

### 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

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

### 2024

### Board of Education Meetings

August 8, 8:30am

*(Special Meeting at Haworth Center)*

August 19, 6:30pm *(Regular Meeting)*

Sept 9, 6:30pm *(Regular Meeting)*

Sept 23, 5:15pm *(Special Meeting)*

Oct 7, 6:30pm *(Regular Meeting)*

Oct 21, 5:15pm *(Special Meeting)*

Nov 4, 6:30pm *(Regular Meeting)*

Nov 18, 5:15pm *(Special Meeting)*

Dec 2, 6:30pm *(Regular Meeting)*

Dec 16, 5:15pm *(Special Meeting)*

Check [www.bcpsk12.net](http://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.*



## The Class of 2024



This special edition of BC Connection is one of my favorites, because it celebrates our seniors. The most impressive part of our graduating seniors is their many accomplishments made possible through hard work and commitment throughout their years here at Byron Center Public Schools. Our motto in BC is Helping Students Build Success Stories. Thank you seniors for the countless hours and dedication that you have put into your high school career. I have enjoyed watching you all reach success throughout your time in BCPS whether that be in the classroom, on the stage or on the field. Along the way you have made Byron Center so proud.

Having the privilege to walk across the stage and earn a diploma is no easy task, your hard work has paid off. This takes so many people in your life to help make this happen. From teachers, to coaches, parents, grandparents or friends who have been there with you through it all. It really does take everyone to make the wonderful celebration take place.

You have a complete understanding of what it takes to be committed to a goal and the effort that it takes to complete that goal. Throughout your entire school career you have pushed yourself so many times to get to where you are today, continue that drive and you will have a bright future ahead.

I wish you all the best and look forward to seeing what your future holds!

Kevin Macina, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



# TOP SENIOR PROFILES

Byron Center High School proudly recognizes the Class of 2024 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 2024 Top Two Grads!

### Valedictorian



**JOHNNY HA** is the 2024 Byron Center High School Valedictorian. He is the son of Hung Ha and Tranh Tran. Johnny was a member of the National Honor Society, the International Music Appreciation Club, AUA Club, Environmental Club, Debate Club, Chess Club and Science Olympiad. He volunteered as a tutor at BCHS, as a Kent District Library Teen Crew member and with Toys for Tots. He is an AP

Scholar with Distinction and a National Merit Commended Scholar. He attended Washington Close Up, is a class representative, a summer tennis coach and played JV tennis for three years. Johnny has been awarded The College Board National Rural and Small Town Recognition Award and the U of M Club of Grand Rapids Scholarship, which he will use while attending the University of Michigan to double major in biomedical engineering and computer science.

### Salutatorian



**ANDREW HILL** is the 2024 BCHS Salutatorian. He is the son of Scott and Renee Hill. Andrew was a member of the National Honor Society, Scouts BSA Troop 250, Order of the Arrow Brotherhood and Mackinac Island Scout Service Program. He was on the varsity swim team, the cross

country team and USA Swimming for three years. He was a D2 State Qualifier and a Michigan Ultra Qualifier in swimming. Andrew is an AP Scholar with Distinction, a National Merit Scholarship Finalist and earned the Global and Michigan Seals of Bilingual Proficiency in Spanish. He plans to pursue a biomedical engineering degree at the University of Michigan.

**GAVIN BOOM** is the son of Scott and Laura Boom. Gavin was a member of the National Honor Society, Environmental Club and Debate Club. He was a class representative and an AP Scholar with



Distinction. He played freshman and JV football for two years and club hockey for six years. Gavin has earned multiple awards and scholarships including The College Board National Rural and Small Town Recognition Award. He will be attending Michigan State University's Honors College to pursue degrees in both mechanical engineering and political theory and constitutional democracy.

**MILES VANDAM** is the son of Matthew VanDam and Janine Proctor. Miles was a member of the National Honor Society, the Principal's Advisory Group and the Ski Club. He played the cello in the BCPS orchestra for six years. He was part of the cross country team for five years and track team for two years. Miles is an AP Scholar with Distinction and a National Merit Commended Scholar. He is planning to attend Purdue University where he will major in professional flight.



**CECILIA PELL** is the daughter of David and Jolene Pell. She was involved in sideline cheer and competitive cheer for two years and played in the orchestra for three years. She is an AP Scholar with Distinction. Cecilia plans to attend the University of Michigan in the fall to study biochemistry.





**AUBREY LAROBARDIERE** is the daughter of Matthew and Cynthia Larobardiere. Aubrey was a member of the National Honor Society, Science Olympiad, AUA Club, Chess Club, Theatre Club, Orch-Extra Club, Pride Pack and Be Nice. She volunteered as a member of the Kent District Library Teen Crew, a BCHS Tutor, School Supply Santa and in various ways at her church. Aubrey has been a part of BC's Chamber Orchestra and Jazz Band as well as the Saint Cecilia Philharmonic Orchestra and the Grand Rapids Symphonette. She was a state qualifier for indoor track and field, competed in outdoor track and field for four years and basketball for one year. Aubrey is an AP Scholar with Honor and a National Merit Commended Scholar. She was awarded the Byron Center Chamber of Commerce Scholarship and the Bite Cancer Foundation Scholarship. Aubrey will be attending Purdue University to study special aeronautical engineering.

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**CAMERYN BOERMAN** is the daughter of Scott and Shelly Boerman. Cameryn was a member of Pride Pack. She was in choir for six years including BCHS' highest level choir group, Vocal Expressions. She played volleyball for two years and softball for four years. Cameryn is an AP Scholar with Honor and earned a Michigan Achievement Scholarship. She will be attending the University of Michigan to pursue a degree in data science or statistics.

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**ELIZABETH FREDRICKSON** is the daughter of Jon and Katherine Fredrickson. Elizabeth was a member of Science Olympiad for two years and volunteered for the Byron Center Fine Arts Boosters. She played the flute in the Wind Ensemble for four years, was a Color Guard for four years and served as a stage crew member for three theater productions. She received multiple first and second division rankings at Regional and State Solo and Ensemble. Elizabeth is an AP Scholar with Honor and plans to attend Michigan State University.

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**KENDALL FUNK** is the daughter of Brandon and Jessie Funk. Kendall was a member of the National Honor Society, Principal's Advisory Club and Pride Pack. She attended Washington Close Up and was a discussion leader. She played JV basketball, JV softball and varsity basketball for one year. Kendall is an AP Scholar with Honor and received The College Board National Rural and Small Town Recognition Award, the Michigan Education Association Scholarship and the U of M School of Nursing Merit Scholarship. She wants to pursue a nursing degree at the University of Michigan.

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**SHARLEY BILOT** is the daughter of Brian and Rebecca Bilot. Sharley was a member of the National Honor Society, BC Knitting Club, Be Nice, BC Spin Club and Science Olympiad. She has volunteered for Spectrum Lanes, Kent District Library and the Byron Center Fine Arts Boosters. Sharley was a four year member of the marching band and concert band. She was a color guard section leader and participated in the Wind Ensemble for three years. She participated in cross country, bowling and track and field for four years and was All-Conference for bowling. She is an AP Scholar with Distinction and a recipient of the BCHS Principal's Award. Sharley is planning to attend college in the fall.

