Byron Center Public Schools
MARSHALL ELEMENTARY

October 16, 2026

School Photo Forms

- Retake Picture Day is coming up on: **Thursday, October 22, 2026**. If you're satisfied with your child's picture, no further action is required.
- If you purchased and were unhappy with your Picture Package, please send your Picture Package to school with your student on Retake Day. Your Retake Picture Package will be produced and shipped to the school four weeks after Retake Day.
- Please note, if your child is photographed on the original and Retake Picture Days, the Retake picture will replace the original picture in certain products, like the yearbook.
- Students who were absent for Picture Day should come to school prepared to have their picture taken. If you have not preordered, please use the Retake Order Code 0657JEF to place your order at https://inter-state.com/Order. To see your Order History, check your Inter-State Account.
- Find answers to Retake Day questions here.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Teachers have already sent out sign-ups for PTC directly to parents. You will schedule your conferences with your child's teacher. If you need to make a change to your scheduled time, please contact the teacher directly.

- Tuesday, October 20 from 5:00-8:00pm
- Thursday, October 22 from 1:00-4:00pm and 5:00-8:00pm.
- We have switched our grading to Semesters - Report cards will come home in January.
- There will not be a separate conference sign up for Art, Music or PE. The teachers will be available during PTC times if you'd like to stop by their rooms.

We look forward to this time to discuss your student's progress with you. Here are some helpful hints for a successful conference:

- **Be on Time** - Plan to arrive a little early. Teachers work hard to stick to the 15 minute time allotted, so arriving and leaving on-time keeps everyone on schedule.
- **Be a Team** - Partnering with your child's teacher helps you both to provide consistent support for your child.
- **Prepare Questions in Advance** - Coming with specific questions will help make the most of your time together.

- **Keep Teachers Informed** - Let your child's teacher know about any situation at home that may affect your child's school work (such as a death in the family, a new baby, or a change in daycare arrangements, etc.)
- **Take Notes & Leave with a Plan** - Taking notes will help you remember what was discussed and what was agreed upon.

Book Fair

We're looking for a few additional volunteers to help with the book fair!

- Tuesday evening: 5:00-8:00
- Thursday afternoon: 1:00-3:30

If you have a conference scheduled during either of those times, that's no problem- you can leave for your conference and come back afterward.
If you're interested in helping, please reach out to Sherri Jipping at sjipping@bcpsk12.net

The Scholastic Book Fair Is Coming! Get ready to shop, discover, and fall in love with reading! The Scholastic Book Fair will be at Marshall October 19–23 during normal school hours. Families can also shop during Parent/Teacher Conferences on Tuesday, October 20, and Thursday, October 22. Holiday shopping tip: The Book Fair is a great place to find books to save for Christmas gifts!

Check out the Book Fair Webpage for all the details, including:

- Book Preview
- How to set up an E-Wallet—no cash needed!
- How to Share the Fair so every student can enjoy a book.
- How to shop online and have books delivered right to your home.

Questions? Please contact our Media Specialist: Mrs. Jipping sjipping@bcpsk12.net.

Half Day Pick-up Reminder

Thursday, October 22 is a half day of school. School will be dismissed at 12:00pm. Car riders will begin at 11:45am. Please line up from the West (Byron Center Ave) and join the line, please have your car rider sheets out. We will continue the double line pick up. Thank you!

MAPS Events

Donuts with Grown-Ups: Donuts with Grown-Ups is coming in November! Students are invited to bring one grown-up to enjoy donuts together before school.

- Last names A–L: Thursday, November 5 **(date change)**
- Last names M–Z: Thursday, November 19 **(date change)**

Look for more information and RSVP details in the next few weeks!

WatchDOGS

WatchDOGS sign-up link is ready to go! Use the WatchDOG 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: Marshall Office. You MUST have a completed/approved ICHAT 2-weeks before your chosen date.

Veteran's Day

In honor of Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11th, Marshall Elementary will be hosting a special reception for Marshall Veterans and their families. We're sending out an invitation with a QR Code to register your family. You can also click on the link below and fill out the registration questionnaire to help us best prepare for this event. Families may register between today and Tuesday, November 3rd. Thank you in advance for helping us to honor our Marshall Veterans and their families!
Marshall's Veterans Day Reception Registration

Marshall will also be putting together a Veteran's Day video that will go out to the public to honor our nation's veterans. If you have a family member that has served in any branch of the US Armed Forces, or you currently have a family member serving, we would love to showcase them in our video. IF you submitted a photo last year, we are all set and will use the photo we have. If you would like to add a veteran, please send a labeled photo (Veteran's name & Marshall family name) to sjjonker@bcpsk12.net **no later than Friday, October 30th by 5:00 pm**. All photos sent after that time will not be able to make it into the video.

