



BYRON CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Helping Students Build Success Stories



Robert L. Nickels Intermediate

Nickels Intermediate School
Friday Office Communication
September 4, 2026

Important Information:

Attendance Line:

To notify the school of your student's absence, late arrival, or planned early dismissal, please call the office at 616-878-6400 or email nickelsattendance@bcpsk12.net. If you reach our voicemail, kindly leave a detailed message on our attendance line, that includes your name, your student's full name, the reason for their absence, and their expected arrival or departure time. Thank you for your assistance! [Nickels website](#)

School Hours:

Full Day: 7:55 am - 2:45 pm

Half Day: 7:55 am - 11:05 am

Office hours:

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

Phone number: 616-878-6400

Upcoming Dates

Sept:

Sept. 4th - Sept. 7th - No School - Labor Day

Sept. 8th - Map testing begins

Sept. 9th - School Picture Day

Sept. 11th - Fall Fundraiser starts - More details to come

Sept. 24th - Homecoming Color Run @ WMS - 6:00 pm - See attached flyer for details

Sept. 25th - Homecoming Parade and Football game - More details to come

Oct:

Oct. 2nd - 5th Grade Vision Screening

Oct. 13th - FIT Volleyball Family Nights - More details to come

Oct. 13th - Parent Teacher Conferences - 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm - Teachers will be sending out sign up information in Oct.

Oct. 15th - Parent Teacher Conferences - 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm - Teachers will be sending out sign up information in Oct.

Returning Student Registration:

Returning Students Registration letter: Please use the snap code on this letter to complete your students returning to school registration. 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](#)

26/27 5th Grade Supply list:

[5th Grade Supply List for 26/27 school year](#)

26/27 6th Grade Supply list:

[6th Grade Supply List for 26/27 school year](#)

Upcoming Picture Day 9/9/26:

**Picture Day for Nickels Intermediate School is scheduled for
Wednesday, Sep 9.**

This event's Order Code is 0657HMF.

Order before Picture Day to receive free shipping to the school. Online ordering will be open until 9/11/26. To order online at please use this attached link:

<https://inter-state.com/FlyerEntry/0657HMF>

If you would like a yearbook only, you can order with code: 0698NB - Direct link:

<https://inter-state.com/yearbookentry/0698NB>

Interested in becoming a Cub Scout?

Pack 3250 welcomes boys and girls K-5th. Join us for our Welcome Picnic at the Whistlestop Park pavilion on Tuesday, September 22 at 6:30pm for dinner, games, and other activities! For questions, contact Jeremiah Jordan 616-292-1990, jordanpack3250@gmail.com.

Byron Center Cross Country Color Run 9/24/26:

XC is holding our homecoming color run on Thursday September 24 at WMS at 6:00. Registration is at www.byroncenterathletics.com/registrations

HOMECOMING COLOR RUN

PRESENTED BY BCXC



**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24
BYRON WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL
K - 3RD GRADE - 6:00 PM
4TH - 6TH GRADE - 6:20 PM
\$20.00 - INCLUDES T SHIRT**



REGISTER AT WWW.BYRONCENTERATHLETICS.COM/REGISTRATIONS

26/27 5th Grade Supply list:

[5th Grade Supply List for 26/27 school year](#)

26/27 6th Grade Supply list:

[6th Grade Supply List for 26/27 school year](#)

District Calendar 26/27:

[26/27 District Calendar](#)

5th Grade Basketball Clinic:



**MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 14TH &
WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 16TH**

**GIRLS & BOYS KIDS
CLINIC**

**K-2ND GRADE
5PM-630PM**

**3RD-5TH GRADE
630PM-8PM**

PRICES:
1 CHILD- \$50
2 KIDS- \$75
3 OR MORE KIDS- \$110

**CALLING ALL "BOYS & GIRLS IN
K-5TH GRADE!" COME LEARN,
COMPETE, AND HAVE FUN WHILE
BUILDING YOUR BASKETBALL
SKILLS! GET READY FOR EXCITING
DRILLS, GAMES, TEAMWORK, AND
PLENTY OF BASKETBALL ACTION.
"BRING YOUR ENERGY, LACE UP
YOUR SHOES, AND LET'S HOOP!"**