# SENIOR Scholarships & Awards

**Barry Afienko** – Grand Rapids Community College  
BCHS Art Award

**Addison Alexander** – Grand Canyon University  
Senior Class Representative

**Elijah Allan** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Academic Scholarship

**Lilia Alvarez** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Paige Bailey** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Caroline Baker** – Grand Valley State University

**Jax Balkon** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Maggie Banks** – Belmont University  
Belmont Academic Scholarship, Van Singel Fine Arts  
Foundation Scholarship, BCHS Performing  
Arts Award

**Madison Barnard** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Samuel Barrix** – Central Michigan University

**Lauryn Baumgardner** – Baylor University

Baylor Academic Scholarship

**Ayla Bayes** – The Salon Professional Academy

**Rylie Beadle** – Grand Rapids Community College  
Michigan and Global Seals of Bilingualism for Spanish

**Brooklyn Beauch** – Purdue University

Purdue Athletic Scholarship, National Honor Society,  
MHSAA Scholar Athlete Award, Michigan Swimming  
Leadership Award

**Drew Belinski** – Ferris State University

FSU Dean's Scholarship, Atlas Molded Products  
Scholarship

**Makenzi Bennett** – Trinity Christian College

Trinity President's Honor Scholarship, Trinity  
Volleyball Scholarship, Michigan and Global Seals of  
Bilingualism for Spanish, BCHS Service Award,  
LINKS Award

**Rachael Bessert** – Central Michigan University

CMU Maroon and Gold Merit Scholarship,  
Science Olympiad

**Sharley Bilot** – Undecided

Academic Scholarships, AP Scholar with Distinction,  
National Honor Society, BCHS Principal's Award,  
Science Olympiad

**Aiden Bischoff** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Mackenna Bissonette** – Michigan State University

**Zander Bobeldyke** – Cutlerville Fire Department

**Cameryn Boerman** – University of Michigan

Michigan Achievement Scholarship, AP Scholar with  
Honor, BCHS Math Award

**Alessandra Bontomasi** – Grand Valley State University

**Gavin Boom** – Michigan State University

MSU Honors College Scholarship, Professional  
Assistantship at MSU, Atlas Molded Products  
Scholarship, National Rural and Small Town  
Recognition Award, AP Scholar with Distinction,  
National Honor Society, BCHS Science Award, Senior  
Class Representative

**Emma Boucher** – Grand Valley State University

GVSU Laker Scholarship

**Sydney Boucher** – Michigan State University

Academic Scholarships

**Lauren Bowman** – Michigan State University

Merit Scholarship

**Breanna Boyer** – Ferris State University

**Aiden Bregg** – Ferris State University

**Jayden Brock** – Aquinas College

Athletic Scholarship

**Mical Bronkema** – Goodwill Training Facility

**William Brooks** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Kate Brumbelow** – Adventures in Missions

Barbara Surine Memorial Scholarship

**Keegan Buer** – Buer Well Drilling

**Marizela Bujanda-Concepcion** – Gap Year

Versiti Leader for Life Award

**Adeline Butts** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Kian Cahall** – Michigan State University

Michigan Achievement Scholarship, National Honor  
Society, BCHS Art Award for Photography, Senior  
Class Representative

**Reagan Cappon** – Oral Roberts University

Oral Roberts Quest Whole Leader Scholarship

**Emma Carlson** – Central Michigan University

**Joel Castro** – Construction

**Devin Champlin** – Work

BCHS Physical Education Award

**Alyson Chapin** – Mid Michigan College

**Xander Cheng** – University of Mississippi

**Austin Ciccarelli** – Work

Buist Foundation Scholarship

**Alisia Coipel** – Michigan State University

Merit Scholarships

**Katelyn Cole** – Michigan State University

Academic Scholarships

**Caleigh Collard** – University of Iowa

Iowa Academic Scholarship, Iowa Athletic  
Scholarship

**Trista Cridler** – Aquinas College

Aquinas Merit Scholarship, BCHS English Award

**Tyler DeBois** – Grand Valley State University

**Faith Denning** – Grand Rapids Community College

The Golden Apple Award – KCTC Teacher Academy

**Avery DePagter** – Aquinas College

Aquinas St. Albertus Magnus Scholarship, Aquinas  
Athletic Scholarship

**Addison DeVos** – Central Michigan University

CMU Maroon and Gold Merit Scholarship, MHSAA  
Scholar Athlete

**Jack DeVries** – Grand Canyon University

**Monica Diaz** – Rockford University

Rockford Founder's Scholarship

**Noah Dolan** – Grand Rapids Community College

Global Seal of Bilingualism

**Sydney Dyer** – Ferris State University

**AJ Dykstra** – Cornerstone University

Cornerstone Presidential Scholarship, Cornerstone  
Athletic Scholarship, Michigan and Global Seals of  
Bilingualism for Spanish

**Macie Elzinga** – Bowling Green State University

BGSU Athletic Scholarship

**Cittali Esparza-Salvador** – Northern

Michigan University

United Bank Community Dedication Scholarship,  
Brink Wood Products Scholarship, Michigan and  
Global Seals of Bilingualism for Spanish, BCHS Service  
Award, Senior Class Representative

**Peter Feldott** – Michigan Technological University

Michigan Tech Academic Scholarship

**Connor Ferguson** – Michigan State University

Academic Scholarships, Michigan  
Achievement Scholarship

**Andrea Fosdick** – Davenport University

**Elizabeth Fredrickson** – Michigan State University

AP Scholar with Honor, Science Olympiad

**Kendall Funk** – University of Michigan

U of M School of Nursing Merit Scholarship,  
Michigan Education Association Scholarship,  
National Rural and Small Town Recognition Award,  
AP Scholar with Honor, National Honor Society,  
BCHS Social Studies Award

**Jacob Gibson** – Grand Rapids Community College

National Honor Society

**Kaylie Goeman** – Michigan State University

Merit Scholarship, Byron Center Chamber of  
Commerce Scholarship, National Honor Society,  
Michigan and Global Seals of Bilingualism for Spanish,  
BCHS Service Award

**Emely Gomez Hilario** – Grand Rapids

Community College

**Nicolas Gonzalez** – Michigan State University

**Natalia Gonzalez Lopez** – Grand Rapids

Community College

Merit Scholarship, First Generation Award

**Abigail Googe** – Michigan State University

Merit Scholarship, National Honor Society, Michigan  
Global Seals of Bilingualism for Spanish

**Levi Green** – Liberty University

Liberty Academic Scholarship, Liberty Early Deposit  
Award, Gaines Chamber of Commerce Scholarship,  
National Honor Society

**Brooke Greenman** – Grand Valley State University

GVSU Award for Excellence Scholarship

**Lucas Groendyke** – Grand Valley State University

GVSU Laker Scholarship

**Johnny Ha** – University of Michigan

U of M Club of Grand Rapids Scholarship, Merit  
Scholarships, Brink Wood Products Scholarship,  
National Rural and Small Town Recognition Award,  
National Merit Commended Scholar, AP Scholar with  
Distinction, National Honor Society, BCHS Social  
Studies Award, Science Olympiad, BCHS Science  
Award, Senior Class Representative

**Carolyn Haney** – Grand Valley State University

GVSU Award for Excellence Scholarship

**David Hartman** – Michigan State University

**Ben Heagle** – Calvin University

Calvin Knollcrest Scholarship, BCHS Physical  
Education Award

**Isabelle Helmus** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Kailen Herin** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Ronan Hiemstra** – Grandville Region III

Transition Center

**Andrew Hill** – University of Michigan

Merit Scholarship, National Merit Finalist, AP Scholar  
with Distinction, National Honor Society, Michigan  
and Global Seals of Bilingualism for Spanish, Versiti  
Leader for Life Award, Eagle Scout Award, BCHS  
Foreign Language Award for Spanish, BCHS Science  
Award, BCHS Service Award

**Leila Himmelein** – Grand Valley State University

Academic Scholarship

**Calvin Hoozee** – Van Eck Auto Body

**Kenzie Hoff** – Lake Superior State University

Lake Superior Distinguished Scholarship, Versiti  
Leader for Life Award, National Honor Society

