



BYRON CENTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Helping Students Build Success Stories



Nickels Intermediate School
Friday Office Communication
September 6, 2024

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

September:

Sept. 10th - Code Red Starts 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Sept. 11th - Homecoming Color Run sign up deadline

Sept. 12th - BC Soccer Community Youth Night @ 6:30 pm

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

Sept. 19th - Forte 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Sept. 19th - Fall Fundraiser ends

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

Sept. 25th - Sports Boosters Fundraiser at Jets

Sept. 26th - Forte 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Sept. 26th - Homecoming Color Run 5:00 pm - Please sign up for this event by Sept. 11th.

Sept. 26th - Nickels FIT - Volleyball Night - More details to come

Sept. 27th - Homecoming Parade 5:00 pm

Sept. 27th - Homecoming Game 7:00 pm

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

Homecoming Color Run Sept. 26th:

The Byron Center Cross Country team is excited to host the second annual Homecoming Color Run for students in grades Preschool through 6th. Participants will run along a course and get dusted with various colors of chalk, ending the run covered in a vibrant array of colors. This event is aimed to be a fun activity for students during Homecoming week and serves as a fundraiser for the High School Cross Country Team. For more information [click here](#). **Registration ends Sept. 11th**

Dear 5th Grade Parents:

It's recorder time! Your students can purchase personal recorders for use in our classrooms (we have used recorders they can use, if you do not wish to purchase one). Students may, if they wish, order 2 personal recorders for use at home and at school. If you would like to purchase a recorder for your child please fill out the order form below OR fill out the google form using the QR code to the right and return it with \$7/recorder (please make checks payable to BCFAB). Recorders may be ordered in pink, green, blue or ivory.

[5th Grade Recorder Order Form](#)

Nickels Intermediate School's fundraiser Fall Fundraiser 9/5/24 - 9/19/24:

We need your help. Our goal is to raise \$25,000.00 for school activities and field trips.

It's as simple as 1, 2, 3!

1. Register at www.ShopFund.com
2. Share custom support links with family & friends via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Email, Text and more.
3. Student Goal: Minimum of 5 Online Supporters.

REGISTER-SHARE-WIN: Sharing gets you tickets for chances to win over \$100,000 in instant prizes.

Fundraiser Links:

- [How To Videos - \(https://vimeo.com/showcase/8752027\)](https://vimeo.com/showcase/8752027)
- [Kick-Off Videos - \(https://vimeo.com/showcase/11299110\)](https://vimeo.com/showcase/11299110)
- [Parent Letter - \(https://grpsvcs.link/fSQEyP\)](https://grpsvcs.link/fSQEyP)
- [Prize Program - \(https://grpsvcs.link/F1PUJk\)](https://grpsvcs.link/F1PUJk)

On behalf of the staff at Nickels Intermediate School, thank you for doing your part to make our fundraiser a success.

Photo Retakes 10/21/24:

Picture Retakes will be held during the school day on Oct. 21st. If you have any questions about your students' picture order please contact Gekus photos at 616-453-4170, or if you would like to order online:

<https://www.gekusphoto.com/fall-pictures>

Online Code: 579CQCVRBIJZI

Code Red Robotics:

Code Red Robotics is gearing up for its fall season, and invites students in grades 4-6 to be part of our fall session of Next Robotics Generation (NRG). NRG is a robotics program where students attend with a parent. Each student builds their own robot from a kit, and then modifies that robot to play a game. At the end of the five week session, we will hold a tournament where students compete with their robots. **We are starting on Tuesday, September 10** and will meet for the next five Tuesdays in the Code Red build space at the high school. The tournament will be on Saturday, October 12. More information can be found in this [NRG Informational Flyer](#). If you are interested in registering, you can fill out this [NRG Registration Form](#). If you would like more information, please contact linda.baas@coderedrobotics.com

Forte:

If you would like to enroll your child in Forte, please fill out the attached flyer and return it by Friday, September 13. The first day of Forte! will be Monday, September 16. If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail me at hvitarelli@bcpsk12.net.