Please use this link for registration: [Women's Basketball Elite Youth Clinic.](#)

26/27 6th Grade Sports Information:

<http://bcwestmsathletics.com/>

[26/27 Middle School Sports Informational Flyer](#)

Sports Boosters Fall Fundraiser 9/23/26:

**JET'S PIZZA® PROUDLY SUPPORTS
BYRON CENTER SPORTS BOOSTERS**



LET'S RAISE SOME DOUGH!
Wednesday, September 23, 2026
Join us on September 23 to support the Byron Center Sports Boosters.
No flyer or code needed. A percentage of all pick-up and carry-out
orders will be donated to the Sports Boosters.

**JET'S
PIZZA**

8233 Byron Center Ave.
(616) 878-4748



*Not valid on delivery. Please use online ordering or text orders if possible to help process your order quickly.

   @JETSPIZZA | JETSPIZZA.COM | #JETSPIZZA

Counselor's Corner:

Counselor Introduction:

It has been an exciting couple of days welcoming all the students back for another school year! I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to our new families in the building. I am Shelley Pero, the School Counselor here at Nickels! I will be visiting 5th grade classrooms in the coming weeks to introduce myself and explain the process of how they can connect with me and what opportunities we have to offer. Student referrals come to me through teachers, parents, and student self-referrals. If you have any questions about what I can do to support your student or if you would like for me to schedule a check-in now or in the future, please feel free to reach out. I look forward to continuing to work with familiar faces from last year as well as continuing to meet many more new ones! 🌻

Counseling Groups:

It is almost time to start counseling groups here at Nickels! 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*

Hand2Hand:

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](#).

Welcome to Nickels FIT! Here's What We Do & How You Can Help

Dear Nickels Families,

Welcome to a new school year! We're the **Nickels Family Involvement Team (FIT)**, and we're excited to kick off another year of supporting our students, staff, and Nickels community.

Meet Your Nickels FIT Board

FIT is led by Nickels parents who volunteer their time to help make our school an even better place for our kids.

President: Kristi Maines

Vice President: Andrea Wiltrakis

Treasurer: Lauren Brock

Our Mission

Nickels FIT exists to bring families, staff, and our school community together by supporting meaningful experiences for students, showing appreciation for our incredible teachers and staff, and providing resources that help Nickels thrive.

Throughout the year, FIT funds and supports:

-  **Teacher & Staff Appreciation**
-  **Meals for our staff during Parent-Teacher Conferences**
-  **5th Grade Harvest Party**
-  **6th Grade Celebration**
-  **Reading Month programming and celebration**
-  **Additional resources for teachers and staff when their regular budgets don't cover a need**

That last one can make a bigger difference than you might realize! In past years, FIT has purchased **lawn games for our Physical Education Department** and a **book-binding machine for our library**, among other needs that directly benefit Nickels students and staff.

“Wait...Another Fundraiser?”

We know. **We're parents, too.** Fall gets busy quickly, and it can feel like donation requests are coming from every direction.

You may have noticed information about **two school-sponsored fundraisers in your child's Welcome Packet from Nickels**. Those fundraisers help offset costs associated with field trips, holiday activities, and other student expenses.

The Nickels FIT Fundraiser is separate and supports a different set of needs within our school community—including student events and programming, Teacher & Staff Appreciation, conference meals, and additional resources for our teachers and staff.

Our ask is simple:

If every Nickels family donated just \$20, we could raise enough to continue doing what FIT does best all year long.

And here's something we're especially excited about: **our fundraising platform allows FIT to keep 100% of the funds we raise!** There are no products to sell, no order forms to collect, and no percentage going to a traditional fundraising company.

100% stays with FIT and goes right back into supporting our Nickels community.

[Donate to the Nickels FIT Kickoff Fundraiser](#)

Our fundraising link stays open all school year. If fall is already stretching the family budget, come back to it whenever the timing works for you. Whether it's \$5, \$20, \$50, or more, every contribution helps.

Mark Your Calendar!

We already have some great things coming up at Nickels this year:



Nickels Volleyball Night- October 13th



Parent-Teacher Conferences- October 13th & 15th FIT will once again provide meals for our teachers and staff during conference days.



