Thank you for the support!

On behalf of our board of directors, students, and staff, I want to thank everyone for supporting the bond and renewing the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy. Both items are critical to supporting students in the learning process. I believe the generous community support stems from relationships. We have teachers that truly care greatly about all students. It is that personal attention that is key to student learning.

We have selected SVPA as our Architect and Story Construction as our Construction Manager. Together this team will assist us through the next steps in the design and construction process. We will be seeking community input on the auditorium and the classroom addition very soon. The earlier these projects can be completed, the sooner our students will benefit from the community investment.

Please do not hesitate to contact your building administrators or me directly if there is anything with which we can assist. It is rewarding to work in a community with high expectations and such strong support.

Sincerely,

Rich Powers, Superintendent
Connect with me on Facebook at rich_powers@bondurant.k12.ia.us or Twitter @BFCSD

We'd Like To Recognize the Following:

On behalf of the Bondurant-Farrar Board of Education and Administration, we would like to extend a thank you to the community for supporting the bond referendum. On Tuesday, February 2nd, over 900 residents braved the weather to cast a ballot in the district’s special election. The bond referendum passed with an 81% approval rate, as did the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy extension.

Our entire district would like to thank the “Vote Yes” community group that supported the bond vote for our school projects. Our students will have the classroom space needed and increased opportunities in the area of fine arts. The leadership group consisted of Amy Eckert, Allison Peet, Kali Van Baale, Kris Anderson, Kami Olesen, Rachelle Lorentzen, and Amy Smith.

The district was fortunate to be welcomed by many local clubs and organizations to inform members of bond details. Thank you to these groups for allowing us to present at their meetings. We would also like to thank those individuals who attended any of our sixteen bond-related meetings.

It's an exciting time at Bondurant-Farrar CSD. Thank you for your continued support.
LITERACY NIGHT AT MORRIS:
More than 500 Morris Elementary students and families came to the school on Tuesday evening, February 9, for our first annual Literacy Night! When guests arrived they were given a full schedule of activities they could choose from. Activities included a readers theatre; book bingo; reading and book signing by guest author – Lisa Morlock – who wrote Track that Scat; a visit from Crash, the Iowa Wild Mascot; and crafts and stories put on by Morris teachers and staff.

Spearheaded by Mrs. Brogan, K-12 Reading Specialist, and Mrs. Barnett, Elementary Librarian, the theme was “We Love Books!” Committee members included Mrs. VanderLinden, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Lusthoff, Miss Freking, Mrs. Barber, and Mrs. Alcott. Teachers got into the spirit by dressing up as their book’s character to surprise the kids as they arrived in the rooms.

Bondurant Lions Club served pancakes and every participant received a free book at the end of the night. “I am so pleased with the work of the planning committee, Morris staff, and volunteers that organized and executed our first literacy night event,” said Mr. Anderson, Principal, Morris Elementary. “We hope to bring this fun, community event to our students and families next year as we celebrate the importance of literacy here at Morris.”

A big thank you to the planning committee, Bondurant-Farrar PTO, Bondurant Lions Club, AE Dairy, Iowa Wild, Lohse Foundation, Iowa Public Television, Lisa Morlock, the McKern family, and Bondurant-Farrar high school volunteers.

HALLWAY HERO AWARD:
Morris Elementary recently implemented a new PBIS program for students in their building. The goal is encourage students to practice Bondurant’s BEST Hallway Expectations (face front, single file/straight line, hands at your sides/behind your back/in your pockets, voices off, quiet feet).

The “Hallway Hero” award is a superhero cape with HH sewn on the back (in the shape of Superman’s shield). If a class wins the award/cape for the week, the classroom teacher determines which students deserve to wear the cape the following week. This is a fun way to encourage positive behavior in the halls and is a hit with students!

BASKETBALL SKILLS TOURNAMENT:
All students who competed from BFCSD won 1st place in their divisions and earned a trip to Iowa City for the Special Olympics State Basketball Skills tournament on March 12th. Congratulations to Cheyenne Sisson, Aspen Essink, and Grace Heydon!
SAGE NAMED TEACHER OF THE YEAR BY BONDURANT CHAMBER:

On December 22nd, the Bondurant Chamber of Commerce presented middle school special education teacher Karen Sage with the Chamber’s Annual Teacher of the Year Award. Chamber member Laurel Swanson and President Adam Kline presented the award in front of the middle school staff and Mrs. Sage’s husband Tony.

The annual award is peer nominated. Sixth grade Language Arts teacher Angie Wilson nominated Mrs. Sage. In her nomination, Mrs. Wilson noted that Mrs. Sage is, “...the most caring, empathetic, make a difference in every child’s life kind of teacher I have ever met.” Mrs. Wilson also noted that Mrs. Sage would be retiring at the end of the year. “We are happy for her, but will miss her kind, quiet way of constantly being positive and helping kids in all ways possible.” In addition, Mrs. Wilson pointed out the many extra things that Mrs. Sage contributes to the school, like regularly helping with Power Hour and volunteering her time to coach Special Olympics athletes.