**Natalie Holmes** – Grand Rapids Community College

Global Seal of Bilingualism for German

**Sophia Holverstott** – Michigan State University

MSU Athletics Scholarship, Kelsey's Law  
Scholarship, BCHS Art Award

**Nate Hondorp** – Jerry’s Body Shop

**Allen Hoppe** – Michigan State University  
Global Seal of Biliteracy for German, BCHS Foreign Language Award for German

**Sarahi Huerta** – Grand Rapids Community College  
Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Paige Huizenga** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Emma Humphrey** – Michigan State University

**Bodin Hurley** – Michigan State University

**Sydney Irish** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Brady Jackson** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Faith Jager** – Central Michigan University

**Nicholas Jessee** – Liberty University  
Liberty Academic Scholarship, Liberty Champion Award Scholarship, Liberty Early Deposit Award, BCHS Applied Arts Award

**Mason Joseph** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Scholarship, Discover Manufacturing Scholarship, BCHS Applied Arts Award

**Landon Jurmo** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Academic Scholarship, Michigan Achievement Scholarship

**Isabella Kalbfleisch** – Ashland University  
Ashland Academic Scholarship, Ashland Athletic Scholarship, BCHS Service Award

**Josiah Karnehm** – North Greenville University  
North Greenville Presidential Academic Scholarship, Lacrosse Athletic Scholarship

**Nathan Kelley** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Jacquelyne Khuu** – DePaul University  
DePaul Academic Scholarship

**Brayde Kietzman** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Laker Scholarship

**Grace Kimberly** – Western Michigan University  
WMU Bronco Gold Scholarship, Van Singel Fine Arts Foundation Scholarship, National Honor Society, BCHS Performing Arts Award, BCHS Service Award, LINKS Award

**Olivia Koster** – Western Michigan University  
WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship, National Honor Society, Versiti Leader for Life Award, BCHS Service Award

**Andrew Kroft** – Ferris State University  
Michigan Achievement Scholarship

**Makenna Lange** – Kendall College of Art and Design  
Kendall Dean Scholarship

**Ellie Lanning** – Western Michigan University

**Aubrey Larobardiere** – Purdue University  
Bite Cancer Foundation Scholarship, Byron Center Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, National Merit Commended Scholar, AP Scholar with Honor, National Honor Society, BCHS English Award, Science Olympiad, BCHS Service Award, Versiti Leader for Life Award

**Owen LaTour** – Grand Canyon University

**Peyton Lee** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Holden Leifer** – University of Wisconsin-River Falls  
UWRF Falcon Soar Scholarship, Gaines Township Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, BCHS Math Award

**Madison Leifer** – University of Wisconsin-River Falls  
UWRF Falcon Soar Scholarship, BCHS Math Award

**Jonathon Lennon** – University of Tampa  
Academic Scholarship, National Honor Society, BCHS Service Award

**Breanna Liverance** – Davenport University  
Davenport Achievement Scholarship

**Juan Lopez Zamudio** – Calvin University  
Calvin Merit Scholarship, Bite Cancer Foundation Scholarship, United Bank Community Dedication Scholarship, Advocates for Latino Student Achievement in Michigan Education Scholarship, Safe Haven Ministries Young Leaders Against Violence Scholarship, Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Nghi Luu** – Michigan State University  
Michigan Achievement Scholarship

**Vienna Luu** – Michigan State University  
Academic Scholarship

**Emma Maas** – Hope College  
Hope Distinguished Artist Award, Legacy Scholarship

**Gabriela Martinez-Rivera** – Grand Rapids Community College  
Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Taylor Masselink** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Adalyn Mata** – Albion College  
Albion Presidential Scholarship, Albion Senior Visit Scholarship

**Lilianna McAvoy** – University of Wisconsin-Green Bay  
UW-Green Bay Athletic Scholarship

**Isabelle McDowell** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Darin McKendry** – Calvin University  
Calvin Dean Scholarship

**Kyah McQueen** – Ferris State University

**Lily Medalen** – Trine University  
Trine Bateman Kolb Scholarship, Trine Dance Team Scholarship, Byron Center Education Association Scholarship, Northwest Hardwoods Scholarship, National Honor Society, Versiti Leader for Life Award, LINKS Award

**Kylie Meeker** – Michigan State University  
Academic Scholarship, Versiti Leader for Life Award, BCHS Service Award

**Ashley Mejia-Layne** – Grand Rapids Community College  
Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Brayden Meniffee** – Michigan State University

**Kayla Meredith** – American University  
Gaines Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, Brink Wood Products Scholarship, National Honor Society, Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for German, BCHS Foreign Language Award for German

**Mark Millard** – Western Michigan University

**Cole Mitchell** – Cedarville University  
Cedarville Academic Scholarship, MHSAA Scholar Athlete Award, National Merit Commended Scholar, National Honor Society, BCHS Principal’s Award

**Zoe Monkiewicz** – Aquinas College

**Tia Moore** – Western Michigan University

**Paige Myers** – Butler University  
Butler Bulldog Achievement Award

**Bryson Newman** – Trade school  
BCHS Applied Arts Award

**Jessica Newell** – Western Michigan University

**Abby Nguyen** – Grand Valley State University  
Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Khaleb Nguyen** – Michigan State University  
Bite Cancer Foundation Scholarship

**Levy Nguyen** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Presidential Scholarship, Michigan Achievement Scholarship, National Honor Society, Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish, BCHS Foreign Language Award for Spanish, BCHS English Award, BCHS Service Award, Senior Class Representative

**Genevieve Nickels** – University of Dayton  
Dayton President’s Merit Scholarship, Polish Heritage Society of Grand Rapids Scholarship, National Honor Society, Global Seal of Biliteracy for German

**Rachel Nyiramutuzo** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Molly O’Neal** – Central Michigan University  
CMU Maroon and Gold Merit Scholarship

**Toby Okhuysen** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Presidential Scholarship, Michigan Achievement Scholarship

**Joshua Olivas** – Grand Valley State University

**Brianna Paciencia** – Western Michigan University  
KCTC Pro of the Month Award

**Ben Passeno** – Auburn University  
Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish, National Honor Society, BCHS Service Award

**Lillian Pattok** – Grand Valley State University

**Reese Pechler** – Michigan State University

**Cecilia Pell** – University of Michigan  
Academic Scholarship, National Rural and Small Town Recognition, AP Scholar with Distinction, BCHS Science Award

**Rowan Pellow** – Hope College  
Hope Legacy Scholarship, Hope Distinguished Scholar Award

**Brayden Perdok** – Work  
BCHS Physical Education Award

**Jannine Perez** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Scholarship, Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Joel Perez** – Michigan State University  
Michigan Achievement Scholarship, National Honor Society, Senior Class Representative

**Avery Perleberg** – Western Michigan University

**Ella Perrot** – Michigan State University

**Ella Peters** – University of Michigan  
Michigan Achievement Scholarship, National Honor Society, Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish, BCHS Foreign Language Award for Spanish, BCHS English Award, BCHS Service Award

**Aaron Petroelje** – Ferris State University  
Michigan Achievement Scholarship, FSU Provost Award, Buist Foundation Scholarship, National Honor Society

**Kiet Pham** – Michigan State University

**Evie Phillips** – Montclair State University  
Montclair Merit Scholarship, Bite Cancer Foundation Scholarship, Global Seal of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Jesus Pina** – U.S. Air Force  
Global Seal of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Lauren Plume** – Grand Rapids Community College  
BCHS Service Award

**David Poll** – McPherson College  
McPherson Merit Scholarship, McPherson Music Scholarship, Michigan and Global Seal of Biliteracy

**Ethan Poll** – Michigan State University  
Merit Scholarship

**Jackson Porco** – Gap Year  
Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Alyvia Poterack** – Grand Rapids Community College  
BCHS Service Award

