

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

A monthly publication of the Barron Area School District

May 2018

Barron High School's Students on a Roll ESL

Makris Shirwa, Mohamed Elmi, and Nuradin Ahmed have been sharing their culture with the students from Ridgeland and Almena. They did an outstanding job.

Science

Angel Tipsin has put in extra effort during the past month to get her work done. She has spent extra time coming in for help to fully understand the concepts. She has really gone the extra mile.

Ayan Hussein is a very bright student that works very hard. She is great at problem solving. She also is willing to ask for help when she needs it.

Fine Arts

Alex Townsend is a senior clarinet player who doesn't let his vision disability ever get in the way of his musicianship! He is a role model to all who know him.

Language Arts

Theresa Yahr is a very good writer. She has very well thought out responses to difficult reading selections. She is also a great help to other students in the class as she works with them and helps explain things. She is always cheerful.

Social Studies

Andrew Smith is a smart student who has performed well in my social studies classes. He has an in-depth understanding of the material and displays the skill set to perform the expected task of the discipline.

PE/Health

Kaitlyn Waldofski is a hard-working student. She has the highest percentage in the class. Kaitlyn is a positive person and a joy to have in class.

Abigail Miller's energetic and positive attitude is wonderful to have in class. She is respectful, kind, and always works hard in class. She makes everyone around her a better person.

Math

Mitchell Klatt always pushes himself to go above and beyond what is expected.

CTE

Sophie Kieler and **Ahna Mikunda** want to be Respiratory Therapists and completed their STAR event surrounding lung health and prevention of tobacco products and vaping.

Being Golden

Nathan Kaus has grown tremendously over the past year. He has become a leader with his positive attitude and fun personality.

Mission Statement: To ensure all students reach their dreams while making a positive impact on the world.

The Barron Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability.



SOAR students pictured front row, left to right: Mohamed Elmi, Alex Townsend, Nuradin Ahmed, Makris Shirwa. Back row: Ayan Hussein, Theresa Yahr, Abbey Miller, Mitchell Klatt, Andrew Smith, Kaitlyn Waldofski, Angel Tipsin. Not pictured: Nathan Kaus, Sophie Kieler, Ahna Mikunda.



Riverview Middle School's Students of the Month
Left to Right: Kafiya Hashi (7th), Macey Herrman (8th), Suraya Mahamud (6th) and Aniyah Holmes (5th)

District Administrator Update

SAFETY in our Barron Area School District

Dear Barron Area School District Community,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well.

The purpose of my report this month is to assure all of you that at the Barron Area School District, keeping your children safe while at school is our top priority. In addition, we also prioritize the importance of building positive relationships with all our staff and students as we believe this is the key to comfortable, trusting conversations that are sure to keep us all safe.

Below you will find several safety measures that are currently in place to assure school safety and

emergency vigilance. You will also see we embed all of our pillars of education when we consider safety measures.

It is my hope if you want to continue this conversation that you give me a call and schedule a time to talk with me about any questions or concerns you may have regarding safety in our fine district.

Sincerely,

Diane Tremblay
(715) 418-9861

Crisis Management Plan

When an emergency arises, key administrators are informed of the emergency situation. Our crisis management plan considers the students' safety first and then parent communication as soon as possible. This communication can include, but isn't limited to, a news release, website posting, phone calls and e-mail through the use of School Messenger and radio/TV stations. We have developed strong collaborative relationships with our local police and sheriff departments--they are there for us whenever we need them in our buildings.

Emergency Training

Each building conducts a variety of emergency preparedness each year.

