

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

2022 Board of Education

President: Marty Phelan
Vice President: Crystel Imperi
Treasurer: Brenda Hondorp
Secretary: Bruce Dennett
Trustee: Yvonne Boucher
Trustee: Chuck Fedewa
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2022

Board of Education Meetings

These regular meetings begin at 6:30 pm unless noted otherwise.

June 27 (6:15 pm)

July 18 (5:15 pm)

August 15

September 12

October 10

November 7

December 5

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.

Stay informed! Check out Byron Center Public Schools on Facebook, Twitter, and the BCPS app for information on school closings, upcoming events, and more!

Celebrating the Class of 2022!



BCPS dedicates this special edition of the BCConnection to the Class of 2022. These pages showcase the many accomplishments of this year's seniors. We have numerous accomplished students in academics who also achieve in the arts, athletics, and beyond. Some of our students have completed certifications that will take them directly from high school into the workforce.

I recently had the privilege of speaking to some seniors, and the one common theme I heard was that Bulldog Nation is alive and well. Byron Center students take pride in their education and also in their community.

We had a wonderful night for graduation. There were so many proud parents, friends, and family attended the ceremony in the stadium. I want to thank the high school staff and many other staff members who worked behind the scenes to pull it all together to make a memorable commencement. It was a true representation of BC Pride! I express my appreciation to all BCPS staff who have supported our students along the way.

To our seniors: You have faced challenges, overcome adversity, and learned many lessons that will strengthen you in the future. Maya Angelou once said, "You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it." You have demonstrated perseverance and flexibility in this world that is constantly challenging and changing.

My challenge to you, seniors, is to go out and apply. Apply your knowledge, and remember what you have learned about communicating with authenticity and grace. Apply the gratitude you have learned from your families and friends. Apply loving words and deeds to the people around you. Apply sacrifice to make the world a better place. Take all of those lessons you learned in the classroom, the athletic field, the concert stage, in your homes, at your jobs, and everywhere you have been, and reap the benefits of your experiences.

Graduation is not an end; it is the beginning. Go out now, with your knowledge and experience, and always remember that Byron Center is a place where you belong. I wish you all the best and much success.



Kevin Macina, PhD
Superintendent
of Schools



TOP SENIOR PROFILES

Byron Center High School proudly recognizes the Class of 2022 Top Seniors!

These students have achieved the highest academic standings amongst their peers. They have succeeded with college-level courses through Advanced Placement classes at the high school or Dual Enrollment classes through a local college.

Congratulations to the 2022 Top Two Grads!

Valedictorian



Aiden Armstrong

was one of the 2022 BCHS Co-Valedictorians. He is the son of Bill and Pam Armstrong. Aiden was a member of the National Honor Society, Science Olympiad, and BC Connects. He plays the piano and was the principal cellist of the BCHS Chamber Orchestra and the Grand Rapids Youth Symphony. Aiden is an AP

Scholar with Distinction. He received the Van Singel Fine Arts Foundation Scholarship and the University of Michigan Regents Merit Scholarship. Aiden played two years of JV tennis. He will be attending the University of Michigan to pursue a biomolecular science major and a music minor.

Valedictorian



Charles Vu

was one of the 2022 BCHS Co-Valedictorians. He is the son of David Vu and Sebreena Lam. Charles participated in the Science Olympiad team, Chess Club, and the BCHS Chamber Orchestra. He also volunteered as a peer tutor. Charles did two years of track and field and one

year of cross country. He is an AP Scholar with Distinction and will be attending the University of Michigan to pursue a computer science major through their College of Engineering.



Justin Skipper

is the son of Robert and Tracy Skipper. Justin was a class officer, a member of the Spanish Club,

volunteered as a peer tutor, and was involved in his youth group all four years of high school. He was part of the marching band his freshman year and was on the track team for two years. Justin plans to attend Michigan State University in the fall to study nursing in hopes of becoming a nurse anesthetist.



Sophie Millhouse

is the daughter of Ryan and Jennifer Millhouse. Sophie was a member of the Science Olympiad

team and VEX Robotics. She was awarded the VEX Judge's Award at the state finals. She also spent two years on the BCHS Equestrian team. Sophie is an AP Scholar with Distinction and received the Haworth Scholarship. She will be attending the University of Michigan to pursue a computer engineering major.



Nathan Yeomans

is the son of Greg and Marla Yeomans. In addition to rounding out his high school career as one of

the top five graduates, Nathan was involved in several track & field events. He was awarded the GVSU Award for Excellence Scholarship and the Oakland University Distinguished Scholar Award. Nathan plans to attend Grand Valley State University to pursue a degree in biology.



Tess Bainbridge is the daughter of Bryan and Laura Bainbridge. Tess has been a member of the National Honor

Society, serving as a blood drive officer. She was the runner-up student of the year candidate for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Student of the Year Campaign Fundraiser. Tess was a Pride Pack member for three years, a Wyldlife leader/mentor, a youth soccer coach, and a Bite Cancer Foundation volunteer. She played girls varsity soccer for four years, in which she was named a 2021 All-District Team Member. She also participated in travel soccer for ten years and was a team captain. Tess was named a National Merit Finalist and an AP Scholar with Distinction. She will attend Hope College in the fall to pursue a biochemistry/pre-med major and continue to play soccer.