[Forte Informational Flyer](#)

Returning Student Registration:

- Returning Students Registration letter: Please use the snap code on this letter to complete your students registration by the first day of school. 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](#)

KDL Lab Experience: Wilderness Explorers



Mon, Sept 9 3:30-5:00 PM
For Children Aged 5-10

Do you feel out of your element while braving the elements? Wilderness Explorers is just the program for you! Complete our non-strenuous training regimen, and you'll feel a new appreciation for the great outdoors. Happy exploring!



Byron Township Branch
8191 Byron Center Ave. SW, Byron Center 49315
Information. Ideas. Excitement! | KDL.org | 616-784-2007

KDL will provide accommodations on request for physical access, communications or other needs in order to ensure participation of people with disabilities in services, activities or employment.

BYRON CENTER BOYS SOCCER COMMUNITY YOUTH NIGHT

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2024



GAMETIME 6:30 WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

WEAR YOUR JERSEY

FIRST 50 KIDS CAN WALK OUT WITH THE PLAYERS



Bring a food item to donate to
Hand to Hand
Ziplock Bags, Granola Bars, Fruit Snacks,
Rice Crispy Treats, Microwave Popcorn



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. 🍂

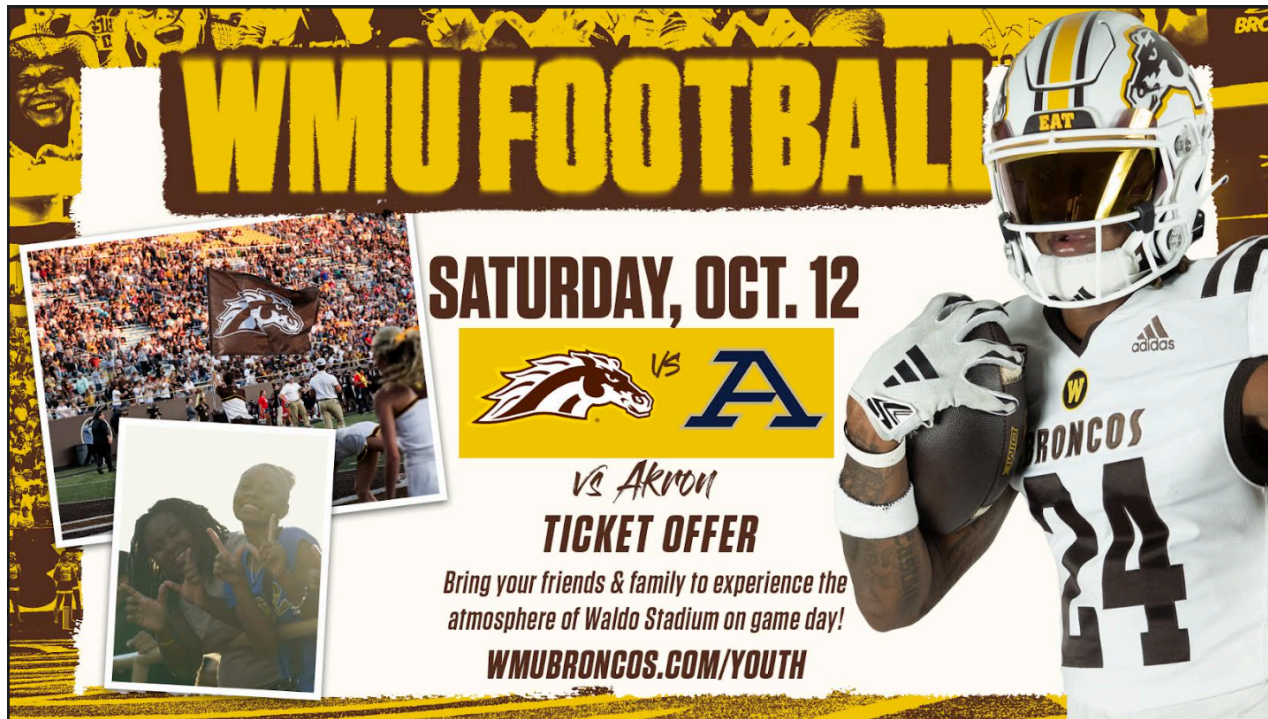
Thank You!
Shelley Pero
School Counselor

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 this year for those who prefer to meet us there. See the [information document](#) for details.

