From the Principal’s Desk
Parent – Teacher Conferences

The School District of Bloomer will be conducting Parent-Teacher Conferences on Thursday, January 23rd from 3:30-7:30 p.m. and on Friday, January 24th from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Teachers will have a dinner break from 5:30-6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 23rd. The students will NOT have school on the 23rd or 24th. School district staff have a professional development day on Thursday, January 23rd. It is our hope that this format will be more convenient for parents/guardians who also have children in the middle school or have non-traditional work schedules. When you arrive at Bloomer High School on either date, we ask that you please stop by the office to pick up your child’s schedule (if necessary) and any other necessary instructions.

At the high school, teachers will be available in their classrooms for the entire evening or morning conferences. Since we do have some teachers who travel between buildings, schedules indicating teachers’ specific times and locations will be available in the high school office.

Second trimester progress reports will be mailed home during the third week in January, just prior to parent-teacher conferences. They are required for students in danger of failing and recommended for students performing below their academic ability. I encourage you to attend parent-teacher conferences on January 23-24, as this is a great opportunity to connect with the teachers to discuss your child’s academic progress.

Wisconsin Student Assessment System

As we progress into the 2019 – 2020 school year, we would like to provide you with a calendar for the WSAS – Wisconsin Student Assessment System. All freshmen and sophomores will take the ACT Aspire exam, which assesses students for readiness in English, mathematics, reading, science and writing. These scores predict future scores on the ACT Plus Writing exam. All juniors will take the ACT Plus Writing exam. The ACT Plus Writing exam consists of four multiple-choice tests: English, mathematics, reading, and science, and a 30-minute essay test that measures writing skills. The ACT can be used for college enrollment, scholarships, and NCAA eligibility requirements. Sophomores will also be taking the Forward Exam, which is a social studies assessment. A summary of the state testing requirements is listed below:

Freshmen
ACT Aspire for Grade 9 – Spring Testing Window (April 6 – May 6)

Sophomores
ACT Aspire for Grade 10 – Spring Testing Window (April 6 – May 6)
Wisconsin Forward Exam (Social Studies) – (March 23 – May 1)

Juniors
ACT Plus Writing – (March 3)
Winter Sports Seasons Underway

Our winter sports teams are well into their seasons, and all of our teams greatly appreciate your support. January is a very busy month for all of our winter teams. The girls' and boys' basketball teams play a total of 18 games during the month of January. Our wrestlers have seven competition dates scheduled, while our Hockey Coop has eight. We encourage you to come out and support all of our teams!

Showing “The Blackhawk Way” at Sporting Events

Thank you for your continued dedication to act with character during our sporting events. Remember that cheers should be in support of the Blackhawks, not against the other team, individuals, or officials. Thanks for making the Hawk’s Nest a respectful place to watch an athletic event!

Home Sporting Events in January

Wrestling
Thursday, January 23 (At Colfax)

Girls Basketball
Saturday, January 4 Eau Claire Regis
Tuesday, January 7 Cumberland
Thursday, January 16 Ladysmith
Monday, January 20 Elk Mound
Tuesday, January 21 Hayward
Tuesday, January 30 Barron

Boys Basketball
Thursday, January 9 Spooner
Monday, January 13 Thorp
Saturday, January 18 Colfax
Friday, January 31 Cameron

Hockey (home games held at Altoona)
Thursday, January 9 Somerset
Tuesday, January 21 Chequamegon
Tuesday, January 28 New Richmond

Attendance – Reminders for Parents

It is very important at the high school level that we monitor and keep accurate attendance for our students. When your child is absent, please do the following:

1. The school requires a phone call from a parent or guardian informing the school of your child’s absence.
2. When your child returns back to school, he/she must report to the office to pick up an admit slip. If the school does not receive a phone call or email, the student must provide the office with a note, stating the date absent and a reason for the absence. The written excuse must be presented to the office within three (3) school days of the absence or the absence will be considered unexcused.
3. State law empowers parents/guardians to pre-excuse their children from school for up to ten (10) days per year for any reason, provided the school is notified in writing and in advance of the absence. A pre-excuse form, which can be picked up in the office, is required for such absences.
From the Student Services Office

**Scheduling for 2020-21**
Scheduling for the 2020-21 school year will start in the first few weeks of January. They will be receiving information about the scheduling process and requirements that need to be met for graduation. Students will be completing their course request sheets for classes that they are interested in taking next year and then entering them into Skyward.

