



Byron Center Public Schools
MARSHALL ELEMENTARY

January 16, 2026

Just a few friendly reminders. Please send appropriate snow gear and a water bottle with your child(ren) each school day. We seem to have a lot of students needing to borrow gear and/or need a cup for water. Thank you, we appreciate your support.

No School

Monday, January 19, 2026, school will be closed for staff Professional Development.

Report Cards

Student report cards will come home on Tuesday, January 20th.

Just a heads up... Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Tuesday, March 17 (5:00-8:00pm) and Thursday, March 19 (1:00-4:00pm & 5:00-8:00pm).

MAPS

MAPS has some exciting events planned for 2026!

- February 7 – Marshall Girls Night
- February 28 – Marshall Boys Night
- March 28 – Marshall Family Carnival

More details about each event will be sent home soon. MAPS is currently looking for volunteers to help plan Marshall Boys Night. If you're interested in getting involved, please reach out - we'd love your help! Additionally, the MAPS Board will have two openings for the 2026-2027 school year. For more information or to express interest, please email: mapsbulldogs@gmail.com.

MAPS NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARSHALL GIRLS NIGHT

February 7th 6-8pm

MARSHALL BOYS NIGHT

February 28th

MARSHALL CARNIVAL

March 28th

GET INVOLVED

MAPS IS LOOKING FOR TWO BOARD MEMBERS TO JOIN NEXT SCHOOL YEAR.

PLANNING COMMITTEES ARE NEEDED FOR BOTH BOYS AND GIRLS NIGHT

COMMITTEE WILL BE NEEDED FOR TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK IN MAY

PLEASE REACH OUT IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE OPPORTUNITIES

HIGHLIGHTS

Fun'd Run brought in over \$42,000. Thank you to everyone who supported, volunteered, and encouraged. Your involvement makes a huge impact.

K and 1st grade enjoyed their fall field trips. 2nd-4th grade field trips will take place in the spring, all are fully covered by MAPS.

Teacher wellness has continued this year with surprise themes of treats and snacks monthly.

Holiday shop was a very fun success. MAPS proudly makes sure every student is able to shop... even with a snow day thrown in the mix

FOLLOW US ON
FACEBOOK



MAPSBULLDOGS@GMAIL.COM

Attendance

Email: meattendance@bcpsk.12.net or School Office 616.878.6300

Attendance is very important for the academic success of your student and Marshall wants to ensure your child is getting the most out of their learning opportunities. Marshall has returned to pre-pandemic attendance guidelines and will be communicating with families if students are chronically absent or tardy. The following parameters will be used to determine chronic absenteeism/tardiness:

- Students who are absent or tardy more than 10% of school days will receive a notification letter.
- If attendance problems persist, the school will call for a meeting where an attendance contract will be developed.
- If the agreed upon parameters of the contract are not met, students/families will be referred to the Kent County Truancy Office for further problem solving.

In an effort to ensure consistent attendance for your child, please consider:

- Sending your child to school unless they are truly sick, such as fever, vomiting, diarrhea or contagious infections.
- Avoiding travel or appointments during school days/hours.
- Sticking with a morning routine including a healthy breakfast and a consistent bedtime schedule avoiding late night screen time or electronic devices.
- Have a back-up plan for unexpected morning delays to ensure your child gets to school on time.
- Communicate with the school regarding student absences.

Finally, please continue to contact the school in advance if your child is going to be absent or as soon as possible with unexpected absences.

Hand 2 Hand

For more information about Hand 2 Hand (H2H), please see this [Flyer](#).

- All families in the school are eligible. However, parent consent is REQUIRED. Families must complete a new permission form each year. [Hand2Hand Digital Permission Link](#)
- Staff members may help a family sign up if they are struggling to do it on their own.
- Weekend bags of food contain at least 10 items - 3 breakfast items, 4 snack items, and a lunch or dinner kit. Most of our food is shelf stable - except for the produce and rolls that may be added.

Please let the office know if you have any questions. (meattendance@bcpsk12.net).

WatchDOGS

We have spots open for WatchDOGS! Use the [link](#) and choose a day to visit during our lunch/recess time with your student(s). The office will provide a schedule with your student lunch/recess times. If you have any questions, please contact: meattendance@bcpsk12.net (Kathy Lee). You MUST have a completed/approved ICHAT before your chosen date.

