

Superintendent's Office

8542 Byron Center Ave. SW
Byron Center, MI 49315
616.878.6100

Superintendent: Kevin Macina, Ph.D.
Asst. Superintendent: Jeff Wierzbicki
Chief Financial Officer: Tamara Powers

Board of Education

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Vice President: Jason Pierson
Treasurer: Brenda Hondorp
Secretary: Chuck Fedewa
Trustees: Nathan Jeruzal,
Amber Swift and Thalia Tilma

2024

Board of Education Meetings

April 8

(regular meeting, 6:30pm)

April 22

(special meeting, 5:15pm)

May 6

(regular meeting, 6:30pm)

May 20

(special meeting, 5:15pm)

June 10

(special meeting, 5:15pm)

June 24

(regular meeting, 6:15pm)

Check www.bcpsk12.net board page
for meeting specifics and locations.

Work Sessions will be scheduled
as needed.

Upon request at least ten (10) days
prior to a meeting, the District shall
make reasonable accommodations
for a person with disabilities to
be able to attend and participate.
Contact the Facilities Director at
616.878.6100.

There is a time for public
participation during a meeting as
indicated in the agenda.

Official minutes are available and
stored at the administration office.



Strong Readers Build Future Leaders

As another school year quickly winds down, I want to celebrate the academic, athletic and fine arts accomplishments here in Byron Center.

March was reading month and it's always fun to see students get excited about reading and challenge themselves to take it to the next level. The fun included author visits, reading goals, guest readers, celebrations, dress up days and more. Each student set their own personal reading goal to accomplish during the month and I am happy to report that many reached and/or exceeded their goals.

I want to congratulate the Byron Center Hockey team on their state championship! This was BC Hockey's third appearance in the state finals in just four years. Overall, this winter season of athletics was one of the best in recent memory with five teams ending as conference champions, two teams winning districts and 19 individual students plus the hockey team qualifying for state competition. Congratulations to our student-athletes, coaches and fans on a very successful Bulldog season!

Our fine arts community continues to grow and see much success. Byron Center High School Theatre hit a milestone with their performance of 'Beauty and the Beast,' with an all-time high number of tickets sold for the show. BC's Jazz Orchestra has been invited back to Essentially Ellington for the seventh time in school history! I have also had the privilege of attending multiple art showcases in the greater Grand Rapids area featuring our students' artwork. I am proud and in awe of our creative students.

As BCPS continues to grow, we have been working on redrawing K-4 boundary lines to accommodate for our fourth elementary school, Heritage Elementary. This process has been collaborative and thorough and I appreciate the partnership and feedback we have heard from the community. I am looking forward to finalizing the boundary lines and setting our students and staff up for success for the 2024-25 school year.

Sincerely,



Kevin Macina, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools



ACADEMICS

National Merit Scholarship

Congratulations to Byron Center High School senior Andrew Hill on being named a National Merit Scholarship finalist. Students enter the National Merit Scholarship program when they take the PSAT/NMSQT in the fall of their junior year. Semifinalists are the highest-scoring program entrants in each state and represent less than one percent of the nation's seniors.

Finalists have to have an outstanding academic record, be endorsed by a high school official and complete a detailed scholarship application, providing information about extracurricular activities and leadership positions. There are around 7,000 finalists across the globe each year. Congratulations Andrew!



In the classroom

Brown Elementary students put their imaginations to the test by creating their own games in STEM class. Students had to brainstorm an idea for a game, write out the rules, design the game and of course test it out.

STEM Teacher Sherri Newenhouse said it's fun to see how creative her students get, what ideas they come up with and how they put it all together.



Spelling Bee

Congratulations to Nickels Intermediate School 2024 Spelling Bee Champion Silas Buter! Buyaugng Zawngbuk was the runner-up in the annual competition.



READING Month



GRAB A BOOK



IT'S TIME TO READ!





Jazz Orchestra to Essentially Ellington

The Byron Center High School Jazz Orchestra has been selected for the Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition and Festival in New York City. Essentially Ellington is a program for high school jazz bands that aims to elevate musicianship, broaden perspectives and inspire performance. This is the seventh time in school history the Jazz Orchestra has been invited to the event!

BYRON CENTER COMMUNITY BAND

Rediscover the Joy of Music and Forge New Connections in Byron Center!

Join us May 20th for a Beat and Greet!
6:30-8:00pm
BCHS Band Room
RSVP here: vsfac.com/bccb

BCHS Band Director, Marc Townley, is excited to host our first ever rehearsal featuring laid back, fun and approachable tunes.

SCAN ME

Looking for more information?
Email: joinbccb@gmail.com

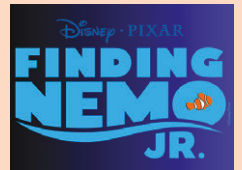
Beauty and the Beast Musical

Byron Center High School Theatre hit a milestone with their performance of 'Beauty and the Beast, The Broadway Musical,' by selling out three of their four shows! The box office sold 2,745 tickets for the show, an all-time high number of tickets sold for BCHS Theatre. The production included 54 student cast members and 40 crew members.



Upcoming Van Singel Fine Arts Center Productions

- Finding Nemo Jr. presented by Van Singel Youth Theatre, June 2024
- Mary Poppins presented by Van Singel Fine Arts Center Community Theatre, August 2024



Scholastic Art Awards



Byron Center Public Schools students were awarded 73 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards! The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards is the nation's longest-running program that recognizes creative teens in 28 different art and writing categories.