**Reminder for Seniors:**
Remember to keep checking the scholarship list that is available in the student services office and on the school website. The local scholarship application will be available in February.

**Junior Planning Conferences:**
For the second year, we will be having Junior Planning Conferences this spring to go over what post-secondary options there are and to discuss what their plans are after high school. There will be a letter sent home in early February with more information about how to set up these conferences with your junior.

**CVTC Academies:**
Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC), is offering summer and fall academies for juniors and seniors next year. Check out their website for more information about what academies are offered. Students can start enrolling on January 1st.

https://www.cvtc.edu/admissions/college-credit-opportunities-in-high-school/hs-academies

**ASVAB**
The ASVAB Program is an aptitude test and career interest inventory that gives student an opportunity to evaluate their skills, estimate their performance in academic and vocations areas and identify potential careers. The ASVAB will be administered at BHS on January 7th at 9:00am. Juniors and seniors interested in participating may sign up in student services, there is no cost to take this exam.
December 2020 - 'Tis the Season for Book Club!

To start of Trimester 2, both English 9 and 10 students are in a book club. The purpose of book club is to get students engaged in a high-interest book right away, help them formulate a written response, and also meet with their book club members for a discussion. Students love book club, and have found that discussing a book with others adds to their understanding of characters, events, and the world around them. To kick off book club, we book talked a handful of choices and had them rank them favorite-to least favorite. They were then put into groups and divided their book into five book club meeting dates.

English 9 choices: (fiction)
- *Everything, Everything* by Nicola Yoon
- *The Running Dream* by Wendelin Van Draanen
- *Period 8* by Chris Crutcher
- *Things We Know By Heart* by Jessi Kirby
- *Gym Candy* by Carl Deuker

English 10 choices: (non-fiction)
- *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom
- *High Achiever* by Tiffany Jenkins
- *Ordinary Hazards* by Nikki Grimes
- *Hole in My Life* by Jack Gantos
- *Tweak* by Nic Sheff

During their meeting times, students shared their written responses and also worked on elaborating their thoughts. Being able to articulate their thoughts on how a character changed over the course of a book, connect issues or themes to real life experiences, and also make predictions are all skills that are important in analyzing literature. Summarization skills are essential, but questioning and analyzing helps us move beyond basic comprehension.
Discussion Questions for Book Clubs:
1. What are some of the big conflicts or tough questions the characters are dealing with?
2. I noticed...
3. I wonder...
4. I’d like to know...
5. This passage or line in the book made me think about...
6. If I were....
7. How does a character change over the course of the novel?
8. This book makes me feel...
9. I am confused about...
10. I was reminded of...

One of our main beliefs is that reading is a life-long journey. By engaging book club and talking about reading, students create their own community of readers. If you are looking for suggestions or multiple copies of books to start your own book club, please contact our high school library, or one the BHS English teachers. Happy reading!!
Tis the Season for cough, sneezes, sore throats and runny noses.

As you may be aware of, we here in Bloomer have seen a large number of cases of Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease HFMD is moderately contagious viral infection. It is spread from person to person by direct contact with nose and throat discharges, saliva, fluid from blisters, or the stool of infected persons. A person is most contagious during the first week of the illness. HFMD is transmitted similar to a cold or flu virus. The best prevention is to do good hand washing and covering nose and mouth with sneezing and coughing. This behavior is taught and encouraged here at school and we hope that your family continues it at home and when out in the community. Adults don’t usually show the symptoms of HFMD, but could still transmit it to others. Always wash hands before eating, avoid rubbing your eyes, picking your nose or otherwise putting anything in your mouth. This is a good habit to help prevent the spread of any viral or bacterial infection.

Symptoms of HFMD are fever, sores in the mouth and a skin rash. HFMD begins with a mild fever, poor appetite, malaise (feeling vaguely unwell), and often a sore throat. One or 2 days after the fever begins, painful sores can develop in the mouth. They begin as small red spots that blister and then often become ulcers. The sores are usually located on the tongue, gums, and inside of the cheeks. The skin rash develops over 1 to 2 days, with flat or raised red spots and sometimes with blisters. The skin rash usually does not itch and is usually on the palms of the hands and soles of the feet. It may also appear on the buttocks or genitalia and has also been seen on the legs, arms and torso. A person with HFMD may exhibit none to all of the symptoms.