- Barron County Sheriff's Department: Deputy Dave Kuffel with the Barron County Sheriff's Department is our school liaison between the County and the District. Deputy Dave instructs our students and staff on how to be prepared for an active shooter situation. ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) training provides preparation and a plan for our district on how to proactively handle the threat of an aggressive intruder or active shooter event. At our elementary school he reads, "I'm Not Scared, I'm Prepared" and talks about crisis situations and how to best prepare yourself. He also has taught our students "IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING". This phrase is said often to let students know they need to help in keeping our schools safe.
- Barron County Emergency Services: Emergency Services Manager Michael Judy, in collaboration with our schools, implemented an updated Tornado Safety Plan. In addition, he also offers counsel in all of safety planning.
- Barron-Maple Grove Fire Department: Monthly fire drills ensure our students and staff are prepared for a quick exit of our buildings in the event of an emergency. The fire department also conducts presentations about Fire Safety to students at the elementary levels.
- Barron Electric Cooperative presents a high voltage safety demonstration for our elementary students. The high voltage demonstration is an excellent educational tool that gives students a better understanding of how dangerous power lines are and what to do if they find themselves in a potentially dangerous situation.

Building Security

Campus Entry:

- Main entrance is easily viewed from the street
- Shrubs and trees are properly trimmed to enhance natural surveillance
- All doors locked and labeled. Visitors must press the call button to gain access to the main office. Exterior signage directs visitors to push the call button and sign in at the main office
- All staff parking spaces are anonymous.

Main Office:

- All visitors must sign in and wear a visitor badge while on campus during the school day
- Collection of staff telephone extensions are available



Kids Learning Fire Safety

- Video surveillance system is present at main entrances, hallways, and parking lots and records on 24/7 basis.
- Intrusion alarm system along with a silent alarm is present and function properly
- Alarm panel and fire alarm pull stations are accessible

Hallways:

- Exit doors are clear of obstructions and are easy to operate in an emergency
- All classrooms are visibly marked
- All fire extinguishers are located in high visibility and unobstructed areas and checked regularly
- Emergency lighting system is in place and is functioning properly
- Allergy Emergency Kit and Emergency Defibrillator are clearly visible in common areas and function properly

Playground:

- Playground is covered with wood chips to create soft landings
- Students are supervised by more than one staff member

Safety Drills:

- Fire, tornado, and ALICE drills are planned and administered on a regular basis. Fire-monthly, tornado-April severe weather awareness week, and ALICE- bi-annually
- Fire evacuation and severe weather shelter information is posted in each classroom
- Safety information is reviewed and updated periodically
- ALICE and Internet Safety Training available from our school resource officer

Evacuation Site:

- External public address system is in place around the perimeter of the school to address possible lock-down announcements, severe weather alerts, etc.
- Evacuation route and site planned and shared with administration, staff and law enforcement.

Anti-Bullying

The high school uses a program called PAL, which is a peer helper program. When a student becomes a PAL member, he or she is trained to use helping, coping and negotiation skills. We all know KIDS GO TO KIDS WHEN THERE IS ANY ISSUE but when the issue is unsafe, harmful or unethical, they need to go to a trusted adult to share the information. We know it is sometimes necessary for students to help pave the way for safety, so we train these students to be peer helpers. We also talk about mandatory reporting and why and when that must happen.

We have implemented PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports) at all of our Middle and Elementary schools. Effective classroom management and preventive school discipline are essential for supporting teaching and learning. At our elementary, we spend the first seven weeks of each school year teaching students during their morning meeting how to be “Caring, safe, and fair, like a Barron Bear – Be Golden!” Along with many other topics, students learn how to be safe on playground equipment, in the halls, and in the bathrooms. The intent of the lessons is to keep our school community safe and happy.

Technology

We use an effective online program called Sprigeo, which is a resource that students can use to report something of concern to the principal and counselor if they want to remain anonymous. They can submit their name if they are comfortable. We always act on the report within 24 hours. Students are trained to use this resource.

We are continuously talking to our students about safe social media and/or any electronic communications and internet research. We take a significant look at our students’ abilities to access information on our computers and we block multiple harmful sites. Our staff has access to Faronics Insight software which allows them to monitor sites our students are using. Our teachers also have the ability to shut down their screens abruptly, if needed.

