



BYRON CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Helping Students Build Success Stories



Robert L. Nickels Intermediate

Nickels Intermediate School
Friday Office Communication
November 7, 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

Nov:

Nov. 11th - Forte Practice 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Nov. 12th - Art Club 2:50 pm - 3:45 pm

Nov. 13th - Forte Practice 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Nov. 14th - 5th Grade Harvest Party 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Nov. 18th - Bulldog Growl 2:55 pm - 3:45 pm

Nov. 18th - Forte Practice 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Nov. 20th - Forte Practice 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Nov. 26th - 28th - Thanksgiving Break - No School

Nov. 27th - No Forte

Dec:

Dec. 1st - Map Testing Begins

Dec. 2nd - Forte Practice 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Dear Byron Center Community:

I am excited to share that Byron Center Public Schools' bond proposal passed in last night's election! This investment in our district will allow us to enhance academic learning spaces, strengthen safety and security and continue to provide great opportunities for all of our students.

I would like to share my extreme gratitude for your belief in our students and staff and for helping shape the future of BCPS.

Please enjoy this thank-you video message.

Thank you for your continued support of Byron Center Public Schools!

Sincerely,

Kevin Macina, Ph.D., Superintendent

Veterans Day 11/11/25:

Thank you for your years of Service and Dedication to our Country!

Key Card Sale:

Our Annual Key Card sale has begun. 50% of the Sale Proceeds goes to our Nickels Students. For the 5th grade students, the sale proceeds go towards the 5th grade class end of the year Field trip and Holiday party. For the 6th grade students, the sale proceeds go towards their Holiday party and individual student accounts to help with their end of the year Field trip. Your student will bring home a sample for you to review and to show to family and friends. If you're not interested in the key card book, please send the book bag back to school. Thank you for Supporting Nickels! Sale Ends December 5th.

BCFAB Craft Show 11/8/25 - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm @ BCHS:

Byron Center Fine Arts Boosters is hosting a craft show at the High School on 11/8/25 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Admission is \$5 per person. There is a free shuttle and parking available at Heritage Elementary: 8638 Byron Center Ave.

BCFAB has a wonderful opportunity for parents to help volunteer at the craft show. If you are interested please see attached link:

👉 For Adults and Parents: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0A4BADAF29A13-59358766-2025>

BCSB Reverse Raffle 11/8/25:



Byron Center Sports Boosters

REVERSE RAFFLE PARTY

Union Pavilion- Railside Golf Club | **November 8, 2025**

The Byron Center Sports Boosters would like to invite you to our Reverse Raffle Party. Doors will open at 4:00 and the raffle kicks off at 7:00. There will be appetizers, beer and wine along with a cash bar. You can expect a fun time with friends as we celebrate our community and the athletes we are there to support. All proceeds will go towards our Byron Center Athletic Programs.

There will be 31 cash prize winners (see table below) and 100's of other prizes for other draws. We are also excited to announce that we will be hosting the BC basket silent auction this year. All of our teams are putting together amazing baskets and prizes that you can enter to win! There will be plenty of other fun happenings like chance ticket drawings, and other side games that will happen throughout the evening. Only 300 raffle tickets will be sold. Get your ticket for a chance to win.

 **\$15,000** 

Raffle Tickets \$150 each

With the purchase of a raffle ticket you will get one entry into the party. You can add a guest pass for \$50. Without the purchase of a raffle ticket, entry will cost \$75.

Purchase online @ www.byroncentersportsboosters.org/spirit-store

- You do not need to be present to win. The drawing will be updated live online.
- More information about the Event and more chances to win coming soon on the BC Boosters website

31 Winning Draws

Draw	Prize	Draw	Prize
1	\$200	150	\$500
10	\$50	160	\$250
20	\$50	170	\$200
30	\$50	180	\$150
40	\$50	190	\$100
50	\$400	200	\$500
60	\$50	210	\$50
70	\$50	220	\$200
80	\$50	230	\$150
90	\$50	240	\$500
100	\$500	250	\$400
110	\$200	260	\$500
120	\$200	270	\$500
130	\$50	280	\$400
140	\$200	290	\$200
		300	\$15,000

**Cash prizes subject to 300 tickets being sold. If less than 300 tickets are sold cash prizes and number of draws will be adjusted. Must be 18 years or older to enter raffle.
***Must be 21 years or older to attend tailgate party License #R83067

5th Grade Harvest Party

Our 5th graders are invited to stay after school on **Friday, November 14** from **3:00–4:30 PM** for an afternoon of fun with **inflatables, snacks, music, and games!**

 **Tickets are \$3** and can be purchased here: <https://givebutter.com/Nibsq4> or you can bring \$3 cash or check to the office. Scholarships are available by speaking with your child's teacher.

