



BYRON CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Helping Students Build Success Stories



Robert L. Nickels Intermediate

Nickels Intermediate School
Friday Office Communication
September 5, 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

Sept:

Sept. 11th - Youth Soccer Night - JV game 5:00 pm & Varsity game 6:30 pm

Sept. 12th - Nickels Fall Fundraiser Starts

Sept. 16th - Forte Practice 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

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

Sept. 19th - MAP testing finishes

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

Sept. 25th - Forte Practice 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Sept. 25th - FIT is hosting a Nickels Volleyball night - 5:00 pm at the Highschool - Please use the link in the Friday Communications to sign up for the event

Sept. 26th - Homecoming Parade - 5:30 pm

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

Returning Student Registration:

Returning Students Registration letter: 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](#)

YOUTH SOCCER NIGHT

Thursday September 11, 2025

vs Reeths-Puffer

at BC West Athletic Fields

5:00 PM Junior Varsity Soccer Game

6:30 PM Varsity Soccer Game

half-time Kids invited to score against BC High-School Soccer Goalie
Watch AYSO United U12 Boys Scrimmage



Free Entry!
for all kids wearing
any soccer jersey



Kona Ice
available for
purchase



Hand2Hand provides food for kids facing weekend hunger in West Michigan.

Nearly 65,000 children in West Michigan are at risk of hunger after being dropped off at home each weekend with a risk of having little to no food for 68 hours!

Hand2Hand exists to eliminate that 68-hour gap so every kid has an opportunity to thrive.

Please bring a donation for Hand2Hand!



Granola Bars



Fruit Snacks




Quart Storage Bags



Chips or Pretzels

Art Club at Nickels Intermediate School

- Art Club meets once a month after school and is open to all 5th and 6th grade students. Participation is first come, first served.
- Students must pick up an application form from the office after the announcement is made.
- Parents may not pick up forms or request them in advance.
- Due to limited space and supplies, only a certain number of students can join each year.
- Once all spots are filled:
- A waiting list will be created.
- If a student takes a form but does not return it, a student from the waiting list will be invited to join.
-  Please only sign up if you plan to attend all meetings.
- We look forward to creating with you!
- **Dates: October 8, November 12, December 10, January 21, February 11, March 11, April 22**

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

Counselor's Corner:

Counselor Introduction:

It has been an exciting couple of weeks welcoming all the students back for another awesome 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

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](#).

JET'S PIZZA® PROUDLY SUPPORTS BYRON CENTER SPORTS BOOSTERS



LET'S RAISE SOME DOUGH!

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 24, 2025

Join us on September 24 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.



BYRON CENTER
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

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 8:00am - 2:00PM 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 616-878-6642.

BCPS Food Service:

We want to keep you informed about upcoming changes to school meal guidelines. All K–12 students at BCPS will continue to receive free breakfast and lunch through September 30, 2025. Beginning October 1, families should plan to pay for student meals unless state funding is extended.

The State of Michigan is currently working through the State School Aid Budget, and at this time, it is not yet known whether free meals will be provided for the 2025–26 school year beyond September 30, 2025.

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.

September Lunch Menu

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!

25/26 6th Grade Sports Information:

<http://bcwestmsathletics.com/>

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

Family Involvement Team - FIT:

Dear Nickels Families,

Welcome to another exciting school year at Nickels Intermediate School! We are thrilled to connect with you and share all the wonderful events and programs that Nickels FIT has planned for our students and staff this year.

Who We Are:

Nickels Family Involvement Team (FIT) is a 501(c)(3) organization that serves as the Parent-Teacher group supporting the staff and students at Nickels Intermediate School. We work hard to enhance the educational experience and create memorable moments for our school community throughout the year.

Meet Your 2025-26 Board:

We're excited to introduce this year's leadership team:

- **Kristi Maines** - President
- **Andrea Wiltrakis** - Vice President
- **Lauren Brock** - Treasurer

Upcoming Events

Nickels Volleyball Night - Thursday, September 25 Join us for a fun evening of volleyball! This event offers free admission for all Nickels students and their immediate family members, plus we have a special treat planned for our students. While this is a free event, any donations would be greatly appreciated to help support our programs. Sign up here: <https://givebutter.com/BCVB2025>

5th Grade Harvest Party - Friday, November 14 Mark your calendars for this after-school celebration from 3:00-4:30pm! Tickets will be \$3 per student. We'll send another email with more details as the date approaches.

Our Fundraising Approach:

FIT understands that fundraising can add to parents' mental load, so we've chosen to keep things simple by using Givebutter as our primary fundraising platform. Our donation link will remain open throughout the entire school year, with each classroom working toward a goal of \$1,000. When your child's classroom reaches their goal, they'll be rewarded with an ice cream party from FIT!

