in. Six loves hunting, hiking, and fishing. She is already a member of the volleyball team and aims to participate in basketball this year.

Francisco Javier Lobo is a tenth grade foreign exchange student coming all the way from

Sanlucar de Barrameda, Spain. For the next year, Lobo will be living with Jackie and Jason Newman along with Isabelle and Avery Newman. Like Hawthorn, Lobo is a very creative and musically talented person. His hobbies include painting, playing the piano and guitar, and studying many languages. Lobo has yet to enjoy the experiences Montana has to offer, but he



has definitely enjoyed Belt while he has been here. He is enjoying the small town and the environment. Francisco Javier Lobo and more foreign exchange students will be featured again in a separate article. The next issue of the Valley Voice will be introducing three more new students to Belt School.

**By: Alison Stoker**

## Husky Club

The Husky clubbers had another great summer; their theme for the summer was “Making a Splash.” Husky Club engaged in many activities and programs such as: Hollywood’s Peak, and trips to: Fish Wildlife and Parks, Giant Springs, the Little Belt Ranger Station, and the Missouri Breaks Interpretive Center in Fort Benton. They also had the opportunity to go fishing at Ackley Lake and swimming adventures at the Natatorium and the pools in Belt and Fort Benton. To finish off their astounding summer the Husky clubbers went on a boat tour through the Gate of the Mountains.

Husky Club is starting up again for the school year. Registration for this after school program is open until today and Husky Club begins Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Husky Club runs from Monday to Thursday. On Mondays they have game night and other days feature enrichment activities for STEM (Science Technology, Engineering, and Math). Husky Club also includes various crafts and art activities.

This year’s staff includes: Mrs. Swanson (director), Mrs. Vandenberg, Mrs. Horton, Ms. Pethel, Mrs. Elam, and Ms. Maus. Husky

Club continues to hire more staff members for the school year.

Husky Club is always a great way to get students involved in a variety of after school activities that promote fun and learning. Husky Club improves every year as Mrs. Swanson stated, “We are so fortunate to have earned the 21st Century Grant to support our after school program and we look forward to another great year.” Parents can register their kids by calling the Belt School at 277-5341.

**By: Kara Neal**



## Husky Volleyball

The school year has begun and so has the 2016 volleyball season. Head Coach, Christine Gondiero, is very excited for this upcoming season with a new team. Clancey Kirby will serve as the assistant coach again this season. The squad began their practices with two a days on August 15<sup>th</sup>. Soon after, the Lady Huskies gathered for the annual Showcase in Belt.

The showcase consisted of nine teams: Belt Huskies, Centerville Miners, Power Pirates, Big Sandy Pioneers, Roy-Winifred Outlaws, Denton-Stanford-Geyser Bearcats, Harlowton Lady Engineers, North Star Knights, and Reed Point/Rapelje Renegades. The players that represented the Belt Huskies for this tournament were seniors: Sara Anderson, Kassie Hoyer, Kerstyn Pimper-ton, and Alison Stoker. Juniors: Adrian Malek, Jordan Swanson, and Dani

Urick. Sophomores: Morgan Cooper, Haley Stoker, and Joely Stoker.

The Lady Huskies soared through the showcase winning five



games in a row. The team began the tournament by playing the Power Pirates. The Huskies coasted through this game winning 25-9 the first set, and 25-7 the second set. The success of the first game continued onto the second as the Huskies swept the North Star Knights 25-11 and 25-15. The third game was a match against Harlowton and was a very exciting win for the Husky

unit with scores of 25-10 and 25-15. Later, the Huskies locked in a win against the Roy-Winifred Outlaws 25-9 and 25-18. The Belt team advanced onto the championship game later that night. After a long and tiring day, the Huskies continued to perform at their best and secured the championship against Centerville 25-12 and 25-17.

The tournament was a great start to the Lady Husky volleyball season and the entire team was eager to play Fort Benton last night in their 7C conference opener. The girls controlled the match, winning in three sets, by scores of 25-20, 25-15, and 25-23. The Lady Huskies conference record now stands at 1-0. Last night the junior varsity won in four sets.

