



BYRON CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Helping Students Build Success Stories



Robert L. Nickels Intermediate

Nickels Intermediate School
Friday Office Communication
October 10, 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

Oct:

Oct. 13th - Key Card Fundraiser begins

Oct. 14th - No Forte

Oct. 14th - Parent Teacher Conferences
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Oct. 15th - Ice Cream Truck will be here during the school day for those students who sold 5 or more items during the Nickels Fundraiser

Oct. 16th - No Forte

Oct. 16th - Parent Teacher Conferences
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Oct. 21st - Forte Practice 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Oct. 23rd - Forte Practice 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Oct. 28th - Picture Retakes

Oct. 28th - Forte Practice 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Oct. 28th - Bulldog Growl 2:55 pm - 3:45 pm

Oct. 30th - Forte Practice 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Parent Teacher Conferences 10/14 & 10/16 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm:

Parent-teacher conferences will be held on the 14th and 16th of Oct. Please look for further communication from your students' homeroom teacher.

Help us provide meals for teachers and staff during Parent/Teacher Conferences! Families can sign up to bring food or drinks here: [Food Sign Up](#). You can also give a monetary donation here: [Monetary Donation Sign Up](#).

Bonus: All monetary donations count toward our classroom total for the annual fundraiser!

Thank you for always keeping parents in the loop and for all you do every day for our students!

With appreciation, Nickels FIT

Chili Cook Off 10/17/25:



The poster features a large image of a blue Kent County Sheriff's Office truck at the top. Below it, a red fire truck is shown in a circular inset, and a bowl of chili is in another circular inset. The background of the bottom half is a light yellow color with a dark red banner at the very bottom.

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: October 17th, 2025
Time: 5pm-7pm
Location: Byron Center Recreation
2120 76th St., Byron Center

Free event for all ages
(except for chili cook off)

\$20 entry fee for each team

\$5 sampling chili
(day of the 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 can be created by either 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
- Participants are encouraged to decorate your 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 by categories (see below)

Categories

- Peoples 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)

Halloween:

Students are welcome to wear Halloween costumes to school Friday, October 31, which is a half day of school. Costumes should adhere to the school dress code, be nonviolent in nature, and should not have weapons as accessories. Please have your child arrive at school in their costume.

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.

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](#)

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.

[Key Card 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.

There is still time to order photos or a yearbook online. Picture retakes will be Oct. 28th:

Below is the link and school code for Robert Nickels Intermediate School.

gpi.portraitpics.co **579CQCVRBIJZI** **School code** or call at 616-453-4170 to order over the phone.

Ski and Snowboard Club:

A club for 5th through 12th grade students who enjoy hitting the slopes together. This pre-paid club transports students to and from BCHS and Bittersweet Ski Resort six Tuesdays in January and February.

Sign up and Payment information will come late October. Space will be limited.

An option to meet at Bittersweet (no bus transportation) will be available for those who prefer to meet us there.

See the [information document](#) for details.

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.

BCSB Reverse Raffle 11/8/25:



Byron Center Sports Boosters

REVERSE RAFFLE PARTY

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

The Byron Center Sports Boosters would like to invite you to our Reverse Raffle Party. Doors will open at 6:00 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	\$1000	150	\$500
10	\$500	160	\$500
20	\$500	170	\$500
30	\$500	180	\$500
40	\$500	190	\$500
50	\$800	200	\$500
60	\$500	210	\$500
70	\$500	220	\$500
80	\$500	230	\$500
90	\$500	240	\$500
100	\$500	250	\$800
110	\$500	260	\$500
120	\$500	270	\$500
130	\$500	280	\$800
140	\$500	290	\$5000
		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

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](#)

BCPS Food Service:

Thank you for your patience as the district continues to monitor the State of Michigan's budget process. One of the important topics under discussion has been legislation to provide free school meals for all K–12 students.

While the State School Aid Budget is still being finalized, current reports indicate that the budget will include funding for free meals for the 2025–26 school year. As the state works to complete the budget, Byron Center Public Schools will continue to provide free breakfast and lunch to all K–12 students.

BCPS will closely follow the state's final budget decisions and share updates as soon as more details are confirmed. Unless there are unexpected changes, families can plan for the free meals program to continue for the school year.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership of Byron Center Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Nutrition Services Department

Families who meet federal income guidelines may qualify for free or reduced-price meals. 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.](#)**

We appreciate your understanding and will share updates as soon as more information becomes available.

Fresh Baked Cookies will be available every Friday for purchase ~ If your student would like to purchase one they are \$1.00 each. **[October Lunch Menu](#)**

Come dance with the Byron Center Varsity Dance Team! We are hosting a SPIRIT CLINIC on November 8 and a ZUMBA Fundraiser on November 22. You can sign up by clicking the links below. Reach out to bchsdanceteam1@gmail.com with any questions.

Click to pay for both Zumba and/or the Spirit clinic, once on the page, click ...
<https://payments.efundsforschools.com/v3/districts/55709>

How to Register for ZUMBA....
<https://forms.gle/21ZCFYNHA6GzroWAA>

How to Register for the SPIRIT CLINIC...
<https://forms.gle/ARevG6GPnnTsGYju7>

BYRON CENTER VARSITY DANCE TEAM

SPIRIT CLINIC

Work on dance skills with the varsity dance team followed by a fun performance for families at 11:45 am! NEW THIS YEAR, the dancers will get a FREE t-shirt and a sweet treat in addition to all the other fun!