**Cade Pratt** – Gap Year  
AP Scholar with Distinction, National Honor Society, Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Lea Prus** – Hope College  
Hope Academic Scholarship, Hope Distinguished Artist Award, Michigan Achievement Scholarship, Van Singel Fine Arts Foundation Scholarship, Global Seal of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Hudson Pulawski** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Ava Putnam** – Carthage College  
Carthage Highest Honors Scholarship, Carthage Music Scholarship, Carthage Endowed Scholarship, Science Olympiad

**Iris Rietberg** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Presidential Scholarship, GVSU Lubbers Honors College Scholarship, Michigan Achievement Scholarship, Versiti Leader for Life Award

**Anthony Rivera** – Ferris State University  
FSU Merit Scholarship, Hydroz Sponsored Scholarship

**Isabella Rodríguez** – Douglas J Aveda Institute  
Lumberman's Beating the Odds Scholarship, Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Elizabeth Roe** – Ferris State University  
FSU Dean's Scholarship

**Hannah Roede** – Grand Valley State University

**Kyle Rogala** – Grand Rapids Community College  
BCHS Applied Arts Award

**Victoria Rolff** – Cosmetology and Spa Academy  
BCHS Service Award

**Mia Rush** – Undecided  
Merit Scholarship, Food Challenge Scholarship

**Braylon Russ** – Grand Rapids Community College  
Atlas Molded Products Scholarship

**Zachary Ryan** – Western Michigan University  
WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship, Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Madison Sandholm** – Western Michigan University  
WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship, National Honor Society

**Abigail Schepers** – Calvin University  
Calvin Dean's Scholarship

**Brooklyn Schutte** – Grand Valley State University  
Michigan Achievement Scholarship

**Jolienne Schutte** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Award for Excellence Scholarship

**Alyssa Sherman** – Ohio University  
Van Singel Fine Arts Foundation Scholarship, Nicole Langford Scholarship, BCHS Performing Arts Award for Choir

**Heaven Shoemaker** – Western Michigan University  
WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship

**Rylee Siereveld** – Aquinas College  
Aquinas Visit Scholarship

**Thatcher Simon** – Hope College  
Athletic Scholarship

**Kamila Sims** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Trey Sluiter** – Undecided  
Northwood Free Enterprise Scholarship

**Sienna Smith** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Alivia Sokol** – Grand Valley State University  
Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish, LINKS Award

**Tyler Somers** – Michigan State University  
Michigan Achievement Scholarship

**Leigha Sorenson Putnam** – Grand Rapids Community College  
GVSU Academic Scholarship, Michigan Achievement Scholarship, Global Seal of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Alexis Spica** – Grand Rapids Community College  
GVSU Award for Excellence Scholarship, KCTC Pro of the Month

**Hunter Steenbergen** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Collin Storey** – Western Michigan University  
WMU Bronco Recognition Scholarship

**Ryan Strickland** – Grand Rapids Community College  
Versiti Leader for Life Award

**Lexi Struble** – Tiffin University  
Tiffin Trustee Scholarship, Tiffin Athletic Scholarship, National Honor Society, Versiti Leader for Life Award

**Jamison Sturtz** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Award for Excellence Scholarship

**Brady Swanson** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Faculty Scholarship, GVSU Meijer Honors College Acceptance, National Honor Society

**Colton Swanson** – Western Michigan University  
WMU Lee Honors College Acceptance, WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship, WMU Legacy Scholarship

**Kylah Sweeris** – Northern Michigan University

**Katelyn Syswerda** – Northern Michigan University  
NMU Wildcat Merit Scholarship, NMU Leadership Award, Michigan Achievement Scholarship, National Honor Society, Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Isabella Teller** – Central Michigan University

**Chase TenHarmse** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Merit Scholarship, GVSU Thompson Working Family Scholarship, Michigan Achievement Scholarship, Brink Wood Products Scholarship

**Ava Terpstra** – Michigan State University  
Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish, National Honor Society, Versiti Leader for Life, BCHS Service Award

**Malachi Tessmer** – Grand Rapids Community College  
GVSU Academic Scholarship, Gaines Township Chick-fil-A Scholarship, Metro High School Police Academy Top Male Recruit Scholarship, National Honor Society

**Nathan Thompson** – Davenport University  
Davenport Achievement Scholarship, BCHS Business Award

**Josh Thull** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Indigo Umlor** – University of Michigan  
U of M Chancellor's Scholarship, Michigan Governor Youth Service Award, Michigan Community Impact Award, National Honor Society, National Community Service Award, BCHS Service Award, Versiti Leader for Life Award, Senior Class Representative

**Bryan Urena** – Davenport University

**Teagan Van Kampen** – Michigan State University  
Global Seal of Biliteracy for German

**Madelyn VanDam** – Walden University

**Miles VanDam** – Purdue University  
National Merit Commended Scholar, AP Scholar with Distinction, National Honor Society, BCHS Math Award

**Kylie Vandenberg** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Faculty Scholarship, Science Olympiad

**Zoe Vandenberg** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Award for Excellence Scholarship, GRBS Perseverance Scholarship, Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Coen Vandenberg** – University of Alabama  
Alabama Capstone Merit Scholarship, AP Scholar with Honor

**Megan Vander Kooi** – Western Michigan University  
WMU Bronco Merit Scholarship

**Sam VanderWerf** – Albion College  
Albion Presidential Scholarship, Albion College Visit Scholarship, National Honor Society, MHSAA Scholar Athlete, BCHS Service Award

**Paitin VanDusen** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Lauren VanHooren** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Academic Scholarship

**Megan VanSweden** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Claire VanZanten** – Spring Arbor University  
SAU Academic Scholarship, SAU Athletic Scholarship, National Honor Society, Versiti Leader for Life Award, BCHS Service Award

**Tyler Waite** – Bowling Green State University  
BGSU Academic Scholarship, BGSU Out of State Scholarship

**Brad Walker** – EV Construction

**Jenna Wallace** – Hope College  
LINKS Award

**Hunter Wayman** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Faculty Scholarship

**Demetrius Wedge** – Kendall College of Art and Design

**Keegan Weir** – Augustana College  
Augustana Dean's Scholarship and Augustana History Department Scholarship, National Honor Society, MHSAA Scholar Athlete, BCHS Service Award

**Caden Westers** – Grand Valley State University  
GVSU Faculty Scholarship, National Honor Society, Michigan and Global Seals of Biliteracy for Spanish

**Emma Wheeler** – Butler University  
Butler Scholarship, Senior Class Representative

**Stacy Wheeler** – Michigan Career & Technical Institute  
BCHS Learning Strategies Award

**Brianna Whitfield** – Albion College  
Albion Presidential Scholarship, Albion Visual Arts Scholarship, Albion Visit Scholarship, Michigan Achievement Scholarship, National Honor Society, BCHS Art Award, BCHS Yearbook Award

**Ethan Wieber** – Davenport University  
Davenport Academic Scholarship

**Clinton Wierenga** – Gap Year  
BCHS Performing Arts Award for Theatre

**Gabrielle Williams** – University of Alabama

**Hayden Wilson** – Hope College

**Brad Winkel** – Grand Rapids Community College

**Alyssa Wisener** – Cornerstone University  
Cornerstone President's Scholarship, BCHS Service Award, LINKS Award

**Kate Wisniewski** – Miami University  
Miami RedHawk Excellence Scholarship

**Brady Wolters** – Grand Valley State University

**Alexis Ypma** – Douglas J Aveda

**Sabrina Zavala** – Michigan State University

**Lily Zeinstra** – Butler University  
Athletic Scholarship, BCHS Physical Education Award

**Jaxon Zylstra** – Davenport University

## Senior Class Motto

“Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it.”

-Ferris Bueller

## Senior Class Flower

Lotus

## Senior Class Song

“Home” by Phillip Phillips

# Kent Career Tech Center

Kent Career Tech Center offers education focusing on career exploration and continuing education leading to successful employment. These 41 BCBS seniors have earned industry-recognized certifications. Some of these students will go on to receive additional training, while others are ready to enter the workforce.