Youth Day Offer: This offer is designed specifically for students and their families.

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Wmuyouth2> **October 12th date:**

A promotional graphic for WMU Football. At the top, the words "WMU FOOTBALL" are written in large, bold, yellow letters with a black outline. Below this, the date "SATURDAY, OCT. 12" is displayed in a bold, black font. In the center, there is a yellow rectangular box containing a white horse head logo on the left, the word "VS" in the middle, and a blue letter "A" on the right. Below the box, the text "vs AKRON" is written in a cursive font, followed by "TICKET OFFER" in a bold, black font. Underneath that, a smaller line of text reads "Bring your friends & family to experience the atmosphere of Waldo Stadium on game day!". At the bottom of the graphic, the website "WMUBRONCOS.COM/YOUTH" is listed in a bold, black font. On the right side of the graphic, a football player in a white jersey with the number 24 and "BRONCOS" on the front is shown. He is wearing a white helmet with a yellow stripe and a white glove. On the left side, there are two smaller images: one showing a crowd of people at a stadium and another showing a person in a blue shirt. The background of the graphic is a collage of yellow and black patterns.

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.

Please fill out the form below by September 9th! Fill out form [HERE](#).

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.

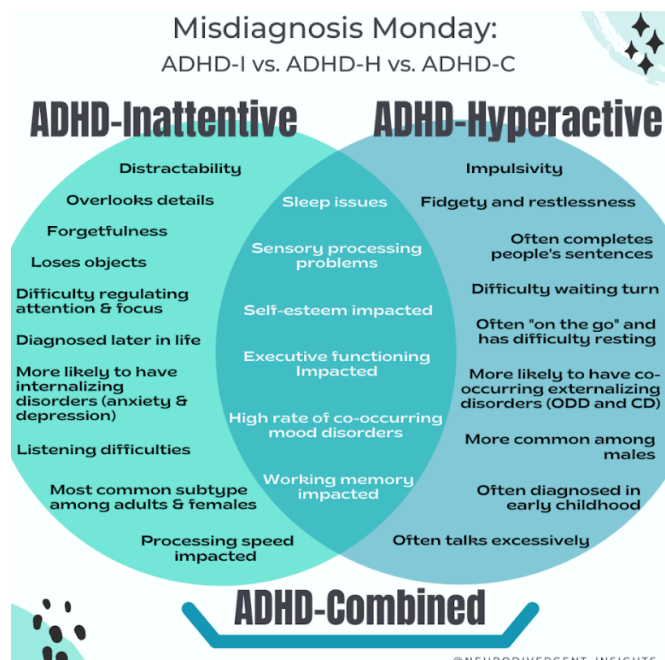
3. All medications must be stored in the office and brought to school by a parent/guardian. They must be in the original container with the appropriate label (and not expired). We will not accept any medications in baggies, envelopes, ect.

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

This month I would like to talk about ADHD. ADHD is something that is very near to my heart. As a mother of boys who have it, I understand the weight that families can feel as they navigate it. Too often I hear that boys are just being boys and they just are not organized. While there may be some truth to that, I believe that children and adults with ADHD, brains are wired differently. They have a lot of impulses firing and it is hard for them to navigate those thoughts at times. God has truly made us perfect in his image. I believe that we need to remind our students of that. When a person has ADHD, they can often struggle with low self esteem. They feel that they are different then others and it can cause anxiety when they impulsively act. Extending grace to our students is key. It can be helpful to have a student sit closer to you and with less distractions. Learning can be harder, dyslexia is more common in a child with ADHD. Also, they may start a project eagerly and then lose interest and become overwhelmed. I have attached two pictures about ADHD, they are very informative and helpful to understand the different types of ADHD and explain ADHD in further detail.

