

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

2024

### Board of Education Meetings

April 8

(regular meeting, 6:30pm)

April 22

(special meeting, 5:15pm)

May 6

(regular meeting, 6:30pm)

May 20

(special meeting, 5:15pm)

June 10

(special meeting, 5:15pm)

June 24

(regular meeting, 6:15pm)

Check [www.bcpsk12.net](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.



## Strong Readers Build Future Leaders

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,



Kevin Macina, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



# ACADEMICS

## National Merit Scholarship

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

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



## In the classroom

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

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



## Spelling Bee

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





# READING Month



**GRAB A BOOK**



**IT'S TIME TO READ!**







## Jazz Orchestra to Essentially Ellington

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

### BYRON CENTER COMMUNITY BAND

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

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

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

SCAN ME

Looking for more information?  
Email: [joinbccb@gmail.com](mailto:joinbccb@gmail.com)

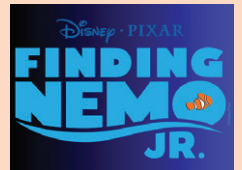
## Beauty and the Beast Musical

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



## Upcoming Van Singel Fine Arts Center Productions

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





# Scholastic Art Awards



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

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



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



## Administration Office Art Project

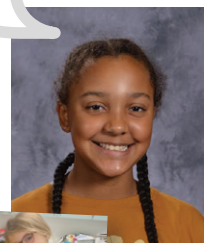
The Byron Center Public Schools Administration Office looks a little brighter thanks to the talented student artists of BC! After renovating the building, district leaders were looking to decorate and turned to the fine arts department for help.

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

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

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

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





# ATHLETICS

## Hockey

**2024 MHSAA Division 2 State Champions**

**Regional Champions**

**OK White Conference Champions**

**2024 Mr. Hockey**

Jackson Froysland

**Mr. Hockey Finalists  
2024 Dream Team**

Jackson Froysland,  
Cade Pratt, Brady Swanson

**50 Career Goals**

Jackson Froysland,  
Cade Pratt

**100 Career Assists**

Cade Pratt

**OK White**

**All-Conference Players**

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

## Swim

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

Ryder Nichols

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

Brady Beach

**8th in Division 2 State Finals**

**OK White  
Conference Champions**

**Qualified for State Finals**

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

**OK White  
All-Conference Players**

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

## Dive

**4th in State Finals**

Jack Olivier

**OK White  
Conference Champions**

**Qualified for State Finals**

Kellen Cutler, Ike DeVries,  
Jack Olivier

**OK White  
All-Conference Player**

Jack Olivier

## Wrestling

**4th in State Finals**

Blake Ottow

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

Brad Winkel

**District Champions**

**OK White  
Conference Champion**

**OK White  
All-Conference Player**

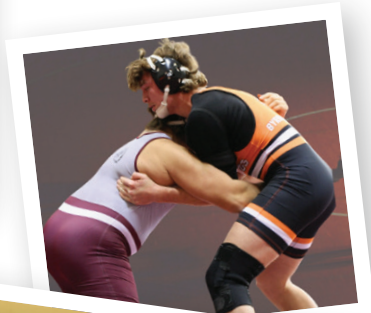
Blake Ottow

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

Coach Tom Barker

**Qualified for State Finals**

Austin Coleman, Blake Ottow, Hunter Pulawski, Brad Winkel





# Girls Basketball

**Regional Runner-Up**

**District Champions**

**OK White Conference Champions**

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

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

# Boys Basketball

**District Runner-Up**

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

# Bowling

**Girls OK White Conference Champions**

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

# Competitive Cheer

**OK White Conference Champions**

**Lake Michigan Competitive Cheer Officials Association Scholarship**  
Emma Carlson

**District 1-1 Coach of the Year**  
Coach Sammy Wetherington

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





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

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## 2024 SCHOOL YEAR IMPORTANT DATES

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

