



# UP FRONT

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Brandon, South Dakota 57005

## Brett Bastian



My name is Brett Bastian and I am candidate for the Brandon Valley School Board and I would appreciate your vote on June 21st.

Why am I running you ask? I am running in order to continue the legacy that the previous school board members have created that allows each child in the Brandon Valley School District the opportunity to get the best education possible.

My family consists of my wife, Terri (a district Special Education Teacher) and my children (Keanan, age 11, Abigail, age 9, and Caleb, age 4). We have been in the Brandon community for the last six years and have been blessed with the education that all three of our children have received through the great core of administration, teachers, educational assistants, and school staff that have helped to shape our children along their educational journey.

When I am not at home playing with my children, doing yard work, or out exercising; I work as a Physician Assistant at Sanford Neurosurgery and Spine. I graduated with a B.S. in Physician Assistant studies from Wichita State University in 1993.

My passion involves family time and activities, fitness and youth ministry, ironman triathlons, writing, and encouraging people to pursue their dreams.

(Comments have been submitted by the candidates.)

## Sue Hegland



Susan Hegland has lived in Brandon for ten years with her husband Luther and their three children: Michael is a 2011 BVHS graduate and will attend SDSU this fall, Shannon will be a BVHS tenth grader, and Jacob will be a BVMS eighth grader. Luther (Mike), a graduate of Brandon Valley, is a physician specializing in addiction medicine.

Sue has had a child in every grade at Brandon Valley, and has been involved in school activities at all levels. She has served as committee chair and volunteers for the PTA, and has volunteered in elementary and middle school classrooms. At the high school, she is on the Parent Advisory Committee and is a parent representative on the School Improvement Team. She is an active member of Brandon Lutheran Church, and has been a Girl Scout leader, Destination Imagination team manager and assistant Robotics Team coach.

Sue has a degree in biology from Santa Clara University, and began her professional career conducting research in gravitational physiology for NASA. She has worked as a research analyst and training manager for Dataquest, a global market research firm, and as an instructional designer for Anderson Soft-Teach. She has taken time off from paid work to be home with her children and to contribute to the community through volunteer work. Her desire to understand why children struggle with reading and spelling, and how to help them, has led her to obtain training and certification to identify children with dyslexia.

Sue feels that we are fortunate to have such an outstanding school district in Brandon Valley. She is passionate about supporting our teachers with the resources they need to help every child learn, and believes she has the commitment and experience, both professionally and as a parent, to contribute to the collaborative work of the Board of Education.

(Comments have been submitted by the candidates.)

## SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

JUNE 21, 2011

7:00 a.m. -- 7:00 p.m.

The Brandon Valley School District has entered into a collaborative agreement with Interlakes Head Start for the 2011-2012 school year. Eligible Head Start preschool children will be integrated into the district's current early childhood special education program located at Brandon Elementary. Parents interested in the program should contact Interlakes Head Start, 334-2808.

## BRANDON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2011-2012 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Tue, Aug 16	New Staff In-service
Wed, Aug 17	In-service/Workshop
Thu, Aug 18	In-service/Workshop
Fri, Aug 19	In-service/Workshop
Mon, Aug 22	First Day of School
Mon, Sept 5	Labor Day - No School
Mon, Oct 3	Conference MS
Tue, Oct 4	Conference Elementary/HS
Mon, Oct 10	Native American Day-No School/ Comp Day
Fri, Oct 21	End of first quarter
Fri, Nov 11	Veteran's Day-No School
Thu & Fri, Nov 24 & 25	Thanksgiving-No School
Fri, Dec 23	End of second quarter
Mon-Tue, Dec 26-Jan 2	Winter Break-No School
Mon, Jan 16	Martin Luther King-No School In-service/Workshop
Mon, Feb 13	Conference-Elementary/HS
Tue, Feb 14	Conference-MS
Fri, Feb 17	Comp Day-No School
Mon, Feb 20	President's Day-No School
Thu, Mar 8	End of Third Quarter
Fri, Mar 9	Snow Day-No school if unused
Fri & Mon, Apr 6 & 9	Spring Break
April 27 & Apr 30	Snow Days-No School if unused
Wed, May 16	Last Day of School
Thu, May 17	In-service/Workshop
Sun, May 20	Graduation

## TRANSPORTATION

### Changes to Bus Pass Policy

One of the responses to coping with the 6.6% state aid reduction for next year was to expand the area requiring bus passes and to raise the price of a pass. This is hoped to increase revenues enough to save the equivalent of one teaching position in the district.

Regular bus passes are now required for students who reside within five miles of their attendance center and are priced at \$75 per semester with a family maximum of \$175. This is \$0.43 per ride. Passes purchased more than two weeks before the first day of school, before *August 8<sup>th</sup>* this year, will have the students scheduled to ride the first day. Passes purchased on *August 8<sup>th</sup>* or later, before the first day of school, will have students scheduled to ride as of *August 29<sup>th</sup>*.

The district also is now requiring an increased bus fee for open enrolled students to compensate for the inefficiencies this busing causes. The fee for open enrolled students is \$150 per semester and the fee does not contribute to the family maximum. Families can avoid the increased fee and purchase a regular bus pass by arranging for their student(s) to be picked up and dropped off at a stop within their attendance center boundary.

For purposes of determining the five-mile distance to school, the transportation department uses the most direct route between the pick up point and the attendance center. If you have a question about bus pass requirements, please call the transportation department at 582-3514 for help.

## Candidates for Teacher of Year 2011



Tye Tietjen was named Teacher of the Year 2011 with Leah Lockner and Rose Mary Christenson as runners up.



## Staff Retiring the End of 2011 School Year

Rose Mary Christenson - BVMS Science/Spelling  
17 Years of Service

Richard Jacobson - Transportation  
19 Years of Service

Carol Nangle - ESL  
8 Years of Service



## UPFRONT

The Brandon Valley UPFRONT depicts and discusses programs that are in progress in the Brandon Valley Schools and are of interest to all members of the community. Additional copies are available upon request. Community suggestions and contributions to its contents are invited.