Alena Walker is the daughter of Dan and Huyen Walker. She was a member of the National Honor Society

and the BCHS Debate Club. Alena was also a member of March for Our Lives, where she served as the leader of the Feminism Intersectional Group and a member of the Outreach Art Creative Team. Alena is also involved with Generation Ratify where she is the Communications/Social Media State Board Director. She was in the BCHS Chamber Orchestra for one year and was on the track team for three years. Alena was awarded the Top Dog Award during 10th grade. She will be attending Michigan State University to pursue a degree in humanities pre-law.



Cassandra Wychers is the daughter of Michael and Tami Wychers. She was a member of the National Honor Society,

BC Connects, and the BCHS Chamber Orchestra. She is a Children's Ministry Intern at Rush Creek Bible Church. Cassie played tennis and volleyball all four years of high school. She was a regional tennis champion and named All-State Honorable Mention. She was named Individual Academic All-State for volleyball. The Byron Center Chamber of Commerce awarded Cassie the 2022 Rod Korhorn Memorial Scholarship. She also received the Outstanding Junior Award Scholarship from the West Michigan Spartans. Cassie will be attending Western Michigan University to pursue a degree in biomedical science and chemistry.



Joshua Cole is the son of Edward and Kristina Cole. He is part of the Cornerstone Church Youth Group. He was on the cross country team for four years, the basketball team for two years, and the track team for two years. Josh has received College Board Rural and Small Town Recognition. He is an AP

Scholar with Distinction. He was awarded the Indiana University Dean's Scholarship and the Purdue University Academic Scholarship. Josh will be attending the University of Michigan to pursue a statistics major.



Connor Middleton is the son of Adam and Jennie Middleton. Connor was a member of the BCHS jazz band for two years, and he played varsity hockey for three years. He also volunteered at his church. Connor received the Haworth Scholarship and the University of Michigan Hail Scholarship. He was also awarded the

Atlas Molded Products Scholarship. Connor will be attending the University of Michigan in the fall to pursue a degree in nuclear engineering.

2022 SENIOR CLASS MOTTO

"You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." –Winnie the Pooh

SENIOR Scholarships & Awards

Micah Alexander

National Honor Society

Chloe Alofs

Academic Scholarships from Detroit Mercy, DePaul, Loyola, MSU, GVSU, CMU, WMU, EMU

Aiden Armstrong

BCHS Science Award, BCBS Best English Essay Award, Science Olympiad Award, National Honor Society, Van Singel Fine Arts Foundation Scholarship, University of Michigan Regents Scholarship, ChoiceOne Credit Union Scholarship

Carlie Arnold

National Honor Society, Van Singel Fine Arts Foundation Scholarship

Marie Baar

National Honor Society

Tess Bainbridge

National Merit Finalist, National Honor Society, National Merit Scholarship, Hope National Merit Supplement, Hope RCA Award, Hope Legacy Award, University of Kentucky Academic Scholarship, University of Iowa National Scholars Award, University of Kentucky Bluegrass Spirit Scholarship

Caden Balkon

National Honor Society

Mikah Bazuin

Calvin President's Scholarship, Calvin Legacy Scholarship, Spring Arbor Scholarship, Ball State University Scholarship, WMU Scholarship

Arthur Beisel

Code Red Robotics Team Award

Sophia Bentley

Davenport University Excellence Scholarship, Aquinas College Ignatian Award, Ferris State University Founder's Scholarship, WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship

Joseph Blair

Eastern Michigan University Emerald Scholarship

Whitney Boerman

Grand Valley Faculty Scholarship, Frederick Meijer Honors College

Chase Boyer

WMU Brown & Gold Scholarship

Lindsey Cook

National Honor Society

Abigail Corey

BCBS Best English Essay Award

Ethan Czaja

MSU Michigan Resident Scholarship, Outstanding soloist for combo and big band at WMU Honorable Mention

Leila DeHaan

2022 Class Officer, National Honor Society, Aquinas Merit Scholarship, Aquinas Swimming Scholarship, St. Albertus Magnus Scholarship, Joseph T. and Dorothy Permoda Education Scholarship

McKinney DeJong

Michigan Blood Leader for Life Scholarship

Mackenzie Doyle

Haworth Scholarship, Blue and Gold Scholarship, Montana State Academic Scholarship

Andrew Dykstra

Davenport University Athletic Scholarship, Davenport University Academic Scholarship, Olympic Developmental Program Scholarship

Kaimarie Evans

Perfect scores at state and regional Solo and Ensemble

Faith Foster

Aquinas College Full Tuition Scholarship

Jason Fredricks

National Honor Society

Hannah Frey

National Honor Society

Arianna Gamaggio

WMU Bronco Honors Scholarship, GVSU Academic Scholarship

Elizabeth Gillespie

WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship, Van Singel Fine Arts Foundation Scholarship, MSU Resident Scholarship

Jackson Gray

Honorable Mention In the Scholastic's Art and Writing Competition

Michael Grover

BCBS Science Award, National Honor Society

Madison Hartford

Davenport University Academic Scholarship

Ella Helmus

GRCC Board of Trustees Distinguished Scholar Award

Grace Helmus

Grand Canyon University Dean Scholarship

McKenna Hinkle

BCBS Physical Education Award

Ashtyn Hinz

Beating the Odds Scholarship, ChoiceOne Credit Union Scholarship

Owen Holverstott

Ferris State University Provost's Scholarship

Rosie Hudson

Ave Maria Academic Scholarship, Grand Ave Maria Band Scholarship, Ave Maria Michigan Scholarship, Ave Maria Fly-In Grant, Saint Mary's College Academic Scholarship, Notre Dame Academic Scholarship, Grace College Academic Scholarship