**Tyler Baareman** – Criminal Justice  
**Ferris Bakri** – Advanced Auto Tech - Brakes  
**Zander Bobeldyke** – Auto Collision Repair  
**Breanna Boyer** – Nurse Tech/Patient Care Tech  
**Mical Bronkema** – Nurse Tech/Patient Care Tech  
**Cullen Brownell** – Graphics Communications  
**Kate Brumbelow** – Nurse Tech/Patient Care Tech  
**Adeline Butts** – Teacher Academy  
**Joel Castro** – Applied Construction Tech  
**Tyler Debois** – Advanced Auto Tech - Electrical  
**Faith Denning** – Teacher Academy  
**William Evans** – Welding  
**Natalia Gonzalez Lopez** – Emergency Medical Services  
**Austin Gordon** – Applied Construction Tech  
**Carolyn Haney** – Health - Medical Assistant  
**Isabelle Helmus** – Hospitality - Advanced Culinary  
**Ronan Hiemstra** – Prevoc Exploration Industrial Technology  
**Calvin Hoezee** – Auto Collision Repair  
**Kenzie Hoff** – Health - Pharmacy Technician  
**Natalie Holmes** – Health - Pharmacy Technician  
**Brody Lahr** – Diesel & Equipment Tech  
**Peyton Lee** – Info Tech - Advanced Networking  
**Juan Lopez Zamudio** – Health - Medical Assistant  
**Gabriela Martinez-Rivera** – Engineering & Architectural Design  
**Zachary Ming** – Networking & Cyber Security  
**Lucy Modderman** – Graphics Advanced  
**Brianna Paciencia** – Health Careers Foundations  
**Evie Phillips** – Graphics Advanced  
**Jackson Pojeski** – Auto Tech - Maintenance Light Repair  
**Makenzie Robinson** – Work-site Based Learning  
**Cody Rop** – Work-site Based Learning  
**Mia Rush** – Hospitality - Advanced Pastry  
**Braylon Russ** – Aviation Maintenance Tech  
**Rylee Siereveld** – Health - Emergency Medical Services  
**Ethan Speese** – Work-site Based Learning  
**Alexis Spica** – Nurse Tech/Patient Care Tech  
**Eden Stone** – Graphics Advanced  
**Ryan Strickland** – Precision Machining Tech  
**Katelyn Syswerda** – Nurse Tech/Patient Care Tech  
**Bryan Urena** – Entrepreneurship and Marketing  
**Brad Walker** – Applied Construction Tech



# North Star Academy

Congratulations to the 21 seniors who graduated from the North Star Academy this year! This was our 16th graduating class. The personalized, blended-education program at Byron Center is designed to prepare students for their individual plan after high school while completing BCBS graduation requirements and receiving a BCPS diploma.



# BCBS Exchange Students

**Viola Benintende** – Italy  
**Sonia Bertoli** – Italy  
**Victor Rohde Buck** – Denmark  
**Ilyana Cornu** – France  
**Carolina Garcia Gomez** – Spain  
**Ilaria Gorla** – Italy  
**Giulia Gulisano** – Italy  
**Patrycja Kejna** – Poland  
**Daniel Matejka** – Czech Republic  
**Brage Stroemmen Saevild** – Norway



# CELEBRATING Fine Arts

**Congratulations to all of our actors, dancers, musicians, singers and visual artists!**

Your dedication to the fine arts has been remarkable and your talents are extraordinary. The Byron Center Fine Arts program hopes all students continue to develop their creative talents and we wish the best for our graduating seniors!

## Byron Center Theatre

### FALL PLAY: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

**Cast size:** 38 students  
**Crew size:** 25 students

### SPRING MUSICAL: BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

**Cast size:** 54 students  
**Crew size:** 40 students

Sold out three of the four shows, with 2,745 tickets sold, an all-time high number of tickets sold for BCHS Theatre!



Fall Play: *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*



Spring Musical: *Beauty and the Beast*



Brayde Kietzman as Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast*  
(ShotsByCJ)



Jacob Gibson as Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast*  
(ShotsByCJ)

### SUTTON FOSTER AWARDS NOMINATIONS

**Jacob Gibson:**  
Outstanding Performer in a Leading Role as Lumiere

**Brayde Kietzman:**  
Outstanding Performer in a Leading Role as Gaston

## Band, Choir and Orchestra

### BAND

**Marching Band:** placed second in the State

**District Solo and Ensemble:** 40 First Division ratings and 27 Second Division ratings

**State Solo and Ensemble:** 23 First Division ratings and Seven Second Division ratings



Official photo of the BCHS Marching Band





*Jazz Orchestra performs at Essentially Ellington in New York City*

## JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Performed at Michigan Music Conference

First place at CMU Jazz Festival

Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition & Festival, Top 15 in the country



*Regional High School Honors Choir: Ben Waters, Alex Barbour, Elle Sanders, Hunter Wayman, Clinton Wierenga, Casey Schans and David Hambrick*

## CHOIR

**Regional High School Honors Choir:**

Seven Students Selected

**State High School Honors Choir:** Alex Barbour, Elle Sanders, Hunter Wayman and Clinton Wierenga

**All-State High School Honors Choir:** Alex Barbour

**District Solo and Ensemble:** 26 First Division ratings and Nine Second Division ratings

**State Solo and Ensemble:** 14 First Division ratings and Four Second Division ratings

**Musical Theatre Solo and Ensemble:** Eight First Division ratings and Two Second Division ratings

**Musical Theatre Intensive**

**(100 students chosen out of the State of MI):**

Madison Bouman, Natalie Bright, Danielle Burchard, Alyssa Ehlert, Alyssa Sherman, Ben Waters and Clinton Wierenga



*Mark Wood rehearses with students ahead of Electrify Your Symphony*

## ORCHESTRA

**Electrify Your Symphony:** Two sold out concerts with Mark Wood, Laura Kaya and Nathan Blake

**District Solo and Ensemble:** 20 First Division ratings and Eight Second Division ratings

**State Solo and Ensemble:** Eight First Division ratings and Two Second Division ratings

**Chamber Orchestra:** First Division rating at District Festival

**Concert Orchestra:** First Division rating at District Festival



*Madison Peters conducts the Concert Orchestra at Artastic*



*Vocal Expressions sings the Class of 2024's song, Home by Phillip Phillips at graduation*

# Visual Arts

## FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS AWARD WINNERS

**Jolienne Schutte** – *I'm Me Again!*

**Izzy Smith** – *Skin & Bones*

## COURAGEOUS PERSUADERS FINALIST

Sophia Feldpausch

## TOP 100 IN THE STATE

**Kian Cahall** – *Son of the City and Rock and Roll*

**Abby Middleton** – *Under the Porch*

**Jolienne Schutte** – *I Just Can't Tell You Two Apart!*

## SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

High School - 20 Awards

**Gold Key:** Kian Cahall, Alyssa Le (2) and Toby Okhuysen

**Silver Key:** Daphne Ball, Alessandra Bontomasi, Kendall DuBuis, Morgan Keiser, Alyssa Le and Demetrius Wedge

**Honorable Mention:** Alessandra Bontomasi, Ada Brown, Emmerson Brownell, Kian Cahall (2), Kendall DuBuis, Morgan Keiser, Abby Middleton and Jolienne Schutte (2)

## MICHIGAN ART EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

12 Regional Winners

## MOSAIC FILM FESTIVAL

### People's Choice Award:

Brayde Kietzman and Toby Okhuysen

## BCHS ART AWARDS

Barry Afienko, Kian Cahall, Sophia Holverstott and Brianna Whitfield

## BCHS PERFORMING ARTS

Maggie Banks, Grace Kimberly, Alyssa Sherman and Clinton Wierenga



Kian Cahall, Barry Afienko, Brianna Whitfield and Sophia Holverstott received the BCHS Art Award