\$35 / PERSON **NOVEMBER 8**

9:00 – 12:00 PM
BROWN ELEMENTARY GYM
8064 BYRON CENTER AVE

DEADLINE TO GET A SHIRT WOULD BE TO SIGN UP BEFORE OCTOBER 24!

BYRON CENTER VARSITY DANCE TEAM

ZUMBA +FUNDRAISER+

JOIN US! NOVEMBER 22
9:30-10:30 AM

COME DANCE WITH THE BYRON CENTER VARSITY DANCE TEAM AND HAVE FUN DOING SOME ZUMBA!

THE COST IS \$25 AND WILL INCLUDE A T-SHIRT THIS YEAR! REGISTER BY NOVEMBER 6 TO RECEIVE A SHIRT!

ALL PROCEEDS GO DIRECTLY TOWARDS THE BYRON CENTER DANCE TEAM TO HELP PAY FOR COMPETITION ATTIRE & FEES

BROWN ELEMENTARY
8064 Byron Center Ave SW

Counselor's Corner:

Counseling Groups:

Counseling groups (often called lunch or small groups) are offered once a week during lunch and recess and meet for 8-10 sessions. If your student is interested in any of the topics offered (see list and sign-up [HERE](#)), please be sure to fill out the digital form or contact the school for a hard copy. Topics will be offered based on demand, and if the topic your student is interested in isn't offered in the fall, there is still a good chance it will be offered later in the year! If you would like more information about any of these small groups or have any questions please feel free to contact me at 878-6418 or spero@bcpsk12.net. 🍁

Thank You!

Shelley Pero, School Counselor

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](#).

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.

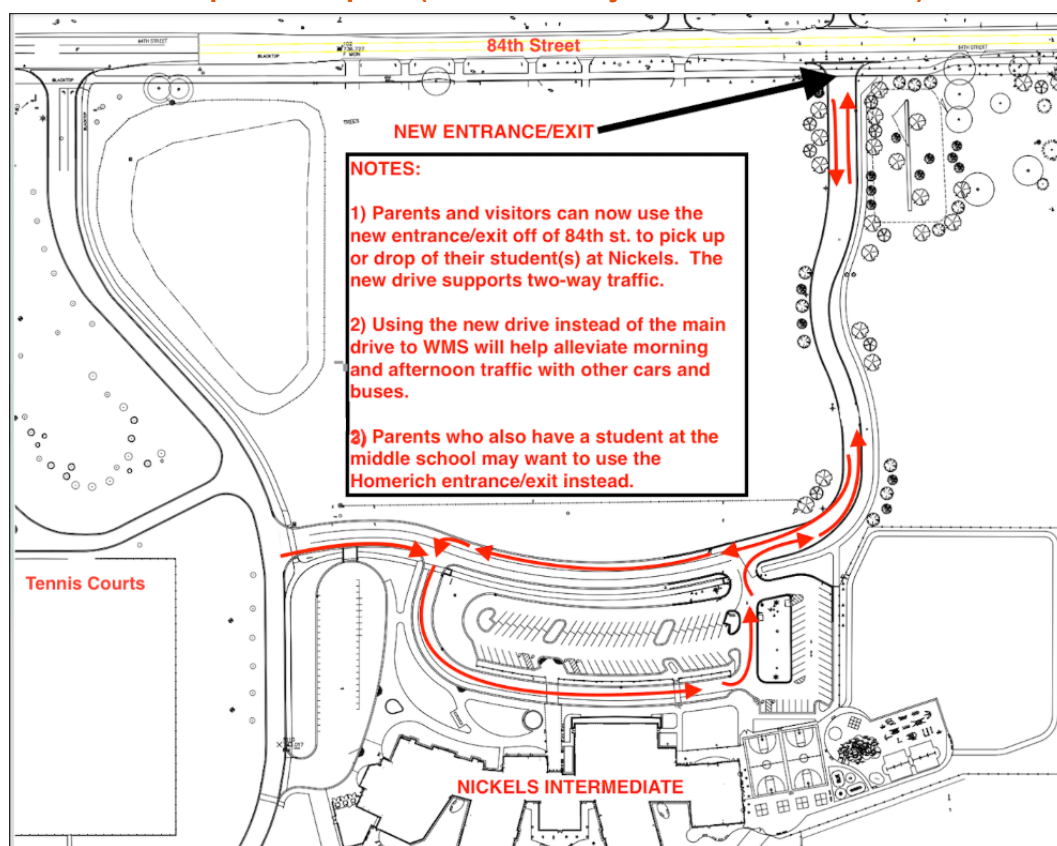
3rd Offense – Parent is called and device is banned permanently from the school for the remainder of the year.

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

Byron Center Public Schools has a bond proposal on the ballot in the upcoming November 4 election. The district's bond would enhance academic learning environments, fine arts spaces and athletic facilities, while also supporting districtwide technology upgrades and improvements to the transportation center. For more information about the bond proposal, please visit the district's website.



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 New Drive to Nickels](#)

Nurses Corner:

Medication Consent Form 25/26

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, etc.

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