Taylor Humphrey

National Honor Society, Big Ten Full-Ride Athletic Scholarship to Rutgers for volleyball, Academic All-State Volleyball, State of Michigan Miss Volleyball Finalist

Niklas Jernberg

Michigan Tech University Academic Scholarship, Mississippi State Academic Scholarship, University of Alabama Academic Scholarship, Montana State Academic Scholarship, MSU Scholarship

Elyse Johnson

BCBS Social Studies Award, National Honor Society, Lake Michigan Credit Union Hutt Scholarship, Hope Presidential Scholarship, Michigan Resident Scholarship

Aiden Johnson

National Honor Society

Lani Khuu

National Honor Society, WMU Bronco Honors Scholarship, MSU Resident Scholarship, Loyola University Chicago Academic Scholarship, DePaul University Academic Scholarship, American University Academic Scholarship, Lake Michigan Competitive Cheer Officials Association Scholarship

Nolan Kirkwood

Outstanding combo soloist at Jazz Festival at WMU, Outstanding soloist at CMU Jazz Weekend Festival, GVSU Scholarship, WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship

Ahleah Knott

Davenport University Academic Scholarship, Bradley University Academic Scholarship, GVSU Academic Scholarship, Valparaiso University Honors Scholarship

Jenna Kroff

National Honor Society, WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship, MSU Resident Scholarship, Indiana University Bloomington Dean's Scholarship, GVSU Award for Excellence Scholarship

Maddie Lange

Ferris State University President's Scholarship, Bulldog Bonus Scholarship, Bulldog Housing Bonus Scholarship

Sophia Lanning

Science Olympiad Anatomy and Physiology 2nd Place, BCHS Mathematics Award, Science Olympiad Award, All-State Band, MSU Resident Scholarship, Wayne State University Warrior Award, WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship

Cierra Laska

National Honor Society, Byron Center Chamber of Commerce Scholarship

Megan Malek

National Honor Society

Jack Marzolino

Hope College Scholarship, Calvin University Provost's Scholarship, Trine University Distinguished Scholarship, Elmhurst University Scholarship

Logan McKenzie

BCHS Physical Education Award

Isaac McKinney

Code Red Robotics Team Award, National Honor Society

Kendall Mead

National Honor Society

Grace Medalen

National Honor Society, Brink Wood Products Scholarship

Connor Middleton

Atlas Molded Products Scholarship

Sophie Millhouse

VEX Judges Award - State Finalist, BCHS Science Award, Science Olympiad Award, Haworth Scholarship, WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship, Buist Electric Scholarship, GRBS Perseverance Scholarship

Oliver Modderman

Aquinas Athletic Scholarship, Aquinas Merit Scholarship

McKenna Morris

WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship

Jacob Mulder

Business Professionals of America - 5th in State, Davenport Excellence Scholarship

Sabrina Muthyala

National Honor Society

Florence Mutimukeye

BCHS ESL Award

Jaden Nguyen

GVSU Merit Scholarship

Taylor Nitz

United Bank Scholarship

Emma Parker

National Honor Society

Spencer Payton

BCHS Special Education Award

Cassandra Pechler

Arthur A. Schulte, Jr. Scholarship

Luke Petroelje

Taylor University Merit Scholarship, CCU Merit Scholarship, Bethel Merit Scholarship, GCU Merit Scholarship, Byron Center Education Association Scholarship, United Bank Scholarship

Jenny Phung

MSU Resident Scholarship

Noah Platt

BCHS German Award

Blithe Pluger

National Scholastic Gold Medal for Drawing, John Frederick Oberlin Scholarship, U of M HAIL Scholarship, Oberlin Commitment Scholarship, DCAD Merit Scholarship

Ann Rose

Ole Miss Academic Merit 9, Ole Miss Academic Merit 9 Non-Resident Scholarship, Louisiana State University Academic Scholars, Florida Gulf Coast University Academic Merit, GVSU Academic Merit

Elijah Schilthuis

National Honor Society, West Michigan Tennis Association's D. Scott Frew Scholarship, Trustee Scholarship, Pre-Health Track Scholarship

Justin Skipper

BCHS Social Studies Award

Alex Stacey

National Honor Society, University of Alabama Presidential Scholarship

Alec Steen

BCHS Special Education Award

Clayton Switzer

Cristi Curtis Memorial Academic Scholarship

Kyra Syswerda

National Honor Society, Michigan Blood Leader for Life Scholarship

Orion Vandenberg

National Honor Society, WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship, Van Singel Fine Arts Foundation Scholarship

Elle Vanderploeg

National Honor Society

Abi Vanderwall

Hope Heritage Award, Hope Alumni Honors Award, Michigan Tuition Honors, Chick-fil-A Remarkable Futures Award, CMU Maroon and Gold Award, Wittenberg Award, Indiana Tech Achievements Award, Michigan Partnership Grant, Xavier Merit Award, Illinois Tech, Michigan Tech Create The Future Award, GVSU Merit, Kzoo Achievement Award

Dakota Veltman

BCHS Applied Arts Award

Joel Vogeli

BCHS Applied Arts Award, GVSU Award For Excellence Scholarship

Charles Vu

AP Scholar with Distinction, BCHS Science Award, BCHS Mathematics Award, Science Olympiad Award, Atlas Molded Products Scholarship