I hope you all have a wonderful September and enjoy soaking up the beautiful weather. Until next month. Be well.

Explaining ADHD



Job Opportunities at BCPS:

[Current Openings at Byron Center Public Schools](#)

[BC Sports Booster Concessions Lead](#)

District School Calendar 24/25:

[24/25 District Calendar](#)

24/25 6th Grade Sports Information:

<http://bcwestmsathletics.com/>

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

Byron Center Sports Passes Available For Purchase:

Passes will be available for purchase in the Athletic Office (8500 Burlingame Ave.) again this year. 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.

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.

NICKELS FIT
(FAMILY INVOLVEMENT TEAM)

SCHOOL EVENTS

WE ORGANIZE A VARIETY OF EVENTS SUCH AS THE 5TH & 6TH GRADE HARVEST PARTIES, MONTHLY CLASSROOM LEADERSHIP LUNCHESES, FALL & WINTER FAMILY TAILGATES, READING MONTH CELEBRATIONS & SO MUCH MORE! UPCOMING EVENTS WILL BE ALWAYS BE LISTED ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND IN THE WEEKLY OFFICE COMMUNICATION.

TEACHER SUPPORT

MOST IMPORTANTLY, FIT ORGANIZES APPRECIATION EVENTS & SURPRISES FOR THE INCREDIBLE STAFF AT NICKELS THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR.
OUR STAFF IS THE BEST & WE LOVE TO LET THEM KNOW IT!

Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

26TH- NICKELS VOLLEYBALL NIGHT!

JOIN US AS WE CHEER ON OUR LADY BULLDOGS!
FREE ENTRY FOR NICKELS STUDENTS & FAMILIES,
AND ALL NICKELS STUDENTS GET SOME SPECIAL BULLDOO SHAG!

OCTOBER

8TH & 10TH- PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

KEEP AN EYE ON OUR COMMUNICATION VIA EMAIL OR OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION, AND SIGN UP TO DONATE ITEMS FOR STAFF MEALS!

NOVEMBER

1ST- 5TH GRADE HARVEST PARTY

8TH- 6TH GRADE HARVEST PARTY

NEW THIS YEAR! STUDENTS WILL STAY AFTER SCHOOL FOR A FALL CELEBRATION!

How to Support

NICKELS FIT

DONATE DIRECTLY!

WE ACCEPT CASH, CHECK, OR YOU CAN DONATE ONLINE! JUST VISIT OUR FUNDRAISING PAGE, SELECT YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM, AND DONATE! SHARE OUR PAGE WITH YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS TO HELP US REACH OUR GOAL! PLEASE VISIT WWW.GIVEBUTTER.COM/FIT2024 OR SCAN THE QR CODE

BECOME A SPONSOR!

DO YOU OWN A BUSINESS AND LOVE TO SUPPORT STUDENTS & TEACHERS? PLEASE CONSIDER SPONSORING NICKELS FIT! THERE ARE MANY SPONSORSHIP LEVELS TO CHOOSE FROM. SCAN THE QR CODE OR EMAIL ADMIN@NICKELSFIT.ORG TO GET STARTED!

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

WE LOVE VOLUNTEERS AND COULD NOT MAKE THESE EVENTS HAPPEN WITHOUT YOU! KEEP AN EYE ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR SIGNUPS OR EMAIL ADMIN@NICKELSFIT.ORG TO LET US KNOW YOU'RE WILLING TO HELP!
WE'VE GOT A SPOT FOR YOU!

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!  @NICKELSFIT

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: [Sept. Lunch Menu](#)

[HOW TO CREATE A FAMILY PORTAL ACCOUNT ACCOUNT](#)

[HOW TO MAKE A DEPOSIT TO FAMILY PORTAL](#)

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 will turn right to exit to 84th St. 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) 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 trying to pick up students from the bus transfer area due to construction traffic at the old Nickels building. 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.