Karen Sage is completing her 35th year in education. The first four years she was a paraeducator with the Des Moines Schools, followed by 27 years as a teacher. Her final four years have been with the Bondurant-Farrar Middle School. She enjoys time with family, running, photography and reading. On behalf of our school and community, I am happy to congratulate Mrs. Sage on this recognition and thank her for her service to our students and their families.

Congratulations, Mrs. Sage!

ANNUAL CANNED FOOD DRIVE AT THE HIGH SCHOOL:

The Annual Art Canned Food Drive was held November 16-20th between the high school art classes. The goal was to reach the previous mark of 2,850 items donated. The students blew that mark out of the water this year and brought in 3,620 items. Friday morning alone, students brought in about 2,000 items. The winning class and students who brought in 75 items or more got a pizza party sponsored by Casey's.

The really cool thing this year was the students had so many items that Mr. Vandehaar couldn't fill the trucks he had lined up. So we filled the 4 buses' undercarriages that we took to the Des Moines Art Center Field trip on that Friday. Buses stop by the 102.5 Star Combat Hunger drop off downtown at Locust and 12th. All 110 kids piled out of the buses and filled the remaining bins for food. It was a pretty amazing sight as it had just started to snow that day. Thank you for your donations!
H.S. Students Aiding the Homeless:

The High School Library will be aiding homelessness in one small way in an effort to reach out beyond our world this January.

Care for Camps is a nonprofit organization who supports the homeless of Central Iowa. For more information: www.facebook.com/CareforCampsCentralIowa.

Your library, along with Mrs. Sogard's Textile Class, will be fusing/sewing shoulder bags from the plethora of old grocery sacks. It is the hope that these will be waterproof, durable and handy for carting stuff around and a small help to these people. There are a few warm additions that can be added to the bags.

Comic Con Week at the M.S.:

The Middle School Library had a great time the week before Winter Break with a Comic Con. Seven students worked with Mrs. Hackett to make it a total success!

We had a Photo Booth for all to take photos with masks and capes. We played a life-sized game of Pacman. We had all the computers in the library lab tuned into old arcade games for kids to enjoy.

Add in a drawing contest, stickers, candy and visits from local comic creators and you have an instant success!

For more visit: www.weebly.com/weebly/main.php

M.S. Student Council Members Volunteer:

In December, middle school student council representatives rang bells for the annual Salvation Army fundraiser. Students in 7th and 8th grades volunteered for 3 hour shifts at Wal-Mart.

Pictured: Lacey Beck & Wyatt Bailey

2015 Honor Squad Members:

The Bondurant-Farrar Cheerleaders were again represented in the 2015 Honor Squad. With over 230 cheerleaders from around the State of Iowa, the chosen representatives from Bondurant-Farrar High School were Isla Ekstam, Kiersten Kreuder and Lydia Shinogle.

These young ladies met the criteria of academic excellence, service/mentoring participation and Varsity years of participation to be a part of this Honor Squad.

The cheerleaders performed at the playoff games on Monday, November 23, during two half time performances. This year the normal Friday playoff games were postponed due to inclement weather.

Congratulations Isla, Kiersten, and Lydia!
STATE SPEECH CONTEST RESULTS:
The 2016 Large Group Speech Team competed at the Iowa High School Speech Association's state contest at Waukee High School on February 6. The team had fifteen events compete; eleven received a Division I rating and four groups received a Division II rating.

In addition, a record-breaking number of students in nine events were recognized as All-State speakers. The team earned 69 All-State medals and eleven performers were double entry All-Staters. The following groups will be competing at on February 20 at Iowa State University. These groups represent the "best" in the state. Because the contest is so competitive, recognition is a difficult honor to attain. Congratulations!

The following are performing All-State groups:

**Ensemble Acting “Almost, Maine”**: Casey Loftis-Boatwright, Olivia Powers, Averie Hutchinson

**Choral Reading “Play Ball”**: Lizzy Trulson, Nick Swift, Kailee Robben, Kiersten Kreuder, Isla Eckstam, Kendra Fulton, Elly Fulton, Devyn Atzen, Lindsey Carter, Nick Currant, Jessica Fenton, Simona Flores, Libby Clayton, Megan Kramer, Cassie Bucklin

**Group Mime “Family Portraits”**: Casey Zarr, Mackenzie Clayton, Sarah Moody, Ryan Eckert

**Radio Broadcasting 91.0 The Hero**: Casey Loftis-Boatwright, Dylan Powell, Matthew Klapp, Daniel Kubrak, Matthew Millard


**Solo Mime “Anything But a Routine Visit”**: Casey Zarr

The following are non-performing All-State groups:

**Ensemble Acting “The Property Known As Garland”**: Faith Benson, Hope Carlson

**Group Improvisation**: Sam Landy, Cassie Bucklin, Jessica Fenton, Kyra Kennedy

**Short Film “Reject”**: Akila Goel, Dav Goel, Kevin Bruxvoort, Sidney Curnes, Elizabeth Schmeiser, Daylen Iverson, Brady Steeples, Cassie Day, Justice Hitchcock, Joe McGovern, Caleb Townsend, Luis Rivera, Peyton Harless, Grace Hood.
DISTRICT NEWS

**Using District Facilities:**
So far this school year, the community has used district facilities nearly 2,400 hours.

If you or your organization, are interested in using district space for an activity or event, please visit the Facility Use page on the District website. You will find links to the online scheduler, policies and instructions to help you get started.