Samantha Walker

National Honor Society, Bite Cancer Foundation Scholarship, Byron Center Chamber of Commerce Scholarship

Alena Walker

National Honor Society

Ashley Walter

BCHS Mathematics Award, National Honor Society, Bite Cancer Foundation Scholarship

Ainsley Wells

Grand Canyon University Provost Scholarship, Priority Registration Award, President's Scholar Award, Out-of-State Crimson Legends Scholarship, Academic Success Non-Resident, Journey Award

Nathan Wieber

National Merit Letter of Commendation, BCHS Principal's Award, Byron Center Chamber of Commerce Scholarship

Colton Wolfe

All-State Band

Aron Wood

Davenport University Merit Scholarship, Davenport University Excellence Scholarship, BPA Excellence Scholarship, 1st Place Cyber Security Michigan BPA, 6th Place Cyber Security BPA Nationals, Comptia A+, Comptia Security+, Certiport IT Specialist Network Security, Cyber Patriots Gold Division

Cassandra Wychers

BCHS Overall Excellence in English Award, National Honor Society, BCHS Principal's Award, West Michigan Spartans Outstanding Junior Awards, 2022 Rod Korhorn Memorial Scholarship, WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship, Byron Center Chamber of Commerce Scholarship

Nathan Yeomans

GVSU Award for Excellence Scholarship, Oakland University Distinguished Scholar Award

Avery Zeinstra

National Honor Society, GVSU Award for Academic Excellence for Michigan Residents, GVSU Women's Basketball Scholarship

Brody Zondervan

BCHS Overall Excellence in English Award, National Honor Society, Byron Center Chamber of Commerce Scholarship

THANK YOU!

We wish to honor the following 2022 graduates who have enlisted into the Armed Services. Thank you very much for your willingness to serve!



Samantha Harris

Army National Guard

Noah Huffman

Air Force



Bajnia So

Marines



Elizabeth Vincent

Army National Guard



National Merit Scholarship

Congratulations to Tess Bainbridge on becoming a National Merit Scholarship finalist. Earning this prestigious distinction involves a rigorous application process.



Tess Bainbridge

Students enter the National Merit Scholarship program when they take the PSAT/NMSQT® in the fall of their junior year. In September 2021, Tess was one of more than 16,000 Semifinalists designated on a state-representational basis in numbers proportional to each state's percentage of the national total of graduating high school seniors. Semifinalists were the highest-scoring program entrants in each state and represented less than one percent of the nation's seniors.

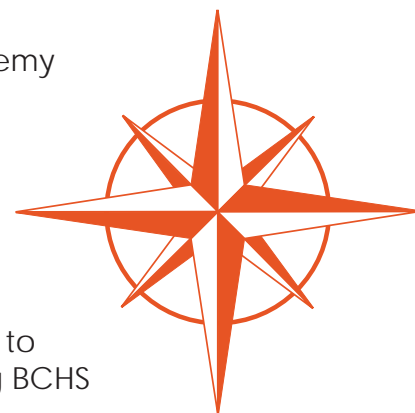
To be considered for a National Merit Scholarship, Semifinalists had to fulfill requirements to advance to Finalist standing. Each Semifinalist completed a detailed scholarship application, providing information about extracurricular activities and leadership positions. Semifinalists had to have an outstanding academic record, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, and earn SAT® and ACT® scores. From the Semifinalist group, over 15,000 met Finalist requirements.

By the conclusion of the 2022 competition, about 7,500 Finalists received National Merit Scholarships totaling nearly \$28 million. Winners are the Finalist candidates judged to have the strongest combination of academic skills and achievements, extracurricular accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

North Star Academy

Congratulations to the 30 seniors who graduated from our North Star Academy this year! This was our 14th graduating class. The North Star Academy staff, along with Byron Center Public Schools, is dedicated to model leadership through passion, relevance, relationships, and high standards while seeking an alternative teaching approach. They are committed to providing appropriate support while building students of character who can excel in critical thinking, social awareness, problem-solving, and employability skills.

The personalized, blended-education program at Byron Center is designed to prepare students for their individual plan after high school while completing BCPS graduation requirements and receiving a BCPS diploma.



KCTC

Kent Career Tech Center offers education focusing on career exploration, career preparation, and continuing education leading to successful employment. Students who participate in a one or two year program receive high school credits, and in some cases, students may earn college credit.

These 46 BCHS seniors have earned industry-recognized certifications in the KCTC program. Some of these students will go on to receive additional training, while others are ready to enter the workforce. Congratulations, seniors!