Tomorrow night the maroon and gold gals will face the Fairfield Eagles at the Belt Gymnasium. The JV match is slated to begin at 6:00 p.m. and the Varsity squad will follow 20 minutes after the conclusion of the prior match.

**By: Alison Stoker**

The staff at the Valley Voice wants to welcome students and staff for another great school year at Old Belt High. Now that school is back in action people are starting to drive to and from school. Also now that Drivers Ed. has concluded there are many new drivers on the road. Make sure that you drive safely and responsibly, and don't forget to buckle up.

Young people should steer clear of alcohol in general, but certainly when vehicles are involved. Adults, if you are going out on the town make sure you have a plan ahead of time to ensure that you make it home safe. Stay safe and sober on the road. The alternative is simply not worth it.

**Don't Drink and Drive!**

This message brought to you by your  
Cascade DUI Task Force





## Bond Initiative

After being welcomed back on August 25<sup>th</sup>, the students and staff were introduced to a few new facility upgrades. Many changes had students jumping in their seats, and the improvements have represented Belt Public Schools well. Although the small advancements are a big move for Belt school, many physical changes are essential to produce a safe, organized, and positive instructional facility.

Belt Public School is a great environment for learning when it comes to compassionate teachers, hardworking coaches, and the rest of the caring staff, but space is limited. Although the school is a welcoming domain, the students and staff face many challenges when it comes learning, issues such as: small classrooms in the elementary wing, narrow hallways, insufficient storage space, inaccessibility to weight and fitness rooms, and no dedicated area for school and community activities. At Belt Public School, the staff's main priority is making the school day a safe, secure environment for students and other co-workers. In the interest of security concerns, enhancements are planned to increase control over the entrances and exits to the building.

Many people have seen the

ongoing problems at Belt Public School, and some people believe that some of these issues can be resolved by undertaking construction on parts of the building. There are many changes needed to meet the educational expectations of the community.

With that as a backdrop, the school is looking for community support this fall in the form a bond initiative. Ballots will be mailed to district residents on September 15<sup>th</sup> and the bond election will close on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. The two major physical changes these bonds would fund are additions and improvements to the elementary wing and construction of a multi-purpose room that would provide a venue for a host of community and school related activities.

Making these changes would allow Pre K and Kindergarten classes to return in the main building, creating a safer, enclosed environment in case of an emergency. Small changes like remodeling the restrooms in the elementary and high school would improve accessibility for less abled students.

An overriding concern is security. The idea is to build a lobby area where visitors can

comfortably wait for the office to buzz them in.

The administration wants to provide as much information as possible for the residents of the Belt School District. With that in mind, a public meeting was held last night in the school cafeteria. Another public gathering is scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup> in the same location. The objective of these meetings is to gather public input and to disseminate information about the bond issues that will be voted on by district residents. This is a great opportunity for the public to gain an understanding into the financial impact of the levies and the positive goals toward which the school is striving. All members of the public are encouraged to attend the upcoming meeting and provide input during this decision making process.

**By: Morgan Davis**



## New Valley Voice Staff

The 2016-2017 school year has begun meaning there is almost a

whole new staff for the Valley Voice. The group consists of seven students.

Neal, Isabelle Newman, and Alison Stoker.

The Voice will contain approximately 12 pages, updating the Belt community on events and activities in which Belt School is participating. Issues will be published every other Friday and available online in color at the Belt School website ([www.beltschool.com](http://www.beltschool.com)). Any ideas for articles can be submitted to the Valley Voice staff at:

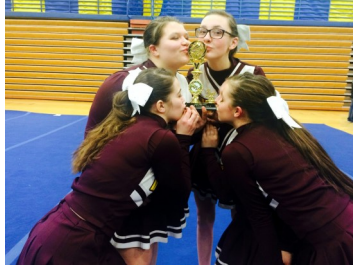
[valleyvoice@beltschool.com](mailto:valleyvoice@beltschool.com).

