

Byron Center

West Middle School

Newsletter



A Note from Mr. Vydareny

This Week's Top Three:

1. Thank you so much to all who were able to join us for parent-teacher conferences! We know that the time can be short, but the opportunity to connect is invaluable!
2. Just a reminder that our 8th grade students will be taking the PSAT on Wednesday, October 21st. It is a REGULAR SCHOOL DAY (in the spring, students will test again and the day is shortened) for all students. Seventh grade students will participate in 3 different rotations during the morning while 8th grade students test. Please reach out with questions!
3. Seventh and eighth grade Choir Students attended Choir Camp on Saturday, October 3rd. This was a great tradition that we were able to bring back this year. Students (and staff!) had a blast!



Things to Know

School Pictures

Retake Picture Day is coming up on: **Thursday, Oct 15**

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 0657HHF 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](#).

To order a **YEARBOOK ONLY** (no picture package), please use <https://inter-state.com/YearbookEntry/0694JV>

Volunteers Needed!

West Middle School's Student Council is sponsoring our first event on Thursday, Oct. 15th from 3:15–5:15 PM. This will be held in the LMC, and students have a movie, cards/games, and snacks planned. It is a free event open to all West students. We are looking for about 4 parent volunteers to attend and help supervise the students. Please email Shelly Gullett (sgullett@bcpsk12.net) if you are able to help with this. Thank you!

7th & 8th Grade Club Softball

Attention all students interested in 7th and 8th grade softball; there is a sign-up sheet located in the main office. We would like for you to include your name, your grade, your parent's phone number and an email address of the one parent who will check his/her email. If you have any questions, please call or email Rob Bruwer ([616-706-2533](tel:616-706-2533) bruwerro@hotmail.com) or Kim Bruwer ([616-723-4333](tel:616-723-4333) kimberlybruwer29@gmail.com) for 8th grade information and Joe Aulet ([740-632-6557](tel:740-632-6557) aulet333@yahoo.com) for 7th grade information. We are super excited for the new season. Practices will begin in February, so stay tuned for more information. **The deadline to sign up is December 18th!** We can't wait to see all of you soon!

Ski Club

Are you interested in joining the Ski & Snowboard Club? Sign-ups open November 2! See the [link](#) for details!

Attendance

Please remember to notify the school if your child will be absent, arriving late, or leaving early.

- Attendance Line – 616-878-6511
- Attendance Email – westattendance@bcpsk12.net

Student Cell Phones

Students are to leave their cellphones in their lockers at all times. If your student needs to use his/her cellphone during the school day, he/she may do so in the main office.

Dress Code

Please help us by reviewing the dress code with your child ([Student Handbook](#)). Students will be asked to change or call home if they are out of dress code.

PAW Update (Parents at West)

PAW is West Middle's parent board. They support the school, staff, and students through many different projects and events throughout the course of the year. For more information: BCParentsAtWest@gmail.com.

Parent and Student Resources

Links to many middle school resources can be found at <https://www.bcpsk12.net/middle/parent--student-resources/>

Information can also be found under the Helpful Links tab on our website at <https://www.bcpsk12.net/middle/>



	Upcoming Dates		
	Tuesday October 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● FLEX Day	
	Wednesday October 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Newspaper Club Meeting 7:30am	
	Thursday October 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● FLEX Day● NJHS Meeting 7:30am● Picture Retake Day 8:00am	
	Wednesday October 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● PSAT Testing - 8th grade am	

THE 2ND ANNUAL

FIRE UP THE FLAVOR: COPS, TRUCKS, AND CHILI



Join members of the Kent County Sheriff's Office and Byron Center Recreation for a night of "touch a truck" (police cruisers, fire trucks, ambulances, and more), plus games, crafts and chili!

EVENT DETAILS

Date: Friday, October 16th, 2026

Time: 5:00-7:00p.m.

Location: Byron Center Recreation
2120 76th St., Byron Center

Free event for all ages. Chili cook-off entry and sampling fees apply.

\$20 entry fee for each team

\$5 to sample chili (day of event)

To register for the chili cook-off call 616-878-1998 or stop in to the community center.

CHILI COOK-OFF

**Think you have the best chili?
Here's your chance to prove it!**

Rules

- Each entry may be submitted by an individual or team
- Each entry will be provided half of a 8-foot table for serving and display
- Each entry must be fully cooked, hot and delivered in a crockpot (suggest 2 crockpots so we won't run out)
- Participants are encouraged to decorate their area
- Participants are encouraged to name your chili
- Judging will be done by attendees for the People's Choice and law enforcement will be judging the other categories

Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

- People's Choice (Best Overall Chili)
- Where's The Beef? (Vegetarian or Non-Beef Chili)
- Not Your Mother's Chili (Most Unique or Unusual)
- All in the Name of Chili (Best Name)



Saturday, **November 14**, 9:00 - 3:00 Byron
Center High School

Admission: \$3

100% of proceeds goes towards the students in the
Fine Art programs at Byron Center Public Schools.

Free parking and shuttle at Heritage Elementary

Thank you for your support!

SAVE THE DATE

BYRON CENTER

BULLDOGS

ATHLETICS



**REVERSE
RAFFLE**

NOVEMBER 14, 2026



RAFFLES



CASH



PRIZES



**SILENT
AUCTION**

SCAN FOR TICKETS



BYRON CENTER
BULLDOGS





WAIT A MINUTE... \$200 IS OUT OF MY BUDGET!

Want in? Don't worry — we got you!

OPTION 1: GO IN AS A GROUP

Split a \$200 High Roller ticket with a group of 4–8 people and share the **\$15,000** if you WIN!

- Just **\$25–\$50** per person
- Your ticket's odds of winning stay the same
- Your share of the jackpot: **\$1,875–\$3,750!**

OPTION 2: THE \$10 CHEAPSTAKES DRAWING

Buy a **\$10** raffle ticket for a chance at **20** prizes drawn leading up to the Reverse Raffle!

PRIZE LINEUP

- 12** prizes valued at \$50 each
- 4** prizes valued at \$100 each
- 4** High Roller tickets — each giving you a shot at \$15,000!

**WIN...
AND YOU'RE STILL IN!**

Even if your ticket is drawn, it goes BACK into the Cheapstakes Drawing. Your \$10 ticket could win up to **20** prizes!

YOU SPOKE. WE LISTENED.

We heard you loud & clear last year! We want to make this FUN & AFFORDABLE for everyone while keeping the Reverse Raffle tradition alive & well.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

You do NOT have to be a high school parent or the parent of an athlete to buy a ticket or attend. Parents of all age groups are welcome!