Carson Adams - Auto Technology, Diesel
Alexander Alvarez - Systems Admin
Dominic Amato - Auto Technology, Diesel
Hunter Bailey - Cooking & Culinary, Health Therapeutics
Jeremy Beaber - Drafting, EMC Mechanical Design
Jenna Becker - Health Therapeutics, Health Diagnostics
Olivia Beld - Auto Technology, Diesel
Adrianna Bergman-Swanson - Health Therapeutics
Kayne Clark - Aviation Maintenance
Lukas Dehaven - Auto Technology, Diesel
Collin Dorman - Auto Technology, Diesel
Michael Duquet - Systems Admin
Jared Ensing - Welding
Sydney Ensing - Cooking & Culinary
Evan Fisher - Auto Technology, Diesel
Jakeb Godt - Auto Technology, Diesel
Haarika Hebbur - Health Biomedical Tech Svcs
Grace Helmus - Health Therapeutics, Health Diagnostics
Noah Huffman - Aviation Electronics
Jayda Johnson - Cooking & Culinary
Ahleah Knott - Health Therapeutics, Health Diagnostics
Elijah Kokaly - Auto Technology, Diesel
Dominic Kreiser - Auto Technology, Diesel
Cole Lake - Systems Admin
Logan Levalley - Auto Technology, Diesel
Ryan Meeker - Auto Technology, Diesel
Mahrle Miller - Welding
Aaron Moore - Health Therapeutics, EMT
Amara Moore - Health Therapeutics
Jacob Mulder - Systems Admin
Jaden Nguyen - Applied Construction, Mechatronics, Precision Machining
Emma Pavlak - Cooking & Culinary
Stephen Perez - Auto Technology, Diesel
Caleb Reinsch - Auto Technology, Diesel
Mallory Sanderson - Drafting, EMC Mechanical Design
Austin Shepard - Auto Technology, Diesel
Gibson Siereveld - Auto Technology, Diesel
Emma Smith - Health Therapeutics, Health Therapeutic Services, Health Diagnostics
Ethan Smith - Systems Admin

Carson Stutes - Auto Technology, Diesel
Mallory Terpstra - Health Therapeutics, Medical Assistant
Aliah Trevino - Health Therapeutics
Mason Verburg - Cooking & Culinary, Health Therapeutics
Elizabeth Vincent - Criminal Justice
Aron Wood - Systems Admin
Ava Zylstra - Cooking & Culinary, Health Therapeutics

Senior Class Motto

"You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

Winnie the Pooh

Class Officers:

Leila DeHaan
Hannah Frey
Cierra Laska
McKenna Morris
Justin Skipper

Class Advisors:

Kaycee Ledebouer
Dani Stricklin

Senior Class Flower

Carnation



Senior Class Song

"Glorious" by Macklemore

*I feel glorious, glorious
Got a chance to start again
I was born for this, born for this
It's who I am, how could I forget?
I made it through the darkest part of the night
And now I'll see the sunrise
Now I feel glorious, glorious
I feel glorious, glorious (excerpt)*

CELEBRATING Fine Arts

Celebrating our artists and musicians who bring excellence, beauty, and inspiration to the world around them.



Senior guys in the fall play, *Clue* (Orion Vandenberg, Brody Zondervan, Stephen Gillich)

“Congratulations, Class of 2022! What a pleasure it has been to be your assistant principal. Whether you shined in the classroom, on stage, on the athletic field, or created a masterpiece, you are ALL amazing young adults. Continue to be unique, work toward your passion and never give up. As you now face the fork in the road as high school comes to a close, I wish each and every one of you the best of luck as you select a new path to continue your success story.”

Lesley Emmons
Asst. Principal, BCHS



Senior girls in the spring musical, *Matilda* (Mia Perleberg, Allison Richards, Lindsey Cook, and Taylor Nitz)



Domestic by Blithe Pluger,

“Congratulations, class of 2022! It has been a pleasure making music with you for the past three years and watching you grow as musicians and individuals. I’m excited to see what your futures will hold, and I know that you’ll all do great things!”

Maddy Peters
Orchestra Teacher, BCHS

“Everything you can imagine is real.”

Pablo Picasso



BC Orchestra Seniors



Senior choir members at the spring concert

“Dear Class of 2022, if I could choose a word to represent your class, it would be “family.” In our most challenging year yet, I watched you love and support each other like no other class I’ve seen. You laughed together, cried together, encouraged each other, chastised each other, hugged each other, helped each other, set and achieved goals together, failed and learned together, and were not afraid to share your true selves with each other. Your courage to do life together and be authentic inspires me. Continue to love and serve others and continue to use your unique gifts and talents to improve the lives of those around you, and you will make this world a better place!”

Jennifer Metcalf

Choir Director, BCHS

MOSAIC FILM FESTIVAL - TOP TEN FINISH

Brody Zondervan
 Ryan Jonkman
 Paul Kimball
 Kira Wilson
 Kaimarie Evans

NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC ART WINNERS

Kendall Dubuis - National Silver Medal
 Bliethe Pluger - National Gold Medal

MICHIGAN ART EDUCATION ASSOCIATION STATE RECOGNITION

Hannah Reda
 Sophia Holverstott
 Kalynn Deppe
 Olivia Pitsch
 Joshua Hager
 Fiona Walsh
 Aiden Nawrocki

MUSICAL THEATER INTENSIVE

Orion Vandenberg
 Alyssa Sherman
 Bliethe Pluger
 Bria Umlor

STATE HONORS CHOIR

Orion Vandenberg
 Clayton Switzer
 Bliethe Pluger
 Jaydyn Winter

STATE CHORAL FESTIVAL - FIRST DIVISION RATINGS

- Bel Canto
- Bella Voce
- Cantare
- Vocal Expression



BC Jazz Orchestra



Trumpet player Nolan Kirkwood with Jacob Anderson

ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL - FIRST DIVISION RATINGS

Concert Orchestra
 Chamber Orchestra

MARCHING BAND

3rd Place in the State

ALL STATE BAND

Sophia Lanning
 Colton Wolfe

OUTSTANDING JAZZ SOLOIST AT WMU AND CMU JAZZ FESTIVALS

Nolan Kirkwood

JAZZ ORCHESTRA

- 1st Place at CMU Jazz Festival
- 1st Place at WMU Jazz Festival
- 1st Place at MSU Jazz Festival
- Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition & Festival placed Top 10 in the country