West Middle School students earned 53 awards; including 12 gold keys, 16 silver keys and 25 honorable mentions. Byron Center High School students won 20 awards; including four gold keys, six silver keys and 10 honorable mentions.



"Throughout the whole process, when I would come to art, I would be so excited to see the new colors on the painting and add more. I love that we were able to be a part of this amazing project!"
 -Brown Elementary fourth-grader Kendyl Willard

Administration Office Art Project

The Byron Center Public Schools Administration Office looks a little brighter thanks to the talented student artists of BC! After renovating the building, district leaders were looking to decorate and turned to the fine arts department for help.

Students from each building were tasked with painting a canvas of their school. Superintendent Kevin Macina said he was looking for a way to showcase BC student talent.

"I know we have some really talented students here in Byron Center and their artwork is a great addition to the administration building," Macina said.

Thank you to our talented K-12 students for the great pieces of art!

"I loved working on a big project that everyone is going to see. I really enjoy how the colors are so vibrant and it makes it look like it's popping off the painting." - Nickels Intermediate sixth-grader Emily Kochmann



ATHLETICS

Hockey

2024 MHSAA Division 2 State Champions

Regional Champions

OK White Conference Champions

2024 Mr. Hockey

Jackson Froysland

**Mr. Hockey Finalists
2024 Dream Team**

Jackson Froysland,
Cade Pratt, Brady Swanson

50 Career Goals

Jackson Froysland,
Cade Pratt

100 Career Assists

Cade Pratt

OK White

All-Conference Players

Jackson Froysland, Luke Laska, Braxton McKee, Luke Philo, Cade Pratt, Collin Storey, Brady Swanson, Colton Swanson
Honorable Mention:
Ben Passeno

Swim

**State Runner-Up in
100 Yard Breaststroke**

Ryder Nichols

**7th in State Finals
500 Yard Freestyle**

Brady Beach

8th in Division 2 State Finals

**OK White
Conference Champions**

Qualified for State Finals

Brady Beach, Victor Buck, Caleb Meginley, Cole Mitchell, Carter Nelson, Ryder Nichols, Aaron Petroelje, Grant Pierce, Lucas Ritsema, Jackson Schmuker, Colton Standorf, Graeden Standorf

**OK White
All-Conference Players**

Brady Beach, Ryder Nichols, Aaron Petroelje, Lucas Ritsema, Colton Standorf, Graeden Standorf

Dive

4th in State Finals

Jack Olivier

**OK White
Conference Champions**

Qualified for State Finals

Kellen Cutler, Ike DeVries,
Jack Olivier

**OK White
All-Conference Player**

Jack Olivier

Wrestling

4th in State Finals

Blake Ottow

**8th in State Finals
100 Career Wins**

Brad Winkel

District Champions

**OK White
Conference Champion**

**OK White
All-Conference Player**

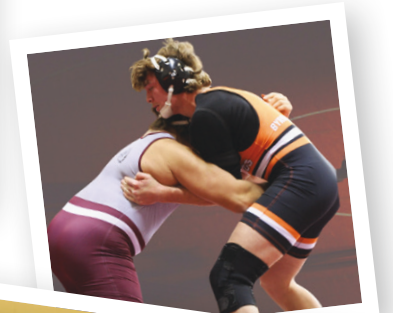
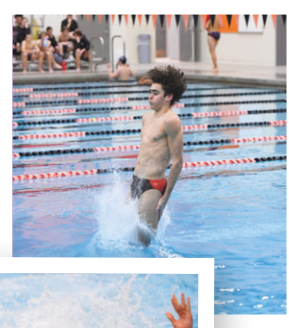
Blake Ottow

**500 Wins and Named
Regional Coach of the Year**

Coach Tom Barker

Qualified for State Finals

Austin Coleman, Blake Ottow, Hunter Pulawski, Brad Winkel



Girls Basketball

Regional Runner-Up

District Champions

OK White Conference Champions

**Miss Basketball Finalist
1,500 Career Points**
Lily Zeinstra

OK White All-Conference Players
Avery DePagter, Mattie Sandholm, Lily Zeinstra,
Honorable Mention:
Madisyn Meissner

Boys Basketball

District Runner-Up

OK White All-Conference Players
Ben Heagle, Camden Karel,
Honorable Mention: Isaac Lee, Trey Sluiter

Bowling

Girls OK White Conference Champions

OK White All-Conference Players
Layla Batrville, Adrey Bilot,
Sharley Bilot, Honorable
Mention: Matt Boersma,
Ashley Cramer

Competitive Cheer

OK White Conference Champions

Lake Michigan Competitive Cheer Officials Association Scholarship
Emma Carlson

District 1-1 Coach of the Year
Coach Sammy Wetherington

OK White All-Conference Players
Emma Carlson,
Diana Esparza,
Alexus Kleczynski,
Sophia McCotter,
Addison Yerkes
Honorable Mentions:
Maggie Banks, Ellie Lanning





BYRON CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
8542 Byron Center Avenue SW
Byron Center, Michigan 49315
www.bcpsk12.net

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2024 SCHOOL YEAR IMPORTANT DATES

- MAY 17: BCHS SENIORS LAST DAY
- MAY 27: MEMORIAL DAY, NO SCHOOL
- MAY 30: BCHS GRADUATION, 7PM
- JUNE 6-7: K-12 EXAMS, HALF DAYS
- JUNE 7: LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

