

# November 2022



Growth, like change is uncomfortable. That is because in order to grow, we must change. This is perhaps the fact that presents the biggest challenge to educators:

***How do we get students to participate in a process of growth that causes them to be occasionally uncomfortable?***

I have found an answer is one simple, yet elusive, concept: Trust. Trust is built in uncomfortable moments. Many necessary, uncomfortable moments. Every day, we ask students to try to do things they have never done before and to trust us when we say the effort is important and that over time it will get easier.

I have heard a story that when eagles build a nest, they start with twigs, thorns, rocks, and other sturdy but sharp items. Then they line the inside of the nest with feathers and fur, grass, leaves, and other soft found objects. When the chicks hatch, the nest is comfortable, and they are protected. As they grow and are at the stage to learn to fly, the adults begin to “stir the nest” gradually uncovering the less comfortable parts underneath. The adults make the nest less comfortable to encourage the eaglets to move on and learn to fly. If the nest stayed comfy, some young eagles might never leave the nest and might remain dependent upon their parents to feed and protect them their entire lives.

Eagles don't think and plan. Eagles don't drive themselves crazy with worry that their young will be uncomfortable or get mad. People do. I did. I did not want my children to experience discomfort or be mad at me. But I wanted them to grow and have the skills they would need to lead adult lives. I wanted them to fly. So, I let them experience things they did not necessarily want to do; to feel uncomfortable. Not distressed, just uncomfortable. I also encouraged them to trust the people asking them to do difficult things at school. We all experienced being uncomfortable and we all learned and grew.

Thank you for trusting us with your precious children. We want them to grow and learn, and to develop the skills they will need to lead meaningful adult lives. Sometimes, they will be uncomfortable. They will also develop the confidence they need to learn to fly.

All students in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade are eligible for run for office in the Betsie Valley Student Council



## Timeline and Campaign Guidelines for Student Council Candidates 2022



- Friday, October 28: Applications sent home
- Thursday, Nov. 3: Completed Applications are due
- November 3-10: Campaign Week
  - Posters Completed
  - Interviews Completed
- November 7-8: Candidates interviewed by Mrs. Corey
- Wednesday, Nov. 9: Students watch Campaign Interviews
- Thursday, Nov. 10: BV Election Day
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### Campaign Guidelines:

- Candidates will run a respectful campaign
- Candidates must refrain from making unreasonable promises.
- Candidates must refrain from handing out food, candy, or other items during the campaign.
- Candidates must refrain from using any campaign materials or devices which might interrupt academic learning throughout the school day.

### Interview Expectations:

- Students should practice their interview responses.
- Students may read a pre-written response or use notecards.
- Candidates will be asked to answer the following:
  - Please introduce yourself and tell what grade you are in.
  - Why do you think you will make a good candidate?
  - What are some positive changes you hope to bring to our school?

### Poster Expectations:

- Candidates **must** make one large poster no larger than 22"X26"
- Candidates **may** make up to 10 small flyers measuring 8.5"X11" (standard printing paper)
- Posters/flyers must be positive and may not mention other candidates
- Posters/flyers may be hung in the hallways, classrooms (with teacher permission), and cafeteria of BV

**Betsie Valley PTS**  
**(Parents and Teachers for Students)**

November 21 – 4:15 PTS meeting

November 21-23 – Little Caesar's Pizza will be delivered – precise info to follow.

November 28 – Holiday Hoopla sign-up forms and payment due

December 1 – Holiday Hoopla – Holiday decorations and craft party, 4:15-5:15, \$10.00 per person

**Our School Vision:**

We believe that every child has the right to a safe, supportive school environment where each individual's values, beliefs, background, and identity are respected. The district is committed to engaging with every student to maximize both his/her academic and social learning. This engagement is grounded in supportive practices and universal norms including:

- Care - we embrace a ferocious unwillingness to accept student failure.
- Support - we practice systematic supports that address the social, cultural, and academic needs of each student.
- Safety - we develop and communicate expectations that are clear, firm, and consistently enforced.
- Membership - we pursue ways to ensure our students are intellectually immersed, socially connected, and emotionally centered.