INSPIRING Athletes

OK Conference Scholar Athletes

Micha Alexander
 Marie Baar
 Tess Bainbridge
 Caden Balkon
 Matthew Barr
 Nathan Barr
 Sophia Bentley
 Whitney Boerman
 Connor Braate
 Colin Brock
 Natalie Carey
 Isaac Carlson
 Elliana Clark
 Joshua Cole
 Colson Conrad
 Nicholas Corey
 Leila DeHaan
 McKinney DeJong
 Mackenzie Doyle

Brayden Elzinga
 Sophia Ensing
 Chloe Grabowski
 Michael Grover
 Kiersten Hawkins
 Justin Heagle
 Braeden Hinkle
 McKenna Hinkle
 Ashtyn Hinz
 Nathan Holwerda
 Aidan Johnson
 Lani Khuu
 Nolan Kirkwood
 Jenna Kroft
 Liam Kruse
 Cierra Laska
 Megan Malek
 Gage Mann
 Jack Marzolino

Logan McKenzie
 Bian McLiechey
 Kacey Naklizki
 Luke Petroelje
 Gabrielle Pierson
 Elijah Schilthuis
 Alex Stacey
 Jackson Steensma
 Steven Swisher
 Samantha Walker
 Ashley Walter
 Trevor Walter
 Nathan Wieber
 Connor Wolfe
 Cassandra Wychers
 Nathan Yeomans
 Avery Zeinstra



Michael Grover



Avery Zeinstra

Senior Athlete Awards



Cierra Laska



Dakota Veltman

Sports Boosters Scholarship

Cierra Laska Caden Balkon

Robert L. Nickels Scholarship

Samantha Walker Steven Swisher

Cristi Curtis Memorial Scholarship

Cierra Laska Marie Baar

Advanced Chemical Concepts Business Athlete Scholarship

Marie Baar Trevor Walter

Triple Threat Award

Marie Baar: VB, GBB, Softball

Cierra Laska: VB, GBB, Softball

Hao Nguyen: XC, Bowling, Wrestling, Track

Dakota Veltman: FB, Wrestling, LAX

Avery Zeinstra: XC, GBB, Track

Bulldog Award



Gary Boyer III



Samantha Walker

The Bulldog Award is given to the senior athlete who has exhibited the following characteristics throughout their high school athletic career: Hard Work, Dedication, Trustworthiness, Positive Attitude, Perseverance, Sportsmanship, Team First Attitude.

All-Conference Athletes

FALL

Macie Elzinga, Golf
 Pia Ficek, Golf
 Jason Fredricks, XC
 Nathan Holwerda, XC
 Andrew Dykstra, Soccer
 Luke Petroelje, Soccer
 Brooklyn Beauch, Swim
 Bryanna Tromp, Swim
 Ashleigh Nelson, Swim
 Tim Clay, Football
 Logan McKenzie, Football
 Trevor Walter, Football
 Hunter Schichtel, Football
 Brady Breit, Football
 Dakota Veltman, Football
 Taylor Humphrey, Volleyball
 Cierra Laska, Volleyball
 Elijah Schilthuis, Tennis
 Jaiden Karem, Tennis
 Whitney Boerman,
 All District, Equestrian

WINTER

Josh Boersma, Boys Bowling
 Dom Batraverse, Boys Bowling
 Jenna Kroff, Girls Bowling
 Sharley Bilot, Girls Bowling
 Dinara Domeier, Girls Bowling
 Cole Mitchell, Boys Swim
 Michael Grover, Boys Swim
 Colton Standorf, Boys Swim
 Austin Briggs, Boys Swim
 Matt Barr, Boys Swim
 Avery Zeinstra, Girls Basketball
 Lily Zeinstra, Girls Basketball
 McKenna Ferguson,
 Girls Basketball
 Logan McKenzie, Boys Basketball
 Lani Khuu, Cheer
 Gracie Pepper, Cheer
 Emma Carlson, Cheer
 Bian McLiechey, Cheer
 Connor Braate, Hockey
 Jackson Froyland, Hockey
 Cade Pratt, Hockey
 Carson MacKenzie, Hockey
 Josh Philo, Hockey
 Luke Padding, Hockey
 Brady Breit, Hockey
 Dakota Veltman, Wrestling

SPRING

Jason Fredricks, Track
 Preston Sisson, Track
 Jackson Perez, Track
 Timothy Clay, Track
 Caleb Reinsch, Track
 Avery Zeinstra, Track
 Natalie Formsma, Track
 Ava Putnam, Track
 Calena Foster, Track
 Lauren Milward, Track
 Natalie Carey, Track
 Josiah Karnehm, LAX
 Oliver Modderman, LAX
 Gage Smith, LAX
 Makenna Crandell, Tennis
 Pia Ficek, Tennis
 Liz Vincent, Tennis
 Jack Marzolino, Boys Golf
 Tess Bainbridge, Soccer
 Maddie Lange, Soccer
 Megan Malek, Soccer
 Mackenzie Doyle, Soccer
 Cierra Laska, Softball
 Ashley Walter, Softball
 McKenna Hinkle, Softball
 McKenna Ferguson, Softball
 Grace Helmus, Softball
 Luke Laska, Baseball
 Alex Wauben, Baseball
 Jackson Steensma, Baseball
 Kellen Payne, Baseball
 Jack Crittendon, Baseball



Taylor Humphrey



Jason Fredricks

“I am so proud of you all for your perseverance through your time here at BC high school. Go into the world and do BIG things. #WeAreBC!”

