



BYRON CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Helping Students Build Success Stories



Robert L. Nickels Intermediate

Nickels Intermediate School
Friday Office Communication
May 2, 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

May:

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

May 21st - 6th Grade Parent Chaperone meeting in the Media Center @ 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

May 22nd - 6th Grade Field Trip Cranhill - Students will return to school around 7:00/7:30 pm

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

Testing will occur in the morning on the following dates: 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: 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.

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).

Help Us Spoil Our Staff During Appreciation Week!

Hello Nickels Families!

Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week is right around the corner—May 5–9—and we've got some awesome surprises planned to celebrate the incredible people who make our school such a special place.

From a gourmet coffee bar by Full Circle to sweet treats from Tippy Cow Ice Cream and Crumbl Cookies, a delicious catered lunch from Apple Spice, and a fun popcorn bar—we're pulling out all the stops!

But we need your help to make it happen. If you're able to give, please consider donating to our Staff Appreciation Fund:

 <https://givebutter.com/staffweek2025>

Thank you for helping us celebrate the people who pour into our kids every single day!

With appreciation,

Nickels Family Involvement Team (FIT)

End of the school year Medication Pick up:

The end of the school year is fast approaching and your child(ren) has medication(s) here at Nickels Intermediate. We need you or a designated adult to come and pick up the medication(s) by **11 am on May 30th**. Any prescription and/or Over-The-Counter Medication not picked up by this time will be disposed of safely and properly at a medication disposal site, as we are legally not allowed to keep medication in the building over the summer. For those who have students taking daily medications, if you would like to come and pick up the medication prior to the last day we can keep just enough to get us to the end of the school year. We are not allowed to send any medications home with students. If someone other than those listed on your students contact list will be picking up the medication please respond to this email with their name.

If your child will require prescription medication for next school year, please remember to get a medication consent form signed by their physician before the start of the 25/26 school year. For your convenience a copy of please used the attached [medication form](#). I will be at the open house in the fall to collect any medications.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Thank you for allowing me to care for your child this school year! Amy Voiles RN-BSN Direct Phone: 616-878-6414
Fax Number: 616-345-1924

Youth Night May 9th starting at 4:00 pm :



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!

Lost and Found:

Please have your student check the lost and found over the next few weeks for any missing items. All unclaimed items left in the lost and found, as of June 6th, will be donated to Buist Community Ministries. Parents are also welcome to come and look in the lost and found after school between 3:00 pm and 3:30 pm.

May 28th, 29th and 30th - ½ Day of School - Dismissal 11:10 am:

Please feel free to look through the lost and found after dismissal on our ½ days. The school will be open from 11:15 am to 3:00 pm on the 28th - 30th.

Bulldog Growl:

[April Edition](#)

6th Grade Band Concert 5/13/25 @ Nickels:

[Band Concert Informational Flyer](#)

Hello 5th Grade Families!:

The time has come for you to make your choice for 6th Grade Music!

We have created a website that houses A LOT of information about our Nickels Band, Choir and Orchestra programs and instruments!

Students had an opportunity to try band and orchestra instruments during their music class on either April 21 or 22. If they are absent during their music class on one of those days and would like to try an instrument, please reach out to the corresponding director below!

Please take a moment to look through this website. Your "Ticket In" to 6th Grade music is simply filling out the **6TH GRADE MUSIC INTEREST FORM** found on the main page of this website! ***Please fill out this form by Friday, May 9, 2025.***

[6th Grade Music Website Link](#)

Attached you will find information about the process along with brochures from local music stores if you are interested in renting or buying instruments. Students will be given this information in hard copies in their music classes, too!

Contact information for all three 6th Grade Music Directors can be found on this website. They are MORE than happy to help answer questions!

We look forward to working with you in 6th grade!

Take care-

Megan Soukup - Band - msoukup@bcpsk12.net

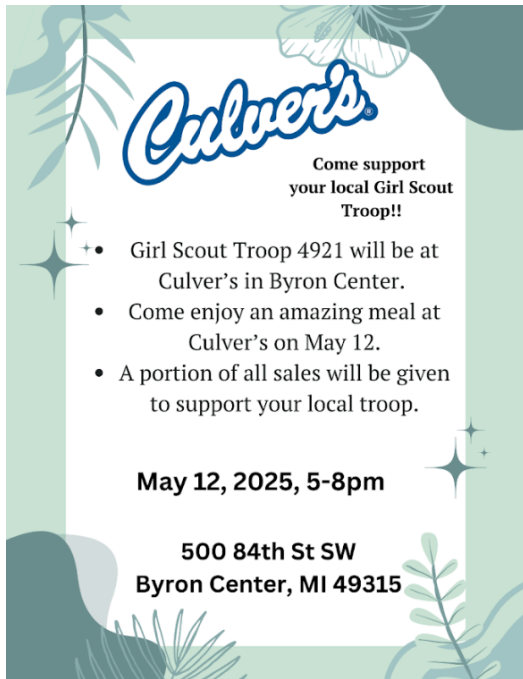
Hayley Vitarelli - Choir - hvitarelli@bcpsk12.net

Madison Peters - Orchestra - mpeters@bcpsk12.net

[How to get and Instrument](#) [6th Grade Performing Arts Choice](#) [Marshall Music Informational Flyer](#)

[Meyer Music Informational Flyer](#) [West Michigan Band Informational Flyer](#) [Guarneri House Informational Flyer](#)

Girl Scout Troop Fundraiser @ Culvers May 12th 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm:



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: [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](#)

SUMMER 2025 SPORTS CAMPS:

[Registration Link](#)

Byron Center Hockey Summer Camp:

[Summer Camp Informational Flyer](#) [Participation Waiver](#)

Byron Center Bulldog Power Summer Camp:



BULLDOG POWER
Summer 2025
56er Camp

DAYS
\$60 PER ATHLETE | **TUE & THU** | **JULY 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24**
11:30AM-12:30PM

#MOVEWELLMOVESTRONGMOVEFAST

**BYRON CENTER HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC ENTRANCE
MEET IN WEIGHT ROOM**

This camp will focus on age-appropriate Long Term Athletic Development skills like Jumping Sprinting Strength & Agility

REGISTER
HTTPS://BYRONCENTERATHLETICS.COM/REGISTRATIONS
CONTACT:
COACH JOE CHIARAMONTE

BUILDING CHAMPIONS
#BULLDOGPPOWER

<https://byroncenterathletics.com/Registrations>

24/25 6th Grade Sports Information:

<http://bcwestmsathletics.com/>

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

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!

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.

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