Background Checks

The Barron Area School District will conduct a background check on all employees, parent chaperones, and volunteers that will be with our students.

In addition to these checks our students, as early as the primary grades, have “stranger danger” discussions and we also teach from the Play it Safe curriculum which is designed to keep children safe from abuse.

Extracurricular

All athletes will perform the imPACT test which is neurocognitive testing under normal conditions before an injury would occur. Concussion agreement – athletes, parents, and coaches receive concussion information before the

start of the season and are required to sign the agreement that they received the information. All students fill out Emergency Transportation forms in case the athlete needs to be transported for medical care. Every two years, high school athletes are required to have a physical to insure that they are healthy and able to participate safely. We have an athletic trainer at a majority of the varsity events and practices and we provide EMT services during major events – football, cross country invite, and wrestling invite --as well as have a physician at our varsity football home games. We provide crowd control at all varsity events and law enforcement is present at major events. Every two years our coaches are trained in AED/CPR/First Aid training. Our grounds crew maintains all facilities, so our athletes are playing on safe conditions for practice and games.

Food Service

Our food service is Serv Safe certified. We have two inspections yearly from the county health inspector. We are also on a regular schedule for full food service audits with the state which assures that we are serving healthy, well-balanced meals to all of our students and staff. We have a Food Safety Plan which includes HAACP. In accordance with our HAACP plan we record temperatures for the coolers, freezers, milk coolers, dishwashers, sanitizers, food thermometers, food temperatures and the cooling process.

Pupil Services

Our individual educational plans are successfully reviewed and implemented throughout the entire school year for all students in need. Our counselors and school psychologists work diligently every day with our students to continually address their mental and physical well being. We have a full-time restorative justice staff member who closely monitors the well-being of our students and families that have been identified by various risk factors.

Health Services

Emergency Health Plans on identified individual students are on file and accessible to the proper staff members. This may include teachers, coaches, administrators and support staff. Our school nurse also selects and trains staff in medication administration including emergency medications, daily medications and in seizure management protocol. Through the American Heart Association, our district provides Heartsaver First Aid CPR AED certification for staff who are required to keep certifications updated. AEDs and EpiPens are located outside the school offices.

Staff Training

We have a wellness program in place that is intended to focus on the safety and health of our staff. We also have an employee assistance program designed to identify and assist employees in resolving personal problems (e.g., marital, financial or emotional problems; family issues; substance/alcohol abuse.) We have regular audits completed by the Occupational Safety Inspector through the Department of Safety and Professional Services to assure safe working conditions, along with periodic environmental testing completed to further assess and ensure clean air and physical environments. Our entire staff is continually going through safety trainings. These trainings are specific to their roles in our district. One example would be the Bloodborne Pathogens training which is completed by all staff every year.

Transportation

The Transportation Department works hard to maintain a high level of safety for the students in our school district. The buses are put through yearly DOT inspections, contain fire extinguishers, and seat belts are present to protect our younger children. Our mechanic checks brakes and tires and addresses any maintenance issues to ensure that vehicles are working properly.

When it comes to our drivers, background checks, training and licensure are required before they go on a route. Drivers complete random drug testing, pre-trip bus inspections, and seat checks before leaving the bus. They are also trained in CPR.

Safety and behavioral conduct issues are addressed quickly with information being evaluated by both the Principal and our Transportation Supervisor. Cameras are installed on each of the buses to review and reinforce safety as well. Alternative individualized transportation is utilized for students who cannot safely ride our regular buses. We make use of cars, vans, handicap accessible vehicles and buses to aid in the safe transport of all students. To ensure that students are riding the correct bus, we require a bus pass or note in order to ride a bus other than their normal one. The Transportation Supervisor works closely with the Superintendent during inclement weather to determine if the buses can safely operate and run their routes. In the fall of the 2018-19 school year, we will

be implementing School Bus Safety Training in the elementary schools and also educating students on safe bus evacuation practices. We are working every day to provide safe and reliable transportation for our students.