Joe Chiamonte

Coach, Bulldog Power



Competitive Cheer

Individual State Qualifiers

FALL

Jason Fredricks, XC
 Nathan Holwerda, XC
 Macie Elzinga, XC (3rd best score at the state meet)
 Elijah Schilthuis, Tennis, Regional Champ, 1st Singles
 Brooklyn Beauch, Swim, 5th place 100 Fly All-State, 6th place relay All-State
 Chayse Campbell, Swim
 Addison Deppe, Swim
 Natalie Holmes, Swim, 6th place relay All-State
 Lili McAvoy, Swim
 Ashleigh Nelson, Swim, 6th place relay All-State
 Ella Peters, Swim
 Bryanna Tromp, Swim, 6th place relay All-State

WINTER

Jenna Kroff, Girls bowling
 Ethan Wood, Wrestling, 6th place
 Brad Winkle, Wrestling
 Dakota Veltman, Wrestling
 Zach Radle, Wrestling
 Matt Barr, Swimming
 Cole Mitchell, Swimming 200 Medley Relay, 6th place All-State
 Michael Grover, Swimming (100 Breaststroke, 1st-State Record) 200 Medley Relay, 6th place All-State, 200 Freestyle Relay, 6th place All-State (8th, 200 IM School Record)
 Colton Standorf, Swimming 200 Medley Relay, 6th place All-State
 Austin Briggs, Swimming 200 Freestyle Relay, 6th place, 200 Medley Relay, 6th place All-State (10th, 50 Freestyle) (11th, 100 Freestyle)
 Nolan Kirkwood, Swimming 200 Freestyle Relay, 6th place All-State
 Cam Wolters, Swimming 200 Freestyle Relay, 6th place All-State
 Jack Olivier, Diving, 14th place
 Jonathan Wallace, Diving
 Liam Kruse, Diving

SPRING

Avery Zeinstra, Track High Jump
 Jack Marzolino, Boys Golf

Team State Qualifiers

FALL

Girls Golf, Coach Jon Van Ryn
Boys Tennis, Coach Andy Ely



Boys Tennis State Qualifiers

2021-2022 Championship Teams

Girls Golf - Conference, Regional, State Runner-Up
Coach Jon Van Ryn

Girls Volleyball - District
Coach Katie VanderMeer

Equestrian - District
Coach Darcy Fransens

Girls Basketball - Conference and District
Coach Jen Slot

Hockey - Conference and Regional
Coach Taylor Keyworth

Wrestling - District
Coach Tom Barker

Softball - Conference and District
Coach Crystal Laska



Girls Golf Conference and Regional Champs
State Runner-Up



Hockey Regional Champs



Softball District Champs



Girls Basketball Conference and District Champs

Foreign Exchange Students

BCHS was home to eight foreign exchange students for the 2021-2022 school year. The exchange students and their host families had the opportunity to experience and learn from each other about a different culture and traditions while staying here.

Lorin Born - Germany

Pia Ficek - Italy

Maria Chiara Fossati - Germany

Benjamin Heineke - Germany

Sofija Lukovic - Serbia

Vittoria Ristori - Italy

Leoni Schulte - Germany

Eeva Vimpeli - Finland



Senior All-Nighter 2022!

The Senior All-Nighter is a fun and safe way to celebrate graduation. Every year, immediately following graduation, seniors say goodbye to their families, leave everything behind (except a few necessities), load buses, and head to a secret location. This amazing night takes years of planning by parents of the senior class. These parents acquire sponsorships from local businesses, run fundraisers, and plan the entire evening.

This year's committee was Janel Pierson, Melissa Zondervan, Hilarie Biles, Carrie Kroft, Robin Bently, and Christy Seidelman. Special thanks to all of the parents who planned, participated in fundraisers, or supported this night.

The party for the Class of 2023 is underway! Parents of this class can email bcсан2023@gmail.com or contact Theresa Wall (theresawall@sbcglobal.net) for more information.



MESSAGES to Our Graduates

“Dear Class of 2022- The last few years have been filled with unexpected challenges. Still, you are resilient and have weathered the storm. It has been six years since you graced the halls of Nickels Intermediate, but your positive outlook on life will undoubtedly carry you through this next phase of your life. You are strong, courageous, and ready. Never take your eyes off the goals you will set for yourself, and you will continue to experience success throughout your life!”

Tom Trout

Principal, Nickels Intermediate

“¡Lo hiciste! You did it! Remember our fashion show in 7th grade?!?! You have gone through some of the craziest times of your lives, and you have persevered. Remember the life lessons the pandemic taught you, and keep in mind that we don't know what tomorrow brings, so make each day COUNT! If an opportunity arises, take it! Have fun, and be sure to make good choices, and you won't regret it. ¡Buena Suerte!”

Sra. Sibalwa

Spanish Teacher, WMS & BCHS



“Congratulations to all the multilingual learners for earning your diploma! I am SO proud of you!!”