Seniors Brayde Kietzman and Toby Okhuysen win People's Choice Award for their short film, "Mr. Know-It-All"



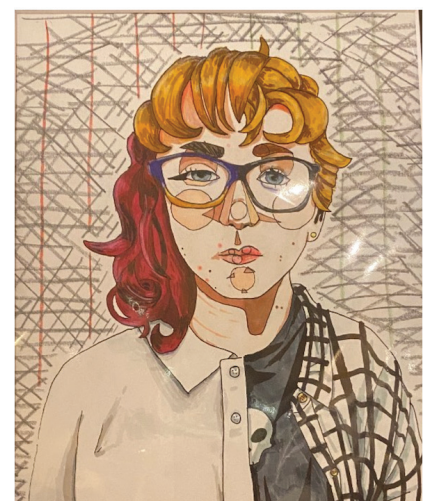
Clinton Wierenga, Alyssa Sherman, Maggie Banks and Grace Kimberly received the BCHS Performing Arts Award



Top 100 in the State:  
*Son of the City*, Kian Cahall



Top 100 in the State:  
*Under the Porch*, Abby Middleton



Top 100 in the State:  
*I Just Can't Tell You Two Apart!*, Jolienne Schutte

# INSPIRING Athletes

## OK Conference Scholar Athletes

Lilia Alvarez	Aubrey Larobardiere	Leigha Sorenson Putnam
Caroline Baker	Madison Leifer	Ryan Strickland
Maggie Banks	Jonathon Lennon	Lexi Struble
Brooklyn Beauch	Juan Lopez	Brady Swanson
Sharley Bilot	Zamudio	Colton Swanson
Cameryn Boerman	Adalyn Mata	Katelyn Syswerda
Sydney Boucher	Darin McKendry	Joshua Thull
Lauren Bowman	Brayden Menifee	Teagan Van Kampen
Kate Brumbelow	Mark Millard	Coen Vandenberg
Emma Carlson	Cole Mitchell	Sam VanderWerf
Katelyn Cole	Ben Passeno	Megan VanSweden
Addison DeVos	Rowan Pellow	Claire VanZanten
Noah Dolan	Joel Perez	Tyler Waite
AJ Dykstra	Aaron Petroelje	Jenna Wallace
Macie Elzinga	Jackson Porco	Keegan Weir
Levi Green	Cade Pratt	Caden Westers
Ben Heagle	Ava Putnam	Brianna Whitfield
Sophia Holverstott	Anthony Rivera	Alyssa Wisener
Bodin Hurley	Kyle Rogala	Kate Wisniewski
Nicholas Jessee	Zachary Ryan	Lily Zeinstra
Isabella Kalbfleisch	Madison Sandholm	
Josiah Karnehm	Tyler Somers	
Andrew Kroft		



Girls Golf placed 9th in the State Finals



Boys Lacrosse Regional Champions

## Athlete of the Year



Jayden Brock



Madison Sandholm

### Sports Boosters Scholarship

Levi Green    Madison Leifer

### Robert L. Nickels Scholarship

Connor Ferguson    Madison Sandholm

### Cristi Curtis Memorial Scholarship

Kate Wisniewski

### Advanced Chemical Concepts Business Athlete Scholarship

Avery DePagter    Lilianna McAvoy

Blake Ottow    Tyler Somers

### Bulldog Award

Josiah Karnehm    Alyssa Wisener

### Bulldog Power Award

Avery DePagter    Bodin Hurley

### Mr. Hockey

Jackson Froyland

### Miss Basketball Runner-Up

Lily Zeinstra

### Triple Threat Award

Sharley Bilot – Cross Country, Bowling, Track  
 Bodin Hurley – Football, Wrestling, Baseball, Track  
 Blake Ottow – Football, Wrestling, Baseball, Track  
 Brayden Perdok – Football, Wrestling, Lacrosse  
 Madison Sandholm – Volleyball, Basketball, Softball  
 Ryan Strickland – Football, Wrestling, Track

# Byron Center Athletics Core Values

## EFFORT:

Relentless pursuit of excellence by dedicating 100% to your program, teammates and coaches.

Tyler Waite



## EXCELLENCE:

Maintaining a growth mind-set: willing to take a risk and learn from failure. Commitment to continuous growth and improvement.

Brooklyn Beauch



## ATTITUDE:

Controlling how you react to adversity and success to produce a positive outcome.

Joel Perez



## RESPECT:

Showing character in all situations while striving for competitive excellence.

Isabella Kalbfleisch



## All-Conference Athletes

### FALL

Memphis Connor, Cross Country  
 Levi Green, Cross Country  
 Mitchell Jeruzal, Cross Country  
 Mark Millard, Cross Country (HM)  
 Sydney Law, Cross Country  
 Daphne Ball, Cross Country (HM)  
 Bodin Hurley, Football  
 Luke Laska, Football  
 Isaac Lee, Football  
 Blake Ottow, Football  
 Joel Perez, Football  
 Landon Tungate, Football  
 Coen Vandenberghe, Football  
 Jackson Bovia, Football (HM)  
 Landen Conrad, Football (HM)  
 Hudson Pulawski, Football (HM)  
 Hunter Steenbergen, Football (HM)  
 Macie Elzinga, Golf  
 Jenna Wallace, Golf  
 Holly Lawrence, Golf (HM)  
 Carlos Castro, Soccer  
 Luke Philo, Soccer  
 Kaleb Smith, Soccer  
 Brendan Walker, Soccer  
 Isaac DeVries, Soccer (HM)  
 Brooklyn Beauch, Swim  
 Lilianna McAvoy, Swim  
 Izzie VanDuyn, Swim  
 Brady Pettit, Tennis  
 Caroline Baker, Volleyball  
 Mallory Johnson, Volleyball  
 Reese Lowe, Volleyball  
 Brianna Whitfield, Volleyball  
 Makenzi Bennett, Volleyball (HM)

### WINTER

Ben Heagle, Basketball  
 Camden Karel, Basketball  
 Isaac Lee, Basketball (HM)  
 Trey Sluiter, Basketball (HM)  
 Avery DePagter, Basketball  
 Madison Sandholm, Basketball  
 Lily Zeinstra, Basketball  
 Madisyn Meissner, Basketball (HM)  
 Layla Batrville, Bowling  
 Sharley Bilot, Bowling  
 Adrey Bilot, Bowling  
 Ashley Cramer, Bowling (HM)  
 Matt Boersma, Bowling (HM)  
 Emma Carlson, Comp Cheer  
 Diana Esparza, Comp Cheer  
 Alexis Kleczynski, Comp Cheer  
 Sophia McCotter, Comp Cheer  
 Addison Yerkes, Comp Cheer  
 Maggie Banks, Comp Cheer (HM)  
 Ellie Lanning, Comp Cheer (HM)  
 Jackson Froyland, Hockey  
 Luke Laska, Hockey  
 Braxton McKee, Hockey  
 Luke Philo, Hockey  
 Cade Pratt, Hockey  
 Collin Storey, Hockey  
 Brady Swanson, Hockey  
 Colton Swanson, Hockey  
 Ben Passeno, Hockey (HM)  
 Jack Olivier, Dive  
 Brady Beauch, Swim  
 Ryder Nichols, Swim  
 Aaron Petroelje, Swim

Lucas Ritsema, Swim  
 Colton Standorf, Swim  
 Graeden Standorf, Swim  
 Blake Ottow, Wrestling