All funds raised directly support our students, teachers, and staff through various programs and events. FIT proudly covers the cost of each student's field day t-shirts and provides ongoing staff support and encouragement throughout the year.

2025-26 Fundraiser Launch:

Our fundraiser kicks off today with a goal of raising \$20,000 to keep FIT running strong for another fantastic year. You can easily donate here: <https://givebutter.com/FIT2025> or send cash/checks to school with your child. Please send donations in an envelope marked “**Nickels FIT Fundraiser**” and drop them off at the school office.

We completely understand that the beginning of the school year comes with many fees and expenses, so please donate when the time feels right for your family. **Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a difference and is greatly appreciated!**

Thank You to Our Amazing Sponsors:

We couldn't accomplish what we do without the generous support of our community sponsors. Here are the wonderful businesses that supported us last year:

- Grandville Trailer
- Knapp Orthodontics
- Bell House Training Co.
- Stucki Builders LLC
- Pinspiration
- Michigan Building & Mechanical, Inc.
- Buist Electric
- ProMow Lawncare and Landscape

Interested in Becoming a Sponsor? If you or your business would like to become a sponsor for the 2025-26 school year, please reach out to kristi@nickelsfit.org or sign up here: <https://airtable.com/appepepudjZCKbMK3/tbl1O45oltPlc5Yim/viwmfe71YRn6LDp7bT?blocks=hide>

We are incredibly excited for the year ahead and look forward to working together to make this an amazing year for all our Nickels students and staff!

It's going to be a great year. Thank you for your support!

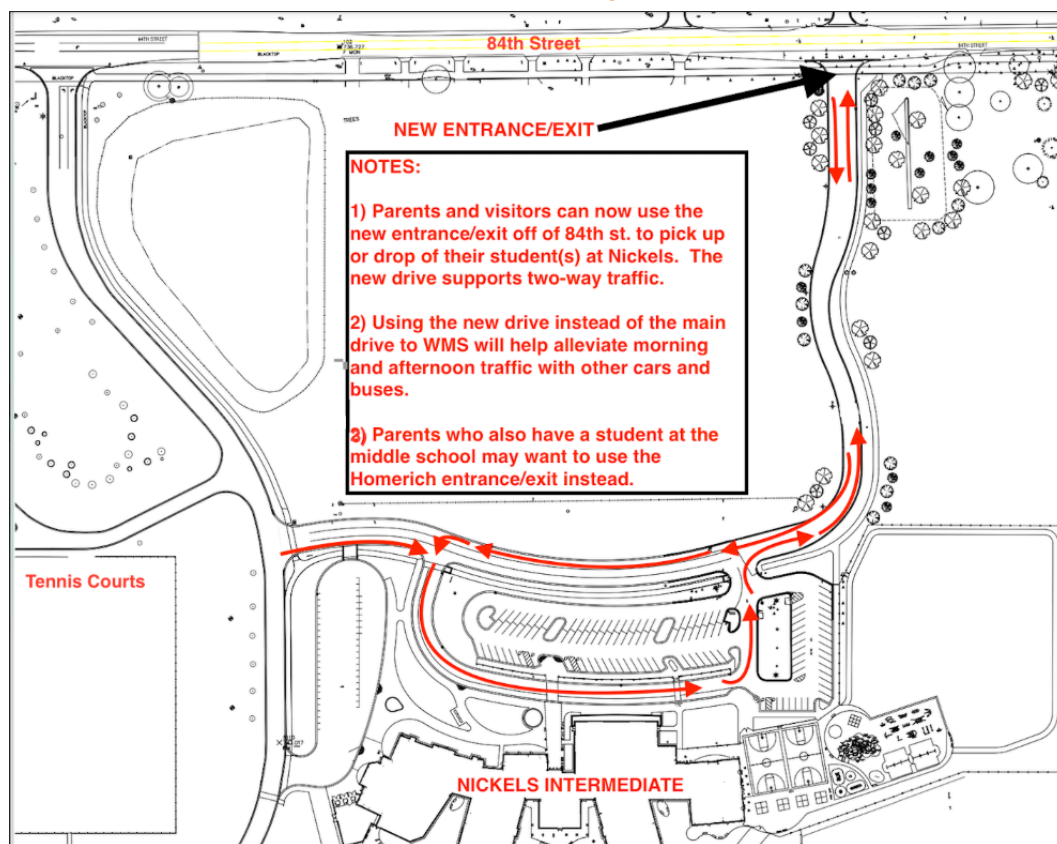
The Nickels FIT Board

Kristi Maines, President

Andrea Wiltrakis, Vice President

Lauren Brock, Treasurer

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](#)

District Calendar 25/26:

25/26 District Calendar

District Calendar 26/27:

26/27 District Calendar

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