5th Grade Harvest Party- November 13th 3-4pm

Watch for more details about these events, along with opportunities to volunteer and get involved throughout the year!

Own or Know a Local Business? Partner With FIT!

We're also looking for **Nickels FIT sponsors for the 2026–27 school year!**

Business sponsorships help us stretch our fundraising dollars even further and continue providing programming, events, staff appreciation, and resources for our school. If you own a business, work for a company that supports local schools, or know a business that might be interested, **we'd love to connect with them!**

Want to learn more about becoming a Nickels FIT sponsor?

[View Our 2026–27 Sponsorship Opportunities](#)

Ready to partner with us?

[Fill Out Our Nickels FIT Sponsorship Form](#)

Stay Connected With FIT

The easiest way to stay up to date on **FIT events, volunteer opportunities, fundraising updates, and what's happening around Nickels** is to follow us on social media.

[Follow Nickels FIT on Facebook](#)

Follow @nickels.fit on Instagram

There are a lot of ways to support our organization—**donate, volunteer, sponsor, attend an event, follow along, or simply help us spread the word.** It all adds up.

We're looking forward to another great year and are grateful to be part of a community that continues to show up for our kids, our teachers, and our school. **Here's to a great 2026–27 school year!**  



Byron Center's Got Talent: 3rd Grade–Adult

We're looking for singers, dancers, musicians, comedians, groups, and really anything else people might want to perform! Auditions are digital and are due September 4. More information and the audition submission can be found at:

vsfac.com/talent

Junie B. Jones Jr. Cast Registration: Grades 3–5

Registration is open for students interested in being part of our Youth Theatre production of *Junie B. Jones Jr.* This is open to students in 3rd–5th grade. Registration: vsfac.com/juniejb

Junie B. Jones Jr. Crew Registration: All Grades

3rd-5th Grade Registration

6th-12th Grade Registration

Students interested in the behind-the-scenes side of theatre can sign up to be part of the crew. Crew will help with things like sets, props, costumes, backstage, and other production needs.

2026–2027 Theatre Season Tickets

Our new theatre season is here! Every Story Matters features five shows centered around courage, imagination, friendship, and finding your place in the world. More information: vsfac.com/season

Byron Center Sports Passes Available For Purchase:

Passes will be available for purchase in the Athletic Office (8500 Burlingame Ave.). Normal office hours will be from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm for purchase. (Lunch from 12:00-12:30). These passes can be used at all regular season MS and HS home events.

Adults \$50

Students \$25.00

Family Max payment of \$150.00 Cash or Checks payable to BCPS.

If you have any additional questions please feel free to reach out at 616-878-664

Breakfast and Lunch are FREE for K-12 BCPS students during the 2026-2027 school year!

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

To support both your family and your school, please complete the free and reduced meal application if you believe you qualify! Students who qualify receive discounts on sports fees, testing fees, and may also become eligible for EBT cards. Online applications for the 2026-2027 school year are currently accessible and can be [found on the district's website](#). For adding funds for student meals or creating a new account, please use the [Meal Magic Family Portal](#).

Lunch Menu: [September 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.

Classroom Beverage Policy:

We know that parenting can be both joyful and exhausting, and we appreciate all that you do to support your child each day. As partners in your child's well-being, we want to share a reminder about beverages brought to school. Health experts, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, advise that caffeine can have negative effects on children. They recommend that children under age 12 avoid caffeinated drinks entirely, and that adolescents (ages 12–18) limit caffeine intake to less than 100 mg per day. Many popular drinks, especially energy drinks, exceed this amount and can pose concerns for students' health, focus, and overall well-being. To support a healthy and focused learning environment, **only non-caffeinated, clear liquids will be allowed during the school day**. This means that items such as coffee, pop, and energy drinks should not be brought to school. Thank you for your partnership in helping us create a safe and supportive environment for all students.

PowerSchool and Schoology:

These two platforms are PowerSchool and Schoology. We logged in to these at school this week and started exploring how we will use them in class. Below is the difference between the two.

PowerSchool - this is where grades are posted. If you are wondering what your child received on a formative, summative, or any other assignment, this is the site you should use. Missing assignments can also be found here.