### SPRING

Jake Hill, Baseball  
 Luke Laska, Baseball  
 Kellen Payne, Baseball  
 Zachary Ryan, Baseball  
 Nolan Booth, Baseball (HM)  
 Alex Wauben, Baseball (HM)  
 Nicholas Jessee, Lacrosse  
 Josiah Karnehm, Lacrosse  
 Reed Kartes, Lacrosse  
 Connor Ferguson, Lacrosse (HM)  
 Jackson Porco, Lacrosse (HM)  
 Isabella Kalbfleisch, Lacrosse  
 Layla Funk, Lacrosse (HM)  
 Carli Alexander, Soccer  
 Jordan Kerns, Soccer  
 Makenna Lange, Soccer  
 Ella Leyendecker, Soccer  
 Claire VanZanten, Soccer  
 Addison Alexander, Soccer (HM)  
 Ella Allexander, Soccer (HM)  
 Nora Leavitt, Soccer (HM)  
 Cameryn Boerman, Softball  
 Olivia Dolan, Softball  
 Ellory Dykstra, Softball  
 Sophia Holverstott, Softball  
 Madison Sandholm, Softball  
 Breanna Boyer, Softball (HM)  
 Ava VanKampen, Softball (HM)

Addison DeVos, Tennis  
 Jayden Brock, Track  
 AJ Dykstra, Track  
 Parker Holford, Track  
 Jonathon Lennon, Track  
 Brody Leyendecker, Track  
 Xavier McCallum, Track  
 Cole Mitchell, Track  
 Connor Nealon, Track  
 Nolan Stubblefield, Track  
 Natalie Formsma, Track  
 Calena Foster, Track  
 Madison Leifer, Track  
 Lauren Milward, Track  
 Kaitlyn Noel, Track  
 Adlee Schreuder, Track  
 Alyssa Wisener, Track



# Individual State Qualifiers

## FALL

**Daphne Ball**, Cross Country  
**Memphis Connor**, Cross Country  
**Mitchell Jeruzal**, Cross Country  
**Macie Elzinga**, Golf, State Runner-Up  
**Mackenzie Schichtel**, Dive  
**Brooklyn Beach**, Swim, 100 Fly State Champion, 100 Backstroke (4th)  
**Taylor Blomeling**, Swim  
**Chayse Campbell**, Swim  
**Addison Deppe**, Swim  
**Carolina Garcia Gomez**, Swim  
**Lucy Haney**, Swim  
**Lilianna McAvoy**, Swim, 200 Freestyle (7th)  
**Braylee VanDusen**, Swim  
**Izzie VanDuyn**, Swim, 500 freestyle (8th)  
**Emma Wiechertjes**, Swim

## WINTER

**Kellen Cutler**, Dive  
**Ike DeVries**, Dive  
**Jack Olivier**, Dive (4th)  
**Brady Beach**, Swim, 500 freestyle (7th)  
**Victor Buck**, Swim  
**Caleb Meginley**, Swim  
**Carter Nelson**, Swim

**Ryder Nichols**, Swim, 100 Breaststroke State Runner-Up  
**Aaron Petroelje**, Swim  
**Lucas Ritsema**, Swim  
**Jackson Schmuker**, Swim  
**Colton Standorf**, Swim  
**Graeden Stendorf**, Swim  
**Austin Coleman**, Wrestling  
**Blake Ottow**, Wrestling (4th)  
**Hunter Pulawski**, Wrestling  
**Brad Winkel**, Wrestling (8th)

## SPRING

**Zander Bobeldyke**, Track  
**Jayden Brock**, Track, Long Jump (3rd), High Jump (4th)  
**AJ Dykstra, Jonathon Lennon, Brody Leyendecker and Xavier McCallum Track**, 4x400 (4th)  
**Parker Holford**, Track  
**Mason Joseph**, Track  
**Connor Nealon**, Track  
**Blake Ottow**, Track  
**Parker Perez**, Track  
**Nolan Stubblefield**, Track  
**Calena Foster**, Track  
**Natalie Formsma**, Track, High Jump (5th), Long Jump (6th)  
**Lauren Milward**, Track  
**Kaitlyn Noel**, Track  
**Adlee Schreuder**, Track

# 2023-24 Championship Teams

**Equestrian**  
District Champs

**Football**  
Conference Champs & District Champs

**Girls Golf**  
Conference Champs & 9th in State D1

**Boys Tennis**  
7th in State D2

**Volleyball:**  
Conference Champs & District Champs

**Girls Basketball**  
Conference Champs & District Champs

**Girls Bowling**  
Conference Champs

**Competitive Cheer**  
Conference Champs

**Hockey**  
Conference Champs, Regional Champs & State Champs D2

**Boys Swim/Dive**  
Conference Champs & 8th in State D2

**Wrestling**  
District Champs

**Boys Lacrosse**  
Regional Champs

**Girls Soccer**  
Conference Co-Champs

**Softball**  
Conference Champs & District Champs

**Boys Track**  
Conference Champs



Boys Swim/Dive placed 8th in the State Finals



Boys Tennis placed 7th in the State Finals



Hockey D2 State Champions



Girls Basketball District Champions



Softball District Champions, 10x Conference Champs

# MESSAGES to Our Graduates

“So proud of you all! It was a privilege to coach all of you that were in Bulldog Power. Best wishes to you all as you take your talents to the next level... wherever that is!”

**Mr. Chiaramonte**  
BCHS Strength & Conditioning  
Coordinator

“It has been a privilege and honor to be your assistant principal these past four years! Your perseverance, creativity and dedication have been nothing short of inspiring. Remember the end of high school is not just a conclusion, but also a beginning. Don't be afraid to take risks, to make mistakes and to learn from them. Each experience will shape who you want to become. Congratulations, Class of 2024!”

**Mrs. Emmons**  
BCHS Assistant Principal

“¡Buena Suerte - Good Luck! Remember to travel and enjoy experiencing other cultures. Use your German and Spanish skills to truly learn about other countries. Work hard and continue to develop a strong work ethic being proactive. Stay active mentally and physically. Set goals and do what it takes to reach them, even if you have to make major sacrifices. ¡Hasta la vista, La Clase de 2024!”

**Señor Domeier**  
BCHS Spanish Teacher

“Congratulations! So proud of each of you! Remember to set your goals and reach for them! Show them what it means to be a bulldog!”

**Mrs. Koenig**  
Countryside 3rd Grade Teacher

“Congratulations Class of 2024! I can remember a few short years ago when you were at Nickels. Your energy and your positivity was brimming, and your future was bright. Six years later, and your future is even brighter and probably a little more crystal clear. I am excited for the next chapter in your storybook, and wish you well on your next adventure in life. Just remember that the chapters that have been written do not necessarily define you. You have the ability to create and recreate your story of success and happiness!”

**Mr. Trout**  
Nickels Intermediate Principal

“Congratulations Class of 2024! Wishing each and every one of you all the best in this next chapter of your life!”

**Mrs. Takens**  
Marshall School Counselor

“Congratulations to all the graduates of 2024! You have so much to be proud of. All your hard work has finally paid off. Remember to enjoy every moment life throws at you and to always be true to yourself and go after what you want. We're proud of you all!”

**Mrs. Abbott**  
Countryside PE Teacher

“Congrats!! I can't believe that the young ninth graders that walked into math class are now graduated!! The last class to have ever known me as 'Kladder'... you will be missed!”

**Mrs. Klopstein**  
BCHS Math Teacher

“Congratulations to the senior class of 2024! Your dedication to the arts and your achievements on stage have truly been remarkable. Best wishes for your bright futures ahead!”

**Mrs. Wagner**  
VSFAC Managing Director

“Gratuliere!! Ich bin stolz auf euch! You all have come such a long way. Best of luck next year in all your post-high school endeavors!”

