

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: Tamera Powers

Board of Education

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

2025

Board of Education Meetings

Jan 7, 6:30pm (Organizational
& Regular Meeting)
Jan 27, 5:15pm (Special Meeting)
Feb 10, 6:30pm (Regular Meeting)
Feb 24, 5:15pm (Special Meeting)
March 10, 6:30pm (Regular Meeting)
March 24, 5:15pm (Special Meeting)
April 14, 6:30pm (Regular Meeting)
April 28, 5:15pm (Special Meeting)
May 12, 6:30pm (Regular Meeting)
May 19, 5:15pm (Special Meeting)
June 9, 5:15pm (Special Meeting)
June 23, 6:30pm (Budget
Hearing/Regular Meeting)

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 and Instagram for
information on school closings,
upcoming events and more!

Season of Giving



Dear Byron Center Community,

Thank you Byron Center for your continued support of our schools and our community. This truly is a special place to be and I am reminded of that time and time again. Our students, staff and the community make me proud to be a bulldog!

Byron Center Public Schools was named the top school district in Michigan, thanks to our hard working staff and students. Keep up the great work! Our fine arts department continues to shine whether that be through visual art, theatre, choir or band. I got the chance to check out the K-12 Art Show at the Van Singel and I am always in awe at just how talented our students are. BC athletics is competing at a high level, with five of our fall sports making it to the state finals and many competing in postseason play. Congratulations to our student-athletes and coaching staff on an impressive run. Go Bulldogs!

I want to thank the Byron Center community for their generosity this holiday season. Districtwide, BCPS hosted its annual Toys for Tots drive, collecting more than 800 toys for West Michigan children in need. West Middle School hosted its annual Thanksgiving food drive, a collection put on by the National Junior Honor Society to gather up food items for local families. Countryside Elementary collected essential items to create care packages for soldiers deployed overseas.

BCPS staff rallied together to raise money for Hand2Hand, a local non-profit that works with local churches to provide meals for West Michigan students facing hunger on the weekends and over extended school breaks. BCPS also partnered with Bell House Training Co. for The Big Give, which sponsors West Michigan children to make sure they have presents this holiday season.

As we start a new year, let's continue to work together and show kindness. I want to wish everyone a happy holiday season and a happy new year!

Sincerely,

Kevin Macina, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools





Academic Success

Byron Center Public Schools was named the top school district in Michigan for overall test score proficiency. The Michigan Department of Education released M-STEP test scores, showing performance levels in English language arts, math, social studies and science, with Byron Center coming out on top in the number one spot.

In addition, U.S. News and World Report published their list of the top schools in Michigan, recognizing BCPS as a leader in education. All of our elementary schools, the middle school and the high school are ranked in the top 25 in the state.

Well done BC!



Simon Kramer



Abigail Van Loozenoord



Emma Wiechertjes

National Merit Scholars

Congratulations to Byron Center High School seniors Simon Kramer, Abigail Van Loozenoord and Emma Wiechertjes on being named National Merit Scholars. The National Merit Scholarship Program honors scholastically talented high school students and encourages them to develop their abilities. Students have the chance to win a scholarship for their academic success.

The students will find out in February if they qualified to be finalists.

Veterans Day

Byron Center Public Schools honored veterans with celebrations throughout the school district. Veterans were invited to a breakfast reception, school assemblies, honor walk and more. Students got the chance to invite a veteran that was special to them; whether a family member or a friend. It was great to see so many veterans in our school buildings on Veterans Day.

BCPS is truly grateful for all veterans for their service and sacrifice for our country.



Thanksgiving Food Drive

National Junior Honor Society students hosted a Thanksgiving food drive at West Middle School. Students were encouraged to bring in food items that were directly donated to families in our Byron Center community.

Together, West Middle School collected more than 2000 individual food items, plus 2,400 pounds of potatoes and onions.



Welcoming new students

Brown Elementary student ambassadors created swag bags to welcome new students to their school! The bags included t-shirts, water bottles, stickers and other trinkets. The students were proud to be able to raise \$1,000 through a penny drive to buy items for the bags.

The swag bags are for students who arrive mid-year to the district. It is meant to make them feel welcomed.

Way to go ambassadors!

In the classroom

Byron Center Public Schools celebrated STEM day to encourage students to explore their interests in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Across the district, students got creative throughout the week in STEM class, working on various projects, conducting experiments and problem solving.



Byron Center Marching Band

The Byron Center Marching Band had an exceptionally successful performance at the MCBA State Championship this year at Ford Field. The band finished in second place as the state runner-up in their flight, scoring the highest they have all season.

This marks the tenth year in a row the Byron Center Marching Band has finished as a medalist, finishing either first, second or third in the state.



Byron Center Theatre

Byron Center High School Theatre presented *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*. The play was based on the classic holiday movie with a clever twist thrown in: the story was staged as a live radio broadcast.

The show was made up of 24 cast members, three foley crew members (live sound effects), 22 crew members and a live pianist! The cast and crew welcomed more than 1,000 audience members across their three performances.