 **Pickup is promptly at 4:30 PM.**

We'd love your help to make the event a success!

Volunteer or donate snacks and supplies here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DA5A82AA5FBC61-60077028-5thgrade>

 If you'd like to contribute toward the cost of **scholarships, pizza, and inflatables**, please consider donating here: <https://givebutter.com/FIT2025>

Ski and Snowboard Club:

Ski and Snowboard Club sign ups are now open for 5th-12th grade Byron Center Public Schools students! [Use this link to access the sign up form.](#) Spots are limited, once the limit is reached, a waiting list will be generated.

Thank you!

BCHS Career Speakers:

Byron Center High School is looking for individuals from the community, who would be willing to come in and talk about their careers with a group of our Senior English Students as they look towards their next step after graduation. We set aside 25 minutes from 1:25 PM - 1:50 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays for career presentations. If you or anyone you know would be interested, please contact Pam Gillespie at pgillespie@bcpsk12.net or 616-878-6635 for more information.

Breakfast and Lunch are FREE for K-12 BCPS students during the 2025-2026 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 2025-2026 are open online here. Applications can be [found on the district's website.](#) If you need to set up an account or add funds for student meals, you can do so through the [Meal Magic Family Portal.](#)

Lunch Menu: [November 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.

District Calendar 25/26:

[25/26 District Calendar](#)

District Calendar 26/27:

[26/27 District Calendar](#)

25/26 6th Grade Sports Information:

<http://bcwestmsathletics.com/>

[25/26 Middle School Sports Informational Flyer](#)

Schoology:

<https://app.schoology.com/home> Please encourage your child to check schoology daily. If you click on the orange Byron Center symbol in the top left hand corner you will see the "feed". It will show postings by the teacher of what the homework is. Parents, if you connect to your child's account AND get the schoology app you can get notifications of homework sent to your phone. If you are new to schoology and need to register an account for your child, please use this link: <https://app.schoology.com/register.php?type=parent> Please email your students homeroom teacher and they can provide you with a specific access code to your child's account.

Family Tech Tip #3:

“Reset the room” to make space for screen-free hobbies and activities.

Here's a secret no one talks about when it comes to reducing screen time: it's called "resetting the room." It's a simple strategy for making future habits easy.

Thoughtfully arranging your space can make a big difference in encouraging screen-free activities. When kids see toys, books, and art supplies easily displayed and within reach, they naturally gravitate toward them.

Meanwhile, keeping screens tucked away when not in use makes them less of a default choice.

This environmental design approach is backed by behavioral science—we tend to choose activities that are convenient and visible.

This isn't just for little kids. Your pre-teens and teens will also gravitate toward what they see around them, whether it's a recipe book, a drum set, or a backyard game.

Want an easy (and free!) way to refresh your space? Use our local library. Beyond books, our library offers a "library of things"—you can borrow puzzles, instruments, tools, kitchen supplies, and more.

How will you arrange your home to showcase the activities your family loves and inspire new screen-free interests?

"If you're interested in meeting up with other parents and kids screen-free here and there, feel free to reach out to Katie Kimball (parent of a 5th grader) at mrskatiekimball@gmail.com to get connected."

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!

Returning Student Registration:

Returning Students Registration letter can be found in your students welcome packet. Please use the snap code on this letter to complete your students registration. This letter replaces the paper demographic form you may have completed in previous years. Please log in and review the information and update emails, phone numbers or other information as necessary. If you have multiple households, only one household is required to complete the online information.