**Frau Finkbeiner**  
BCHS German Teacher

“BCHS Graduates 2024!! As you turn the page on this chapter, hold onto the lessons learned, the friendships forged and the laughter shared. Carry the spark of curiosity and the courage to chase your dreams. The world awaits your unique talents, and the future is unwritten, ready for you to paint your masterpiece. Go forth and create something extraordinary! And as Eleanor Roosevelt said, “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

I will miss you deeply, thanks for being uniquely you!!”

**Mr. Boillat**  
BCHS Psychology Teacher

“Congratulations! I'm proud of the hard work it took to get here. Best wishes for a bright future!”

**Mr. Volkens**  
Countryside 4th Grade Teacher

“CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2024! I am so proud of all your hard work! Take a moment to reflect on the past four years and all of your accomplishments. You are incredible people and will change the world. Never stop chasing your dreams!”

**Ms. Huss**  
BCHS School Counselor

“Blessings and congratulations to you all! You are delightful humans, I wish you the best in life!”

**Mr. LaSorsa**  
BCHS Science Teacher

“Class of 2024...WOW! When you were at Nickels 6-7 years ago, 2024 seemed like the very distant future. It is now here, and hard to believe how quickly that time has passed. Although time moves forward at the same speed throughout your life, you'll find that it seems to move faster as you get older. Be intentional about taking the time to appreciate the important things while balancing hard work with play. Congratulations, Class of 2024...we are proud of you!”

**Mrs. Lenger**  
WMS Choir Accompanist

“Congratulations to the Class of 2024! It was a true joy to get to know each of you and watch you grow throughout the year. You have truly represented Byron Center in a positive way through academics, athletics, fine arts performances and continuing to build a strong community from within.”

**Mr. Schut**  
BCHS Assistant Principal

“What a group of absolute gems of young adults. Such a spectacular group that is going to go on to do extraordinary things! Congrats class of 2024, don't be strangers around BC! We are always here for you!”

**Mr. Lang**  
BCHS Math Teacher

“¡Buen trabajo! Well done, class of 2024! It was an honor to be a part of your journey, and I hope you continue to learn about people different from yourself and develop a stronger sense of empathy to create a world that will be better for everyone. I encourage each of you to be yourself! TRAVEL when you can, and if an opportunity presents itself, jump on it!”

**Señora Sibalwa**  
BCHS & WMS World  
Language Teacher

“I wish you all the best in your future endeavors. The world will be a better place with your contributions. Take chances, work hard, serve others.”

**Mrs. Kanitz**  
West Middle School Principal

“Class of 2024, YOU DID IT! I am so proud of you all. You will hold a special place in my heart forever, as you were my first group of sixth grade BC students. I have wonderful memories of this group. I often joked that I could probably have left my classroom to go do my grocery shopping across the street at Family Fare and return to a class of kids who had their work done and started the next task on their own! You are incredibly smart, kind and hard working... nothing proved that more than when our homeroom won sixth grade field day! I wish you all nothing but the best in this next exciting chapter in life. And remember you always have a “home” to visit at Nickels room E202. Congratulations!”

**Mrs. Sandera**  
Nickels 6th Grade Teacher

“I do not regret the things I’ve done, but those I did not do,” Empire Records. Meaning move forward, not backward. Congratulations Class of 2024, the world is at your fingertips! Don’t forget to, work like you don’t need the money, love like you’ve never been hurt and dance like nobody’s watching.”

**Mrs. Bonnell**  
BCHS School Counselor

“The Class of 2024 will always have a special place in my heart due to your enthusiasm, kindness and simply knowing how to have fun. I will forever treasure your thoughtfulness in pulling together the surprise “Mrs. Kuiper Day” and including my family on that special day. Congratulations and best wishes as you kick-off this new and important season in life!”

**Mrs. Kuiper**  
Nickels 5th Grade Teacher

“Buy Bitcoin.”  
**Mr. Elzinga**  
BCHS Paraprofessional

“I have some GREAT memories of the class of 2024 when you were a part of Nickels Nation! It has been even better getting to watch you all since in athletics, fine arts, academics or just cross paths at random times throughout the years. I appreciate you taking the time to stop, say hello and catch up when you have. I hope you have enjoyed your Byron Center experience and always remember, once a student of Mr. Amo, ALWAYS a student of Mr. Amo! Congratulations to you ALL!”

**Mr. Amo**  
Nickels PE Teacher

“¡Felicidades! Ha sido un placer trabajar con este grupo magnifico. ¡Buena suerte en el futuro!”

**Mrs. Showers**  
BCHS Spanish Teacher

“Congratulations to all of the Seniors! It has been a JOY to have all of you who were in my classes as students this year, and it is exciting to see what your plans are for the future. I love the opportunities I’ve had to see you experience and enjoy all the things that make your senior year special and see your successes in Senior English in experiences like mock interviews, partnering with businesses for Design Thinking and mock trials. Thank you for the enthusiastic Zumba Fridays and for keeping me young! And, come back and visit to say “Hi.”

**Mrs. Baas**  
BCHS English Teacher

“Hello BC graduates! Congratulations to you all. A special shout out to those I met and taught at Brown Elementary when you began your Byron Center journey in DK. It was so fun being one of your first teachers and I cannot believe so much time has passed that you are now graduating. My wish for you all is that you find something in the world to fix by embracing your talents and passions. Enjoy making the world a better place.”

**Mrs. Deppe**  
Nickels 5th Grade Teacher

“Congratulations, ELs! You made it! It has been amazing knowing a lot of you since 7th grade ESL at WMS. Please keep in touch. I’m so proud of each and every one of you!”

**Mrs. Tripp**  
BCHS & WMS ESL Teacher

“Congratulations! I am so proud of all of your achievements. I have many fond memories of your time in third grade; like when we went to the Capitol Building in Lansing and when you performed your speeches for the wax museum. Good luck on all of your future endeavors.”

**Mrs. Caldwell**  
Marshall 3rd Grade Teacher

“Many congratulations Class of 2024! I have loved watching you all grow these last four years at the high school, it’s hard to believe it’s the end of the road here for you guys. The halls will certainly feel different, along with our classrooms and sports fields and courts. You have been a joy to watch and to know. Best wishes, shine bright and always do your very, very BEST!”

**Mrs. Merritt**  
BCHS Math Teacher

“Seniors, As your days of being a bulldog come to an end, I hope you look back and are proud of all you accomplished. This ending is simply the start of a new adventure and I hope you continue to take it all in and cherish all the lessons you will learn along the way. Forever a bulldog! Cheers to you, Class of 2024!”

**Miss VanEngen**  
Countryside 1st Grade Teacher

“Dear Class of 2024, I’ve had the profound honor and privilege of witnessing your journey, some from the early days of elementary school, to this key moment in your life. Seeing you become the independent young men and women you are today fills me with BC pride. Your ability to adapt to a changing world and your zest for learning new life experiences is inspiring. Many of you have mastered the art of balancing hard work with a joyful outlook on life while navigating challenges with grace and determination. As you begin your next chapter, remember that it’s not just about reaching a destination, but cherishing each step of the journey. Embrace the experiences that come your way, for they shape who you are.

Remember, there’s only one unique you in this world, so strive to be the best version of yourself. I’m so proud of each of you! As you go into the next phase, make BC proud, for it is always a great day to be a Bulldog!”

**Mr. Joseph**  
BCPS Executive Director of  
Curriculum & Instruction



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# A Note from Mr. Reedy



Dear Class of 2024,

Thank you for all you have done for BCHS and the greater Byron Center community. Over the past four years, you have learned, grown and excelled in many ways. I've had the pleasure of watching you lead by example over the past year and you

consistently upheld the standards of BCHS. We were so fortunate to have you in our building during your high school career. As you embark on your next journey, I hope the skills and dispositions you developed at BCHS lead to your continued success. Remember, you will sometimes fall short of being the best, but never allow yourself to fall short of giving your best!

**Troy Reedy**  
 BC High School  
 Principal