Halloween Classroom Parties

Just a friendly reminder that all Halloween costumes should be school appropriate. Please leave all weapons and dangerous props at home. Please refrain from choosing gruesome costumes. This is school policy. DK-4th grade costumes can be worn to school. However, please have kids with inflatables bring their costumes in their backpacks.

- **Classroom Parties:**
  Approved classroom volunteers will provide a fun filled Halloween party for your students in their classrooms.
  - **DK/Kindergarten & 1st grade: classroom parties 9:15-10:00am**
    (K-1st students can be signed out after the party & parade, but can NOT attend older sibling classroom parties)
  - **2nd-4th grade: classroom parties 10:30-11:15am**
- **Halloween Parade: (10:15-10:30am)**
  Parents/Guardians are welcome to view our Halloween parade in the playground behind the school. Feel free to park on either side of the building and proceed to the playground area. Students will exit the building on the East side and proceed to the West side along the sidewalk behind the Library.
- **Please plan on normal end of day schedules (bus/car rider).**
  HALF DAY 12:00 pm Dismissal (Calling Car Riders at 11:45am)
  If your student needs to be picked up (large or fragile costume), please plan to be in the car rider line with your yellow sheet. We ask that you come from Byron Center Avenue to line up for car riders (double pick-up line in the parking lot) please do not turn left in the parking lot. ***We do not want to swarm the office with a large amount of student pick-ups at the end of the day. Thank you.***

Hope College Math Fun Festival

Now that we are well into the school year, I'd like to welcome your students to this year's Family Math Fun Festival at Hope College! Our festival features a wide variety of interactive low-floor, high-ceiling tasks that will engage families in creative problem solving that won't even feel like mathematics! We'll also be giving away goody bags to all participants containing math games for continued practice at home. This year's festival will be hosted at the Kruizenga Art Museum at Hope College and open to students in Grades 2-8 and their caregivers. It will be on Saturday, November 14, 2:00-4:00 PM. The attached flyers have additional information. Please share this with your school families.

Hope College Math Festival

Hope College Math Festival-Spanish

Kindergarten Dental Screening

This year Kent County Health Department will be conducting Kindergarten Dental Screenings. This screening is for Kindergarten students only. Marshall Elementary is scheduled for screening on Monday, November 23. Please take a look at the Parent Resource Page for more information. Each child will receive a take-home oral hygiene kit and a completion form from KCHD.

If a parent/guardian wishes to opt out, please provide a written request to the school office (meattendance@bcpsk12.net) before Monday, November 16, 2026.

Hearing & Vision Screening

Monday, November 16 - Wednesday, November 18 we will have Kent County Health Department at Marshall to screen for Hearing & Vision. If you have any special requests for your student, please reach out to our office: meattendance@bcpsk12.net or 616-878-6300. For more information please see: Health Dept. Letter & Shunt/Implant Information.





Zumba

Zumba Kids is back at Marshall Elementary! Zumba Kids is a fun, fitness based after school club where kids move to music, play active fitness games, and have a great time staying active. Classes are Wednesdays, immediately after school until 4:45, starting October 21st. For more information and registration, visit www.kidsrockfitness.net/byron-center.

Marshall Calendar

Oct. 20 - Parent/Teacher Conferences (5-8pm)
Oct. 22 - Picture Retake Day
Oct. 22 - **Half Day - Dismissal 12:00pm**
Oct. 22 - Parent/Teacher Conferences (1-4pm, 5-8pm)
Oct. 27 - 2nd grade Reptiles visit
Oct. 29 - Kinder Field Trip
Oct. 30 - Halloween Classroom Parties
Oct. 30 - **Half Day - Dismissal 12:00pm**
Nov. 5 - Donuts with Grown-up (A-L)
(note: date change)
Nov. 9 - Board of Ed Meeting 6:30pm
Nov. 11 - Veteran's Day Breakfast
Nov. 16-18 - Hearing/Vision Screening
Nov. 19 - Donuts with Grown-up (M-Z)
(note: date change)
Nov. 23 - Kinder Dental Screening
Nov. 25-27 - Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 7-9 - Vision/Hearing Rescreening
Dec. 21-Jan. 3 - Christmas/New Years Break