PE News

PE Shoes - Please remember to send gym shoes to school with your students. Wearing the appropriate shoes to class keeps students safe by providing traction and appropriate support for his/her feet while being active. We do have shoes available for students to borrow, but students are missing several minutes of class finding shoes that will fit, while also leaving a mess behind in the PE closet. Thanks for your support.

Kids Heart Challenge Fundraiser - Our school goal is to raise \$20,000 to help support the American Heart Association. Collection information was sent home before Christmas break and many kids have already signed-up and started collecting. AHA provides us with several instant "thank you" gifts to pass out to students along the way. Mr. Reed also offers a few other incentives:

Top 3 Fundraisers - Mr. Reed for the Day w/ Lunch Included

1. Students raising \$75 or more - Movie/Popcorn in the Gym (5 registered students, not able to reach the \$75 goal, will also be drawn to attend the event in the gym).
2. Top Fundraising Class - Extra PE Class
3. Teacher Gift Cards - \$25 if 50% of a class is registered/\$25 if 5 students complete Finn's Mission)

Our fundraiser will wrap-up on Friday, February 27.

Students can still sign-up to participate:

https://www2.heart.org/site/TR?fr_id=12398&pg=company&company_id=526946

Winter Gear & Sledding **** Please label all snow gear with your student's name. ****

DK/Kindergarten - 2nd: Students will be wearing the gear they were sent with. Please send boots, hats, mittens, gloves and snow pants. We would like them to stay dry and warm.

3rd & 4th Grades: We will ENCOURAGE that they wear what they were sent with. We will ENCOURAGE that they make good choices and choices that their parents would be proud of. We will allow natural consequences and they will likely be cold and/or wet. The exception will be if they want to sled - students must be all geared up to enjoy sledding. We do ask that students bring their winter gear just in case they need it. Thank you!

Roundball Bash!

Get ready for one of the most exciting nights of the year – Roundball Bash is back! Thursday, January 29 and it's going to be bigger than ever! \$3 Admission (Sorry, no athletic passes)

Event Highlights:

- Doors & Concessions Open: 5:30 PM
 - 6:00–6:20 PM: Brown vs. Marshall
 - 6:25–6:45 PM: Countryside vs. Heritage
 - 6:50–7:10 PM: Nickels vs. West
 - Main Event:
 - 7:30–8:00 PM: High School Staff vs. Students
- Basketball Game 🏀



Marshall

Specials 25/26
Winter Update

Concepts we have been working on!



Art
Mrs. Dost

jdost@bcpsk12.net



1st - 4th: Adding their own art to Artsonia portfolios
click to view our growing school gallery!

DK/K: Mixed media - collage, cutting, and layering.

1st: Creating landscapes, artwork with shapes, and using contrast. Starting mixed media and paper weaving.

2nd: Symmetrical art, printmaking, and paper weaving.

3rd: Landscape concepts: horizon, perspective, space, and proportion.

4th: Block prints and creating with expressive colors. Color family review: warm + cool, contrasting, and analogous.



P.E.
Mr Reed

dreed@bcpsk12.net



DK/K: Rules/Expectations, Locomotor Skills, Tempo, Underhand Throwing, Skill Stations.

1st: Routines, Skill Pre-Assessments, Team Building, Soccer Dribbling, Underhand Throwing, Catching, Floor Hockey.

2nd: Routines, Team Building, Skill Pre-Assessments, Soccer Dribbling, Overhand Throwing, Catching, Floor Hockey.

3rd: Team Building, Skill Pre-Assessments, Overhand Throwing, Catching, Soccer Game Play, Kickball, Floor Hockey.

4th: Team Building, Fitness Testing, Overhand Throwing, Catching, Soccer Game Play, Kickball, Floor Hockey.



Music
Mrs. Furney
Mrs. Ryskamp

mfurney@bcpsk12.net



DK/K: Moving to music, our four voices, & instrument exploration!

1st: Beat vs. rhythm and beginning music notation.

2nd: Notes & intervals on the staff, refining mallet technique.

3rd: Identifying more challenging melodies on the music staff, adding more complex instrumentation.