As with any illness, please keep your child home during and for 24 hours after he or she has been running a fever, or if they have poor appetite, feeling ill, sore throat, pain or open sores.

Please be mindful of others as this and most infections are the most contagious during the initial onset and while they are running a fever or feeling sick. We have several children in or closely related to people in the district that do not have the immune system to battle even minor infections.

If you feel that you or your child is showing these symptoms please contact your health care provider and follow their advice on how to ease discomfort and how long they need to be out of school.

If you have questions or concerns, the CDC (Center for Disease Control) has good information on it at http://www.cdc.gov/hand-foot-mouth/.
Nurse’s Note
Lice

This notice is to increase head lice awareness so that you may take steps at home to help prevent your child from becoming infested with head lice. Any time children come together, particularly at the start of the school year, holidays or any social grouping like Girl/Cub Scouts, Brownies or Little League, head lice cases commonly increase. Please encourage your child not to share or trade personal items such as hats, combs, brushes, headbands, barrettes, helmets or foam ear piece headphones.

Direct, physical, head-to-head contact is the usual method of transmission. Lice do not jump, fly or swim. They are, however, good crawlers. Check your child’s head weekly for lice and/or nits (eggs). Mature lice, which are no bigger than a sesame seed, they avoid light and are hard to see. Lice eggs or “nits” are usually found close to the scalp – usually within ¼ inch. They appear as tiny whitish ovals that are “glued” to the hair shaft. They cannot easily be flicked away as dandruff can. Head lice do not transmit disease and are not a serious medical condition. They cannot survive on your pets. If you find head lice on your child, please notify the school and keep him or her home until properly treated. Continue to examine all family members for 3 weeks and treat if live lice or nits close to the scalp are found.

Check Regularly – Treat Quickly
Help Keep Head Lice Off Your Child

For more information regarding head lice or its treatment, please feel free to contact the school nurse, your local health department, or www.cdc.gov.

Thank you for your help and support.

Julia Fossum RN
Bloomer School Nurse
715-568-2800 ext. 2004
julia.fossum@bloomer.k12.wi.us
The Chippewa County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) has sent out a warning about Chickenpox.

Rusk County is seeing an outbreak of breakthrough chickenpox cases. Breakthrough varicella (chickenpox) is an infection with wild-type varicella-zoster virus occurring in an individual that has been vaccinated for varicella (chickenpox). Individuals are appearing with rashes that are very mild and pimple like, most having less than 10 “spots.” The rash doesn’t itch or scab over. Some cases have a fever, while others do not. Cases have been fatigued or run down for a couple of days and have headaches.

With this time a year having many community gatherings, it is likely that many individuals have been potentially exposed. Be thinking chickenpox if children are appearing with the above mentioned symptoms. If you suspect chickenpox, notify your local health department. CCDPH can be reached at 715-726-7900.

Julia Fossum, School Nurse

Class of 2020 News

The seniors have voted and here are the results:

Class Flower: White rose
Class Colors: Black and burnt orange
Class Motto: “We didn’t realize we were making memories; we just knew we were having fun.”
Class Song: “I’ll Always Remember You” by Miley Cyrus

Order forms for senior cap and gown outfits are finally all in and will be submitted right after the break. The graduation outfits will deliver to the school in the spring and will be distributed a couple of weeks prior to graduation. Other items, if ordered, will be shipped to seniors’ homes. If you still want to order souvenir items, go to jostens.com or contact ted.annis@jostens.com.

The seniors have voted to go Valleyfair for their senior trip in the spring. The details of the trip are still being worked out, and more information will follow.

The seniors also voted on a design for class shirts and order forms will be distributed in January. If you worked concession shifts during your student’s junior year, a coupon will be attached to your student’s order form listing the amount you have coming that you can use toward the senior trip or the shirt order.

Mark your new calendar: graduation is scheduled for Friday, May 22. Watch your email and future newsletters for additional details related to seniors and graduation!