Christy Tripp

ESL, WMS & BCHS



“Dear graduating class of 2022, You have certainly endured more than most in your K-12 education but have done so with grace and grit. I have no doubt you'll go out into the world and make a difference. You are a reflection of all that makes us BC Strong! Hugs, Mrs. Knowlton (Dobson)”

Jolynne Knowlton (Dobson)

Principal, Countryside Elementary



“The world is starting to get back to normal, just in time for you to rock this next phase of your life. Good luck, kids. :-)”

Mrs. Deppe

5th Grade Teacher, Nickels Intermediate

“To the class of 2022. You will always have a special place in my heart since I have known so many of you since your elementary days. To quote Dr. Suess, “Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.” Take that quote to heart. Please take hold of all you have learned, accomplished, toiled over, failed at, succeeded in, etc. Use that knowledge to your full advantage while reaching for your dreams and aspirations. The late Arthur Ashe once said, “Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.” And like I always say in Bulldog Power, Leave a Legacy!”

Doug Jacobi

Phys. Ed. Teacher, BCHS

“Congratulations to one of the most fun classes I have had in my 20 years of teaching! I have enjoyed following your many accomplishments up until now and look forward to seeing where life takes you all! Thanks for the memories, and I hope you have absolutely loved your Byron Center School experience! Be sure to always give your best effort in everything you do!”

Matthew Amo

Phys. Ed. Teacher, Nickels Intermediate

“¡Muchas Felicidades - Congratulations! I am so proud of each of you! Remember all the life lessons you have learned with our Byron Center Community. You have achieved one of your goals by being part of the class of 2022. ¡Excelente! However, it does not stop here. Remember to challenge yourself to continue to set goals. Nothing is impossible! You can do it: Sí, Se Puede. Life will throw obstacles your way but stay strong & continue to fight to make a difference. Nos estamos en contacto - Stay in touch, Amigos! “One man scorned and covered with scars still strove with his last ounce of courage to reach the unreachable stars, and the world was better for this.” -Don Quixote.”

Randall Domeier

Spanish Teacher/JV Tennis Coach/Driving Instructor/Lunch Monitor, BCHS

“You did it!! Waking up early to go to school, resting your head in bed so late at night after finishing your assignments, stressed by projects and reports, has brought you to this very moment. Make the most out of the knowledge you learned. As you graduate, keep working hard. Strive to succeed. Be better than average. You'll soon reap the fruits of your efforts and hard work. Carpe Diem!”

Melanie Sabin

5th Grade Teacher, Nickels Intermediate

“Where did the year(s) go!? It felt like yesterday you were just beginning your journey at BCHS, and now it has come to a close. Congratulations on reaching the next step of your life's journey. But remember, time doesn't slow down. Make sure to stop and appreciate it while you're in it. I am so proud to have gotten to know you and be a part of your life. You are all ready to tackle your next phase in life. Best wishes. And remember, your BC family is always here for you!”

Derek Boillat

Psychology/Sociology Teacher, BCHS

“Class of 2022 - congratulations! I've loved watching you grow and learn over these last four years. Thank you for being a part of my life. Be the light, be the change, be kind, and work hard!”

Kellie Merritt

Math Teacher, BCHS

“¡Felicidades! Congratulations! I hope that you have a chance to explore the world. Adventure awaits you! Enjoy your next steps.”

Laura Showers

Spanish Teacher, BCHS



“Congratulations, Class of 2022! All of your hard work has officially paid off. Many of you were balancing school, sports, arts, and jobs of your own as you made it through this school. Undoubtedly you have emerged stronger on the other end. Continue to be the amazing people you are, continue to seek adventure in your life, and know that you can do whatever you set your mind to and work hard for!”

Clay Francisco

Math Teacher, BCHS

“Congratulations! What an incredible accomplishment you all have done especially considering the challenges of the past two years. You have done something no other class has done before you! Many of our drivers have had you on their buses and have enjoyed watching you grow into wonderful adults. Be BC proud!!”

Lisa Blain

BC Transportation

“Congratulations, graduates! When I moved to Marshall, you were my first group of first graders, and I couldn't have asked for a sweeter group of kids. I wish you well in all you do!”

Tammy Stuyfzand

6th Grade Teacher, Nickels Intermediate (was Marshall 1st grade with this group)

“Congratulations to the class of 2022! You're a group of kiddos I will never forget! You have overcome a lot, and I know you will continue to make a difference in our world. I wish you all the best in the future!”

Jenny Curtis

4th Grade Teacher, Countryside Elementary (was 3rd grade)

“Congratulations to the class of 2022! You've been through so much, and you've done amazingly well. I'm proud of you. Best wishes for a bright future!”

Dan Volkens

4th Grade Teacher, Countryside Elementary

“¡Felicidades! ¡Lo hiciste! You have come through some challenges these last few years, and those challenges build character and perseverance! Be a light and BE YOU. Seek adventures and remember “...people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” Maya Angelou”

Jill Kraker

Spanish Teacher, BCHS

“Congrats, Class of 2022! You were such a kind, responsible and hard-working group of 3rd graders. Keep showing those wonderful qualities, and I know you will change the world!”

Kylee Clausen

3rd Grade Teacher, Marshall Elementary



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A Note from Mr. Joseph



Senior Class,

You have made us proud! You have shown that you are resilient, and you can see things from a new perspective. Through these past years, you have been able to change your perspective from "having to" do things to "getting to" do things. Instead of seeing only what is wrong around you, you can also see what is right. You have shown character, learned to forgive, learned to let go, and learned to see outside of yourselves and serve. You have had opportunities, and through it all, I hope that you will lean into future opportunities to continue learning, serving, and living in awesome ways! Congratulations, class of 2022! Continue to make us proud, and remember, it's always a great day to be a bulldog!

Scott Joseph
 BC High School Principal

