



BYRON CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Helping Students Build Success Stories



Robert L. Nickels Intermediate

Nickels Intermediate School
Friday Office Communication
April 25, 2025

Important Information:

Attendance Line:

Please call the attendance line at 616-878-6400 or email nickelsattendance@bcpsk12.net, if your student will be absent, running late, or needs to be picked up for an appointment during the school day. If we are unable to answer, please leave us a detailed message with your name, the name of your student, the reason for the absence, or the time your student will be arriving or need to be picked up for an appointment. Thank you for your help in this.

[Nickels website](#)

School Hours:

Full Day: 7:55 am - 2:50 pm

Half Day: 7:55 am - 11:10 am

Office hours:

Monday - Friday: 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

Phone number: 616-878-6400

Upcoming Dates

April:

Apr. 28th - Forte 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Apr. 30th - M-Step Testing Starts 6th Grade

Apr. 30th - Art Club 2:50 pm - 3:45 pm

May:

May 1st - Forte 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

May 2nd - Final payment for 6th Grade Field Trip Due

May 5th - Map testing starts

May 5th - Forte 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

May 12th - Forte Concert 6:00 pm @ VSFAC

May 12th - 6th Grade Choir Concert 7:00 pm @ VSFAC

May 13th - Bulldog Growl 3:00 pm - 3:45 pm

May 13th - 6th Grade Band Concert 7:00 pm in the Nickels Gym

May 14th - 6th Grade Orchestra Concert 6:30 pm @ VSFAC

M-Step Testing 5th Grade Starts 4/16/25:

Testing will occur in the morning on the following dates: 4/29, 5/2, 5/5, 5/6, 5/12, 5/13, 5/14, 5/15 & 5/16. Please avoid scheduling appointments during those times if at all possible.

M-Step Testing 6th Grade Starts 4/30/25:

Testing will occur in the morning on the following dates: 4/30, 5/1, 5/2, 5/7, 5/8, 5/12, 5/13, 5/14, 5/15 & 5/16. Please avoid scheduling appointments during those times if at all possible.

Autism Acceptance month:

In honor of April being Autism Acceptance month, at Nickels on Wednesday April 30, students and staff are invited to wear red as a symbol of support for students and families impacted by autism. Autism impacts 1 in 32 students in the United States. Autism affects individuals differently and can impact communication, social skills, regulation, and relationships. Scientists do not yet know what causes autism, but we do know being included and accepted makes a positive difference.

Robotics Summer Camp Opportunity for students finishing 4th-6th grade:

Code Red Robotics is offering our NRG Summer Camp once again this year. Camp will take place June 2-5 and 7 in the robotics space at Byron Center High School. NRG is a competitive robotics program for grade 4-6 students where each student builds and modifies their own Arduino robot to play a game. Parents attend each session with their student to assist and serve as a drive coach. In addition to robot work and drive practice, first time students complete STEM challenges, and returning students learn basic programming for their robots. The summer camp culminates in a tournament complete with qualification matches, playoffs, and an award ceremony. Sessions on Monday-Thursday, June 2-5 will take place 6:30-8:30 pm. Saturday, June 7 will be the tournament, 7:45 am-3:00 pm. Cost for first time students is \$150.00 (cost includes Arduino robot kit, a carrying case, and a shirt) and \$50.00 for returning students.

If you would like to register your child for camp, please use this link to the NRG Summer Camp Registration Form. There is a link to the camp schedule included in the form. If you have any questions or need more information, please email linda.baas@coderedrobotics.com. Join us as we have fun with robots and play the game Save the Ducks!

5th Grade Reproductive Health Class 4/30 & 5/1:

If you would like an informational copy of the reproductive health lesson, please pick up the informational packet from the office. By law, you have the right to excuse your child from participation in classes that include reproductive health.

Please complete and return the attached form ONLY IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE by April 28th. [Opt. out Form For Reproductive Health](#)

Reproductive classes will be held on April 30th & May 1st in the morning.

Yearbook's:

Students who ordered a yearbook will receive their yearbook the last week of school. If your child did not order a yearbook but would still like one, please go to <https://www.geskusphoto.com> or call them at 616-453-4170. Click on the ordering tab at the top of the website, then scroll down, and select yearbook. Enter Robert L. Nickels Intermediate as the school name, and follow the prompts (no code necessary).