If you have any graduation or senior-related questions, please contact Mrs. Anderson at julie.anderson@bloomer.k12.wi.us or 715-568-5300.
Be part of the bullying solution

Taking a stand against bullying makes a positive difference for everyone at school. Share these ways your teenager can be part of the solution when she sees or hears about someone being bullied.

Be an ally
It might be hard for your high schooler to know what to do if she witnesses bullying. Suggest that she start by refusing to join in. Laughing or watching quietly provides an audience, which might escalate the situation. Instead, she could say, “Hey, that’s not cool,” and walk away with the person being targeted. Note: She should get adult help right away if anyone is in danger.

Be supportive
Encourage your teen to check in with a classmate who has been bullied, not just when it happens, but later, too. Just knowing you’re not alone makes a big difference to someone who’s dealing with bullying. Your child could lend an ear, offer to take the person to the school counselor’s office, or make plans to hang out.

Be a role model
Bullying isn’t just pushing or taking someone’s things. “Joking” about someone’s appearance, spreading rumors, or deliberately excluding people hurts, too. Tell your teenager that she should use respectful language, refuse to pass along gossip, and invite left-out students to sit with her at lunch or on the bus.

Stay organized
Developing stronger organizational habits will pay off in the new year—and beyond. Help your high schooler keep track of his assignments and important papers with these suggestions.
1. Make a to-do list. Update it daily.
2. Print out calendar pages from the internet, and fill in assignment and test dates in different colors. Keep this sheet at the front of your binder or above your desk at home.
3. Empty your backpack regularly, and clean out your locker periodically. Decide what to save or toss.
4. Spend a few minutes each night gathering items needed for the next day (gym clothes, math book, homework assignments). Put them in your backpack or by the front door.
Family thinking games

Challenge your teen to think hard with these family games you can play anywhere!

Toothpick puzzles

A box of toothpicks is an endless source of games to build math and logic skills. Start by putting 15 toothpicks on a table. Let each player take a turn picking up 1, 2, or 3 (their choice). The player who picks up the last toothpick wins. Can your high schooler figure out what strategy works best? Or see who can form the longest word using 10 toothpicks. Another idea is to give each person 9 toothpicks and compete to make the most triangles. (Hint: Triangles may nest inside other triangles.)

Fortunately... unfortunately

This storytelling twist requires players to think logically and creatively. Have one person start a story: "A man got stranded on a deserted island." Then, players alternate adding a sentence that starts with fortunately or unfortunately. Examples: "Fortunately, he found berries to eat." "Unfortunately, there was no ice cream to go with them."

Dial down smartphone use

Studies show that teens want to reduce their screen time. And cutting back does have benefits, including more time for family and schoolwork and less anxiety from constantly checking social media. Help your child with these suggestions.

Go low-tech. Keep calculators, clocks, and flashlights around the house. That way, your high schooler won't grab her phone for those functions—and then start checking texts, Instagram, email, and so on.

Take up a hobby. Having a novel way to occupy her mind and hands may make your teen less likely to reach for her phone. Maybe she will learn to cross-stitch or get hooked on doing a daily crossword puzzle.

Make it a contest. Start a family challenge to see who uses their phone the least. You could download a screen time tracking app on your phones and compare the stats at the end of one week. Whoever has the least amount of phone time picks the film for movie night!

Q&A

School attendance

Q My daughter has been asking to stay home from school lately. She says she’s sick, but I don’t see any symptoms. What should I do?

A The first step is to find out what’s behind her requests. Take her to the doctor to rule out any illness. If her health checks out, have a talk with her to find out what’s really going on.

For example, if your daughter is struggling in any classes, suggest that she talk to her teachers about ways to catch up. She might take advantage of their office hours or join a study group. Or if she's having a hard time making friends, perhaps she could join a club or team to help her feel more connected to her school.

Finally, let your teen know that you're there to help, but you expect her to be in school every day unless she's actually sick.

Thinking about community college

My son Gerald loves his part-time job at a local business and is interested in a career in marketing. When he said he didn’t want to go away to college and leave his job, I suggested we talk to his school counselor to explore options.

The counselor said community college might be a good fit for Gerald. That way, he could keep his job while he takes classes—and we’ll save a lot of money on tuition. And when he graduates with a two-year associate’s degree, he can transfer to a four-year university if he decides to pursue a bachelor’s degree in marketing.