Upcoming Productions



Byron Center High School Theatre
Feb 20 - March 1, 2025



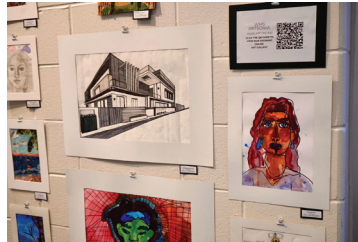
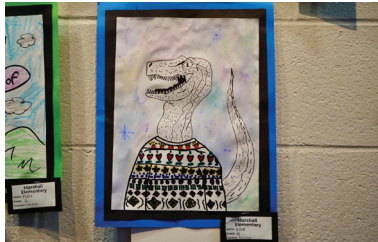
Van Singel Junior Theatre
May 9 - May 10, 2025



Van Singel Youth Theatre
June 13 - June 14, 2025



Van Singel Community Theatre
Aug. 14 - Aug. 16, 2025



K-12 Visual Art Showcase

Byron Center Public Schools' annual visual arts showcase features students K-12 works of art on display in the Gainey Gallery at the Van Singel Fine Arts Center. A variety of artwork is presented including; drawings, paintings, pottery, photography and more!



Elementary Choir Performs National Anthem

Byron Center Public Schools 4th grade choir students from all four elementary schools got the honor of performing the National Anthem at the Grand Rapids Griffins game.



The students were led by their music teachers; Mikayla Larson from Brown Elementary, Meghan Furney from Marshall Elementary, Mia VanErp from Countryside Elementary and Katherine Hayduk from Heritage Elementary.

Regional Honors Choir

West Middle School choir students competed in the Michigan School Vocal Music Association (MSVMA) Regional Honors Choirs. The students submitted auditions for the state level Honors Choirs and got the opportunity to work with choral directors from across Michigan.



ATHLETICS

Boys Soccer

Division 1 State Runner-Up

Regional Champions

District Champions

OK Green Conference
Champions

MIHSSCA State Soccer
Coach of the Year
Chad Bays

School Record:
14 career shutouts
Luke Philo

All-Conference
Connor Jenks, Brody
Leyendecker, Luke Philo,
Kaleb Smith and
Brendan Walker
Honorable Mention:
Braylen Legge and
Blake Wilson



Boys Tennis

4th in Division 2 State Finals

Regional Champions

OK Green Conference
Champions

Regional Tennis Coach
of the Year
Andy Ely

All-Conference
Nolan Booth, Terrence He,
TJ Lawrence, Ryan
McKendry, Brady Pettit,
Casey Schans and
Rylan Vandenberg



Cross Country

56th in State Finals

Mitchell Jeruzal

All-Conference
Emmarie Formsma, Mitchell
Jeruzal, Kailey Mann and
Celia Pollock
Honorable Mention:
Donna Haaksma,
Brady Newman and
Blake Rhoton



Equestrian

4th in Division



Girls Swim/ Dive

9th in State Finals (Swim)

5th in State Finals 200 yard Freestyle Relay

Taylor Blomeling, Chayse Campbell, Adrianna Drake and Lila Ritsema,

7th in State Finals
Kenzie Schichtel

7th in State Finals 200 yard Medley Relay

Tara Darter, Adrianna Drake, Lila Ritsema and Izzie VanDuyn

8th in State Finals 100 yard Breaststroke

Adrianna Drake

School Record: 200 Medley Relay, 1:47:27

Tara Darter, Adrianna Drake, Lila Ritsema and Izzie VanDuyn

Qualified for State Finals

Taylor Blomeling, Chayse Campbell, Tara Darter, Adrianna Drake, Lucy Haney, Kloey Hullah, Lila Ritsema, Kenzie Schichtel, Braylee Vandusen, Izzie VanDuyn and Emma Wiechertjes

All-Conference

Adrianna Drake, Lila Ritsema and Izzie VanDuyn

Football

Division 2 State Runner-Up

Regional Champions

District Champions

All-Conference

Jackson Bovia, Luke Laska, Isaac Lee, Kellen Payne, Landon Tungate and Nolan Stubblefield

Honorable Mention:
Chris Brown, Landen Conrad and Kaden Krause

Girls Golf

4th in Regional Finals

All-Conference

Holly Lawrence and Izzy Tawoda
Honorable Mention:
Autumn Kartes and Natalie Grit

Volleyball

District champions

1000 digs

Mallory Johnson

All-Conference

Mallory Johnson and Reese Lowe





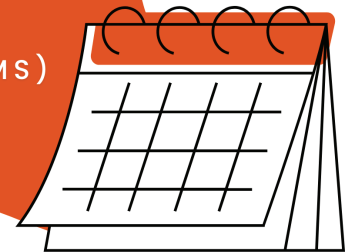
BYRON CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
8542 Byron Center Avenue SW
Byron Center, Michigan 49315
www.bcpsk12.net

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2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR IMPORTANT DATES

- JAN 15-17: K-12 HALF DAY (EXAMS)
- JAN 20: NO SCHOOL
- FEB 14: K-12 HALF DAY
- FEB 17: MID-WINTER BREAK
- APRIL 4-11: SPRING BREAK
- MAY 26: MEMORIAL DAY
- MAY 28-30: K-12 HALF DAY (EXAMS)
- MAY 30: LAST DAY OF SCHOOL



BYRON CENTER'S EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER 2025 INFORMATION:



- PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE: FEBRUARY 4, 2025
- ENROLLMENT OPENS FEBRUARY 10, 2025 AT NOON