6th Grade Field Trip - CranHill - May 22nd 10:30 am to 6:00 pm:

Date and Time: The field trip is scheduled for Thursday, May 22nd, at CranHill Ranch from 10:30 am to 6:00 pm. Students will return to Nickels between 7:00 pm and 7:30 pm for parent pick up. The 2nd payment date will be May 2nd. It is important that you get your information turned in at that time so we can give CranHill an accurate count of the students attending.

5th Grade Field Trip - AirZoo - May 27th 8:40 am to 2:40 pm:

The 5th graders will be going to the Kalamazoo Air Zoo on May 27th. Please return the following to school by May 2nd.

1 - permission slip and authorization for medical treatment form completely filled out

2 - sack lunch request form (unless your child plans to bring a lunch from home)

If someone is chaperoning the following also needs to be returned by May 2nd.

1 - completed iChat form for any chaperone planning on attending

2 - \$10 for each chaperone attending - Please make checks payable to BCPS [AirZoo Informational Flyer](#)

Breakfast and Lunch are FREE for K-12 BCPS students during the 2024-2025 school year!

Second meals and a la carte items are not included, and must be purchased separately.

Please fill out an application if you think you may qualify because it will benefit you and your school! Free/reduced students receive reduced fees for sport fees, testing fees, and possible EBT cards. Applications for the 2024-2025 are open online [here](#).

Lunch Menu: [April Lunch Menu](#) [May Lunch Menu](#)

Fresh Baked Cookies will be available every Friday for purchase ~ If your student would like to purchase one they are \$1.00 each.

[HOW TO CREATE A FAMILY PORTAL ACCOUNT](#)

[HOW TO MAKE A DEPOSIT TO FAMILY PORTAL ACCOUNT](#)

District School Calendar 24/25:

[24/25 District Calendar](#)

District Calendar 25/26:

[25/26 District Calendar](#)

District Calendar 26/27:

[26/27 District Calendar](#)

Bulldog Growl:

[March Edition](#)

SUMMER 2025 SPORTS CAMPS:

[Registration Link](#)

24/25 6th Grade Sports Information:

<http://bcwestmsathletics.com/>

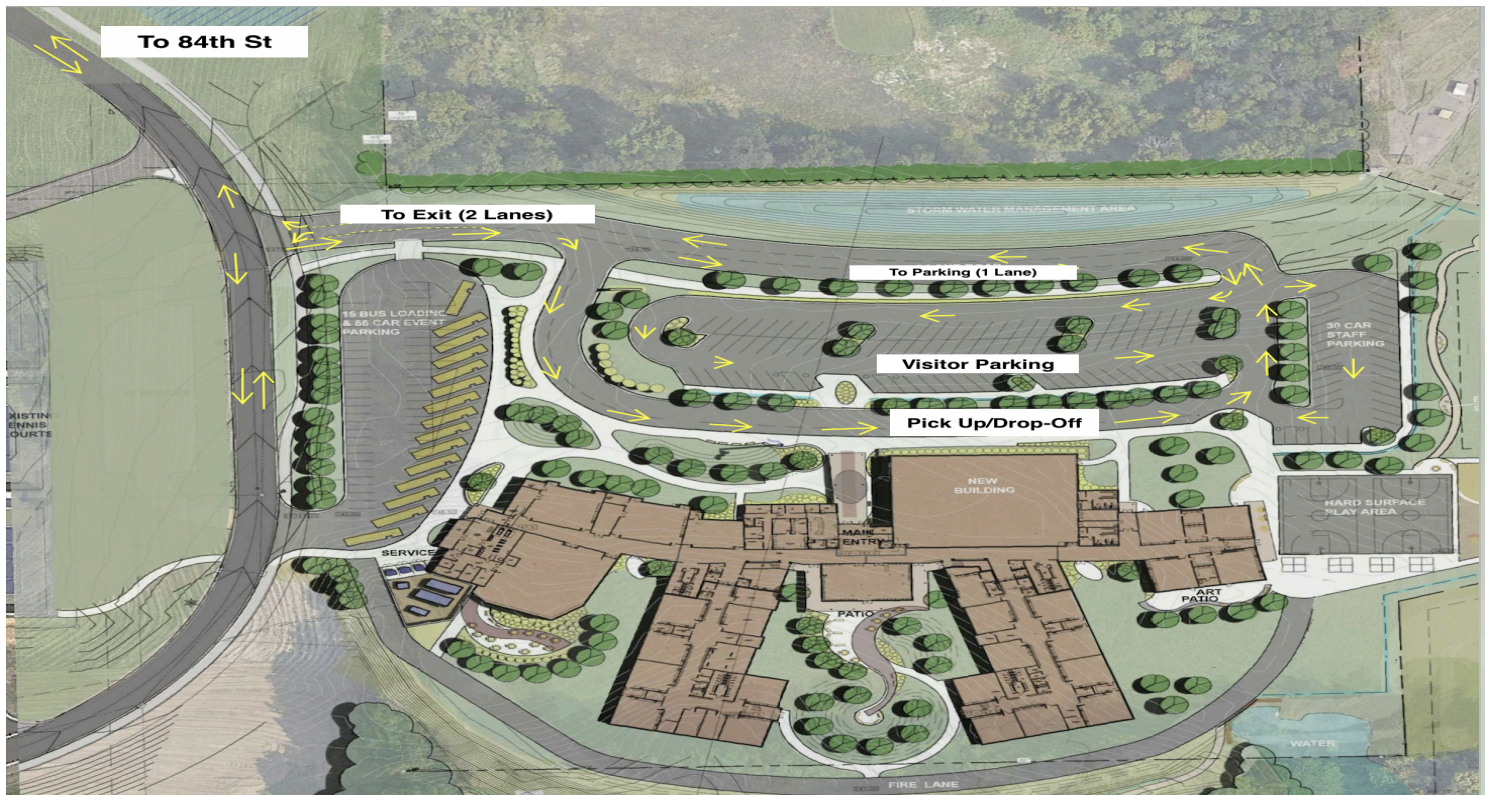
[24/25 Middle School Sports Informational Flyer](#)