Gerald stopped by the community college booth at the last college fair, and we’re planning to visit the school soon and start the application process.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 <strong>HAPPY NEW YEAR</strong></td>
<td>2 No School - Vacation</td>
<td>3 BBB @ Cumberland 5:45/7:15 PM</td>
<td>4 Wrestling Varsity @ Osseo 9:30 AM GBB - Home Regis 1:30/3:00 PM</td>
<td>5 GBB – Home Cumberland 5:45/7:15 PM Parent’s Night Dental Clinic ASVAB Testing</td>
<td>6 9 BBB – Home Spooner 5:45/7:15 PM Wrestling @ St. Croix Falls 7:00 PM Hockey @ Altoona 7:00 PM</td>
<td>10 GBB @ Spooner 5:45/7:15 PM Hockey @ Viroqua 7:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 BBB – Home Thorp 5:45/7:15 PM</td>
<td>13 BBB – St. Croix Central 5:45/7:15 PM GBB @ Ladysmith 5:45/7:15 PM Hockey @ Amery 7:00 PM</td>
<td>14 GBB @ St. Croix Central 5:45/7:15 PM GBB @ Ladysmith 5:45/7:15 PM Hockey @ Amery 7:00 PM</td>
<td>15 16 GBB – Home Ladysmith 5:15/7:15 PM Hockey @ Baldwin 7:00 PM Wrestling @ Ladysmith 7:00 PM</td>
<td>17 BBB – Home Colfax 5:45/7:15 PM Wrestling @ Ladysmith 9:30 AM</td>
<td>18 BBB – Home Colfax 5:45/7:15 PM</td>
<td>19 BBB - Home Elk Mound 5:45/7:15 PM</td>
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<td>21 GBB – Home Hayward 5:45/7:15 PM Hockey @ Altoona 7:00 PM Wrestling @ Boyceville 7:00 PM</td>
<td>22 NO SCHOOL PT Conferences 3:30-7:30 PM GBB (C) – Home Fall Creek BBB @ Hayward 5:45/7:15 PM Wrestling @ Colfax 7:00 PM</td>
<td>23 NO SCHOOL PT Conferences 3:30-7:30 PM GBB (C) – Home Fall Creek BBB @ Hayward 5:45/7:15 PM Wrestling @ Colfax 7:00 PM</td>
<td>24 NO SCHOOL PT Conferences 8 AM-12 PM GBB @ C-W 5:45/7:15 PM Hockey @ Chequamegon 7:00 PM</td>
<td>25 Speed Rope Jump Contest BBB @ C-W 5:00-6:30 PM</td>
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### Bloomer High School
### Breakfast and Lunch Menu
### January 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Lunch</th>
<th>Breakfast</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td><strong>To-Go Salads for Lunch</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Salad variety will vary by day and will be listed on the kitchen door each morning. Don't forget to sign up for a salad during breakfast time if you plan to grab one for lunch.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>High School Meal Prices</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lunch: $2.85</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Reduced $0.40</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Breakfast: $1.35</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Reduced $0.30</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reimbursable Meal</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>at least 3 food groups</td>
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<td></td>
<td>including a fruit and/or vegetable</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Breakfast Entrée</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mini Corndogs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scalloped Potatoes &amp; Ham</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Steamed carrots</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Garden bar, apple slices</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pineapple tidbits</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scrambled Pizza Square/Pick2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Breakfast Entrée</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mozzarella Pizza Sticks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sweet &amp; Sour Chix w/rice</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Garden bar, grapes</td>
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<td>Mandarin oranges</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scrambled Pizza Square/Pick2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Egg &amp; Cheese Biscuit/Pick2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mini Donuts/Pick2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pepperoni Pizza</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Teriyaki Chicken w/rice</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Green beans</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Garden bar, diced pears</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mandarin oranges</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tacos</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Quesadilla</td>
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<td>Refried beans</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Garden bar, applesauce</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Orange wedges</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chicken Fajitas</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chicken Tenders</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mexican Rice</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Spanish Rice</td>
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<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sloppy Joe Sandwich</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chicken Cheese Biscuit</td>
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</tbody>
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**USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Menus are subject to change based on availability.**