[Returning Students Registration Link](#)

Hand 2 Hand:

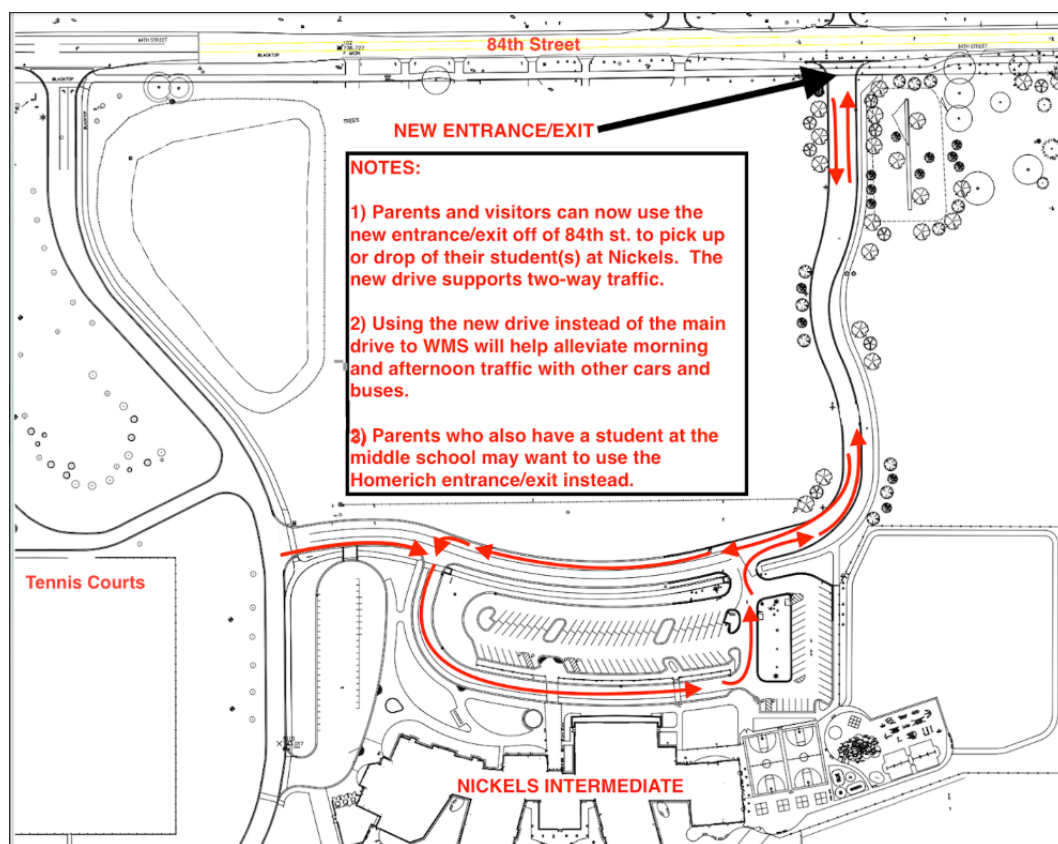
Dear Parent/Guardian:

We would like to offer your student the opportunity to participate in a program at Nickels Intermediate called "Hand2Hand". This program helps provide a student with food/snacks for the weekends!

Here's how Hand2Hand will work: At the end of the week students who are signed up will receive a minimum of 10 food items in a black school logo drawstring bag that will be provided at the first week of participation (subsequent weeks will be a plastic bag). These food items will be a combination of breakfast, snacks, lunch and/or dinner items. While the food items are meant for the student, they can be shared among the family as well. (Please note: if your student or another family member has food allergies it will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian to check the contents of the backpack each week to ensure the food doesn't contain ingredients which could cause an allergic reaction).

There is no cost to participate! If you sign your student up to receive Hand2Hand, they will continue to receive the weekly bags each week. This opportunity is being provided by Corinth Reformed Church in Byron Center. To learn more about Hand2Hand, please visit their website: h2hkids.org. Fill out form [HERE](#).

Student Pick up and Drop off (New Driveway Entrance for Nickels) :



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 Nickels Intermediate. 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. **Do not use the middle lane for entering Nickels' driveway.** 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.**

After school dismissal, students at Nickels will get on a transfer bus and ride it over to the bus rodeo (located at Heritage Elementary), students will transfer to their home bus at this location. 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.

[Informational Video of the Drive to Nickels](#)



REMEMBER
OUR VETERANS