Student Pick up and Drop off:

Dear Parents and Guests-

The following diagram shows the directional flow of how pickup, drop-off, and parking will occur before, during and after school at the new Nickels Intermediate building. Please note that the pickup/drop-off lanes directly in front of the building are one way and counter-clockwise. Students should exit to the sidewalk on the passenger side of your vehicle. Please be sure to pull forward if space allows along the curb. Once your student is safely dropped off, it is ok to pull out into the exit lanes.

Please also note that there are two exit lanes heading back out to the main drive where you can turn right to exit to 84th St. or left towards West Middle. Do not use the middle lane for entering the Nickels drive. Please continue to use the designated drop off/pick up loop when dropping off or picking up your student at school. **Please do not use the bus loop (west of the school), the main drive between West and Nickels or the parking lot to pick up or drop off your student.**



For the 2024-2025 school year, our bus transfer (bus rodeo) location is at Heritage Elementary. Students at Nickels will get on a bus and ride over to the bus transfer, then get on their home bus before traveling home. In the past, some parents came to the bus transfer area (bus rodeo) to pick up their kids. We are asking that you avoid picking up your students from the bus transfer area. Our bus riders will load and unload buses on the far west side of the building in a separate and protected lot designated for this purpose. When picking up your student at the end of the school day please exit towards 84th street.

Cell Phone Expectations and Consequences:

Our policy states that all cell phones must be off and stored in a student's locker (or homeroom teacher's classroom) from

7:30-2:50 each day. This policy is a three strike system. Please review the consequences below with your student to ensure understanding of cell phone use at school.

Cell Phone Policy (Electronic Device Policy)

1st Offense – Device is taken away for the remainder of the day.

2nd Offense – Device is taken away, parents are called, and parents must come pick up device from school.

3rd Offense – Parent is called and device is banned permanently from the school for the remainder of the year.

Our goal with this policy is to help all students focus on learning throughout the school day. Thank you for partnering with us!

Nurses Corner:

Medication Consent Form 24/25

Medication Policy Reminders:

1. If your student needs to take medication while at school they MUST have a medication consent form completed.

Prescription meds require BOTH a parent/guardian AND a physician signature. Over the counter (OTC) meds require a parent/guardian signature only. No student will be administered medication without the proper consent forms.

2. Please remember that students are NOT allowed to self carry ANY medications (prescription or OTC) per our district policy UNLESS it's an emergency medication and we have the appropriate forms completed and signed.

3. All medications must be stored in the office and brought to school by a parent/guardian. They must be in the original container with the appropriate label (and not expired). We will not accept any medications in baggies, envelopes, ect.

Amy Voiles RN-BSN Direct Phone: 616-878-6414 Fax Number: 616-345-1924