Schoology - this is where the learning happens. If your child needs to find materials we use at school (study guides, homework, links to review games), this is the site you should use.

When you first log into Schoology, there will be an "Updates" page. I use this as an "online planner." If you need to know what homework, formative, or summative are coming up, this is the site to use.

Logging into Schoology

Directions on how to log in to Schoology and PowerSchool can be found in the folder you picked up at the open house. Along with this, below are links that may be helpful.

[Parent Registration on Computer](#)

[Parent Registration on Phone](#)

[Student Login at Home](#)

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 7:30-2:45 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)

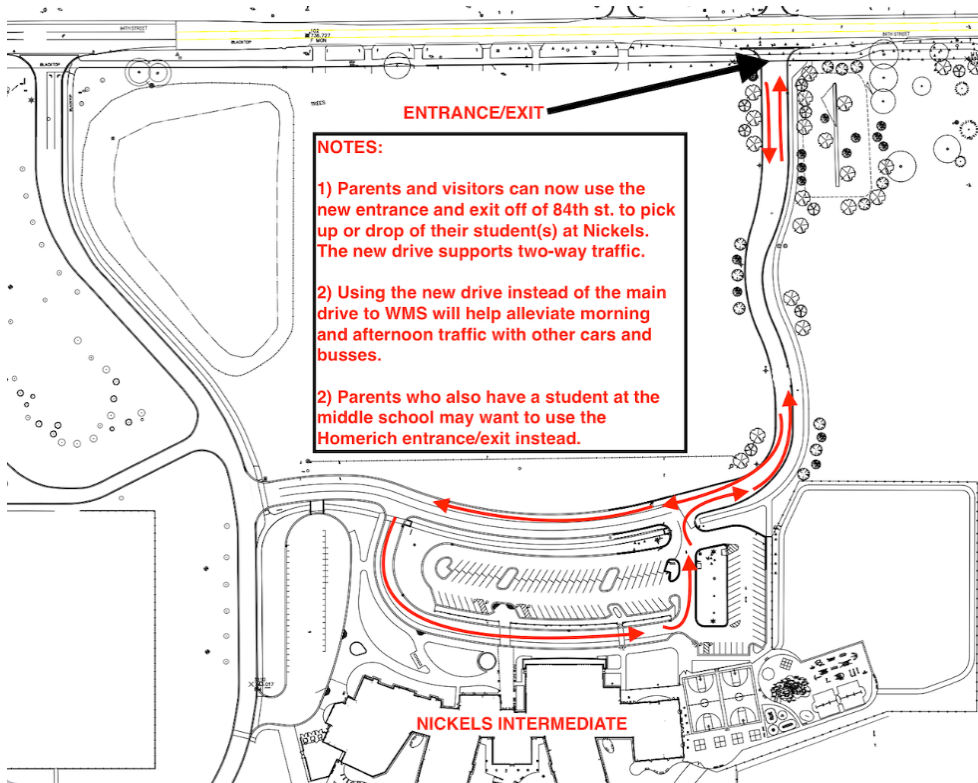
1st Offense – Device is taken away for the remainder of the day.

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 for Nickels Intermediate:



Dear Parents and Guardians-

This is just a reminder to be very mindful of students and pedestrians during pick up and drop off time at Nickels. When we have snow and slick roads, along with less daylight it can make it even more challenging to ensure the safety of pedestrians, so we respectfully ask that everyone follow a few simple rules to help with this: Please be patient, do not speed, and drop your student off in the drop off lane closest to the curb and sidewalk.

- Please do not drop students off anywhere that requires them to cross any vehicle traffic flow.
- Please pull forward if space allows, but students can be dropped at any point along the curb before or after the main doors provided they exit on the curb for safety. Utilize the entire length of the sidewalk, rather than dropping students off directly in front of the main door.
- Please be careful when pulling out or merging to exit, as other cars may already be present and/or attempting to exit.

Thank you for your assistance! [Informational Video of the Drive to Nickels](#)

Nurses Corner:

[Medication Consent Form 26/27 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.

Direct Phone: 616-878-6414 Fax Number: 616-345-1924.

 Final - When to Keep Your Child Home From School.pdf