**By: Alison Stoker**



## Belt Cheer Team

The Husky Cheer Squad has gained quite a few new faces this year. Returning cheerleaders are sophomore Grace Davison and seniors/ co captains Mo Wall and Isabelle Newman. The new comers are all freshmen: Maggie Andrews, Tori Sherwood, Sydne Flinn, Charity Highfill, and Mika Haagenson. The three new stunt men are also all freshmen: Avery Newman, Adam Langston, and Robbie Gliko.



This past summer, the cheer team went to summer camp at Great Falls Central Catholic High School

hosted by Kansas State University. The team had a blast there and it was a good entry for those on the team who have never stunted before. Right before school started, the team also went to the Coach's Clinic at Great Falls High. Here

they learned how to stunt, jump, and dance with the proper technique they'll need in order to improve as a team and be safe.

Recently, the cheerleaders and stunt men are working on their homecoming routine that they'll perform at the halftime homecoming football game. They are all thrilled for the season to start and can't wait to see how the huskies will do this year.

**By: Isabelle Newman**

## Facility Improvements

The 2016 school year hit students and teachers like a bolt of lightning. Students returned to Belt Public School for class on August 25<sup>th</sup> and were surprised by many new upgrades. Students were excited and enthusiastic about the changes and look forward to a great school year. In preparation for a successful year, several facility improvements have given the school a facelift.

The most obvious change is a fresh new student parking lot, but technological improvements have taken place as well as repair work being completed on the football field irrigation system.

Throughout the last school year, several people addressed the school and the Board of Trustees about facility upgrades. A few things were brought to their attention such as: the high school parking lot, potholes, and a different technology sys-

tem was needed for clear communication, and for easy access to documents and homework assignments. After checking school funding, the Board of Trustees decided that changes were necessary.

They began with the high school parking lot. The lot was paved and repainted, making parking serene, and potholes around the school were filled. Last year, students went to the Board of Trustees and pleaded for a new water fountain system. This year, students enjoy filling their water bottles at the water dispensary in front of Mr. Paulson's office. It is designed for filling bottles; it's efficient and more sanitary, while also acting as a regular water fountain. Also, the school's sprinkler system's water pump took a dive right before football season began. Although it was a sticky situation, a new pump was

installed so that athletes could continue practice and community members can enjoy home games. The biggest computer upgrade consisted of converting from Nobel network to Microsoft, a more modern network. This made wireless connections stronger, and it helped create an easy login and documents that are more accessible.

The advancements at Belt Public School have not only made students and staff more comfortable at school, but they also represent the school positively. Students look forward to exploring and learning the new Microsoft system, and everyone is grateful for the filled potholes and paved parking lot. The students and staff are prepared and pumped for the 2016-2017 school year.

**By: Morgan Davis**

## Welcome Back (Cont.)

There is Drama, Youth Leadership, and DECA, among others. The Drama students have the opportunity to go to Scotland next summer. There were only two Montana schools chosen and Belt was one proud to be one of them. They have

been doing many fundraisers over the summer and are hoping to raise enough money to finance most of the trip.

As the freshman are just beginning to understand the high school and their new teachers, the

seniors are preparing themselves for a new chapter in their lives. This school year at Belt is already off to a great start with the positive attitude from the students and staff.

**By: Kara Neal**

## Games and Puzzles

This week's games and puzzles is body parts. (Hint: Guess what journalist these lips belong to!)



Answer will be revealed in the next issue.

## Valley Voice's Inspirational Quotes

As the school year starts back up again, people begin to face challenges. Whether it's being the new kid in school, worrying about grades, or making new friends, it's sometimes hard to get past these barriers. The theme for this issue's Valley Voice Inspirational Quotes is determination. Here are some words of wisdom to inspire those who aspire to be determined:

"It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things."

– Leonardo Da Vinci

"He that can have patience can have what he will."

--Benjamin Franklin

"Courage is the most important of all the virtues because without courage, you can't practice any other virtue consistently."

– Maya Angelou

Valley Voice  
P.O. Box 197  
Belt, MT 59412