4th: Ukulele chords/strumming, layered instrumentation, more complex rhythmic patterns.



S.T.E.M.
Mrs. Belen

kbelen@bcpsk12.net

BC Marshall STEM Class



DK-4th: Everyone learned the importance of hand washing through a bread mold experiment. Each grade reviewed the characteristics of a good digital citizen and how to be safe, responsible, and respectful online. We learned about a NASA mission and viewed the launch, and used engineering to build with different materials. We also got a close look at caterpillars from our garden.

DK-1st: Celebrated International Dot Day with dot themed activities for fine motor, sorting, and counting.

4th: Harvested potatoes they planted in the garden as 3rd graders this spring.



Library
Mrs. Jipping

sjipping@bcpsk12.net



DK/K: Practicing listening skills with Halloween stories.

1st: Learning how to find books in the library and return books weekly.

2nd: Finding good fit books.

3rd: Branching out with harder fiction books.

4th: Using Book Talks to try new books and searching for books on the computer.

Marshall Calendar

Jan. 19 - **No School**
Feb. 9 - Board of Ed Meeting 6:30pm
Feb. 13 - **Half Day** - Dismissal 12:00pm
Feb. 16 - **No School**
Mar. 5 - 2nd-Knapp Dental Presentation
Mar. 17 - PTC 5-8pm
Mar. 19 - **Half Day** - Dismissal 12:00pm
Mar. 19 - PTC 1-4pm, 5-8pm
April 3-10 - **No School** (Spring Break)
April 13 - Board of Ed Meeting 6:30pm
May 1 - Choir concert (Calvin Univ.)
May 11 - Board of Ed Meeting 6:30pm
May 22 - Field Day
May 25 - **No School** (Memorial Day)
June 3 - **Half Day** - Dismissal 12:00pm
June 4 - **Half Day** - Dismissal 12:00pm
June 5 - **Half Day** Dismissal 12:00pm
June 22 - Board of Ed Meeting 6:30pm

Newsies Guest Audience Workshop

Join us Thursday, February 13th from 4:30–7:00 PM at the VSFAC

Open to all 3rd–8th grade students. Get a behind-the-scenes look at a *Newsies* rehearsal, play theatre games, and chat with the cast during a Q&A session! Register: vsfac.com/guest Come be part of the energy and excitement of *Newsies*!



girl scouts
of michigan
shore to shore

**Make Waves with Girl Scouts!
Mermaid Party!**

Girls in Kindergarten and 1st grade
(and their caregivers)

Bring your imagination and curiosity-
and discover the magic of Girl Scouts!
Caregivers: learn about the benefits of
volunteering with Girl Scouts

Girl Scout Dream Lab
3782 29th St. SE, Grand Rapids
Sat. JANUARY 17 -OR- Wed., JANUARY 28
1:00-3:00pm 6:00-7:00pm

Faith United Church of God
3290 Walker Ave, NW, Grand Rapids
Thurs., JANUARY 29, 6:00-7:00pm

Registration is required via the QR code below
This is not a drop off event.

Questions: Contact Kay Fricano
kfricano@gsmists.org
616-888-3846

Register Today!



**VAN SINGEL JUNIOR THEATRE 2026
REGISTRATION**

13 JR.

Open to all students in 6th through 8th grade!

March 9th - May 31st

**Registration Link:
vsfac.com/13**



BC Brawlers
Youth Lacrosse

SPRING '26

Season

Boys Lacrosse

- Fast-paced fun, nonstop action
- All skill levels welcome
- Grades 1st - 8th
- Learn - Compete - Love the game!

What's New

- Winter Training Sessions
- Tournament Team Opportunities
- Extended Season
- 1st & 2nd Grade Team

JOIN NOW

Register Here



Visit Website



**bricks
4 kidz**



FACTORY FUN

Have you ever wondered how things are made? Factories rely on special machines to help build, move, and package the things we use every day. We'll build kid-sized creations such as the scissor lift, specialized conveyor belts, and more! Learn about machine design while crafting your own ideas into engineering wonders!

Marshall Elementary

Wednesdays
January 21 to February 11
3:45 to 5:00pm



REGISTER TODAY!

<https://www.bricks4kidz.com/gr>