**Breakdown:**
Morris - 262.75 hours
Anderson - 283 hours
Middle School - 1,190.75 hours
High School - 154.25 hours
Outdoors - 539 hours

**Transportation Update & Emergency Line Information:**
We would like to remind you of the after-hours emergency number that was set-up for transportation related emergencies.

Transportation calls are accepted at the District Office between 7:30am-4:30pm. With the new emergency line, calls can be taken outside of typical office hours. As a general rule, the emergency line should only be called in the event of an emergency (such as a misplaced student, etc.) after 4:30pm. The emergency number is 515-967-2891.

For non-emergencies regarding misplaced items or behavior-related issues, please contact Mrs. Hetrick in the District Office at 515-967-7819 between 7:30am-4:30pm or leave a voicemail after hours.

Please check your e-mail address in Infinite Campus to be sure we have the most up-to-date e-mail for your family. We have set up the ability to e-mail you in the event that a bus is delayed due to weather, breakdown, etc. If your e-mail is not correct, contact Mrs. Hetrick at 515-967-7819 or maryjo_hetrick@bondurant.k12.ia.us.

With the winter weather season in full force, the transportation department would like to remind families about the importance of dressing warm for the bus stop. Pick-up times can vary with winter weather, and we want students to be safe and comfortable.

**2016/2017 School Calendar:**
The district will be holding a public hearing to allow for comments on the proposed 2016-17 school calendar at the February 22, 2016 board meeting beginning at 5 pm in the Middle School Library.

Attendance at the meeting is not necessary, comments and questions can be directed to Rich Powers by email or phone at Rich_Powers@Bondurant.k12.ia.us or 515-967-7819.

The draft calendar can be viewed on the district's homepage or at: http://goo.gl/WMCLzm

**Pre-School Registration For 2016/2017 School Year:**
Bluejay Beginnings Preschool Lottery applications for the 2016-2017 school year are now being accepted. Openings for our programs will be filled by a lottery system. Applications and instructions can be found at http://bluejaybeginnings.weebly.com/. The Bluejay Beginnings Preschool is located at Anderson Elementary School and has programs for a limited number of 3 and 4 year old children. All applications must be hand-delivered or postmarked to Anderson Elementary School; Attention: Julie Hall; 400 Garfield Street SW; Bondurant, IA 50035, no later than February 19th. Please call Julie Hall at 967-7494 if you have any questions.

**Kindergarten & Developmental Kindergarten Registration For 2016/2017 School Year:**
Come on out for Kindergarten Pre-Registration on February 16, 2016 from 4:30-7pm at Morris Elementary. This will be a time to come and either drop off registration forms or complete forms onsite. You are also welcome to bring your student this night and take a tour of the school and check out one of the kindergarten classrooms! Go to the website at www.bondurant.k12.ia.us under the Morris tab for registration forms. The Developmental Kindergarten (DK) application process is also underway. Check out the website to see details about what this program. Registration forms for DK are due by April 1. For more information, contact Natalie Wilson, Morris Elementary Secretary, at natalie_wilson@bondurant.k12.ia.us or 515.967.6361.
DISTRICT NEWS

B-F COMMUNITY PAGE:
For the most up to date information on fundraisers and community events, please check out the Community page on the district's website.

FEATURED:
Party of Blue Jays information including an event flyer, sponsors, and more! Check out the community page for additional details and to purchase tickets.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FEATURED:
• Baseball Camps & Little League
• PTO T-Shirt Sale
• Jeans for Teens fundraiser
• Book Fair Information
• And Much More!

JOB OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!
We are fortunate to experience growth in our community and are always looking for talented, committed staff to support our students.

Opportunities are often available for full time, part time, and substitute work in the departments listed:

• Substitute Teacher
• Custodial
• Food Service
• Transportation
• Para Professional/Teacher Associate

If interested, apply online under the "employment" tab or in paper form in the District Office.

Call 515-967-7819 with questions. EEO/AA

OFFICES CLOSED DURING BREAK:
All offices will be closed to the public Friday, March 11th - Friday, March 18th due to Spring break. Offices will reopen on Monday, March 21st.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. In the event of an emergency, please email your building administrator.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:
Be sure to follow the district on Twitter and "like" us on Facebook for updates and announcements.

FACEBOOK: You can find us on Facebook by searching "Bondurant-Farrar Community Schools (Official)"

TWITTER: You can find us on Twitter by searching "@BF_District"

FYI... FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER
The next newsletter deadline is April 12, 2016. Typically, only information related to school activities is published. If you have any questions, please call the District Office at 967-7819. Thank you for reading the district newsletter!

This newsletter and athletic schedules can be found at the Bondurant-Farrar home page.

REQUIRED STATEMENTS
The Bondurant – Farrar Community School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, creed, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, national/ethnic origin, socio economic status, genetic information or disability.