School Board

Our school board continually reviews, updates and improves policy and procedures to assure a safe and healthy school district.

Spotlight on Staff Golden Bear Award April 2018

Dave Vruwink

David Vruwink was a 1961 Barron High School graduate who loved BHS so much that he came back to teach math and driver's education for 33 years. He earned his teaching degree at UW-Eau Claire and started his career at Baldwin-Woodville. Later, he earned his master's degree from UW-Stout.

In 1970, he came back to Barron to teach math at the middle school and ended his career by teaching Algebra at Barron High School for his last four years. He retired from teaching math in 2000 and reached his goal of "going out with a bang". He continued to teach and guide our students in Driver's Ed and was patient enough to do it for 48 years!

In 2008, he decided he was not busy enough teaching students to drive so he ran for mayor of Barron and served our community for 10 years. He has also been a member of the Barron Area Education Foundation and is currently the President.

Dave has always been passionate about serving our country, farming and cropping along with raising his three boys who were all graduates from Barron High School. He gave back to his community by joining Kiwanis and volunteering for many community and school events. He served our country for six years in the Army and is very active in veteran events.

So many students have fond memories of Dave as he taught math and taught them how to be a safe driver. A current teacher and former student of Dave's said she always hated math until she had Dave in 8th grade. Her parents didn't know what Dave did but they saw a huge attitude change for her. As he has served as an educator, driver's instructor, mayor, president or grandfather of 15 children, Dave has always lead with a kind demeanor and a sense of humor. He has made a difference in so many lives and continues to make our communities a better place to live and learn.

National Honor Society's Senior Banquet

Barron High School held their annual NHS Senior Banquet on April 5th. Every year a former BHS Alumni comes back to BHS to share their journey. This year, 1995 graduate Anne McDaniels who is a professional

model and actress shared her career path with the students and encouraged them to be a shark and go after their dreams.



Row 1: Braxton Seemann, Mitch Fornell, Alex Cox, Jackson Massie, Zach Miller, Erv Kraft.

Row 2: Rachel Peterson, Hannah Holst, Lyndsey Mickelson, Grace Donica, 1995 grad Anne McDaniels, Kylie Amundson, Emily Pintens, Ahna Mikunda and Sophie Kieler. Absent from photo: Emily Mettner, Rylee Hanson and Lexi Brunkow.

Isabella Lyste - Making Her World a Better Place

Within the last five months, 8th grader Isabella Lyste has designed, built, delivered, and creatively explained Buddy Benches to our elementary students. The purpose of a buddy bench is help ensure that students aren't left feeling alone on the playground. Through skits, Isabella and her friends explained to students that anyone feeling alone can sit on the Buddy Bench, and hopefully soon, one of our other wonderful students will seek that person out to play.

Benches at Almena and Ridgeland were designed and built by Isabella, and they will be painted gold when the wood has cured. The two benches at Woodland were donated by April Kieler and refinished in gold by Isabella. Isabella also wrote the skit that was performed at each of the elementary schools. Her traveling acting troupe included Chance Dexter, Tapanga Paul, and Kaylee Dexter. The four girls did a fantastic job demonstrating how each Buddy Bench makes the world a little nicer!

This project is a part of Isabella's journey toward the Girl Scout's Silver Award, the highest honor a Girl Scout Cadette can earn. Students of Almena, Ridgeland and Woodland Elementary Schools heartily thank Isabella

Lyste for the happiness she is spreading. Isabella and Buddy Benches are the best!



7th & 8th Grade Riverview Middle School Students Celebrate Pi Day in Their Math Classes

In celebration of Pi Day on March 14, the seventh and eighth grade students at Riverview Middle School participated in Pi Day activities during their math classes. Students participated in circle problems, a hula hoop spinning, a perfect circle drawing, and a bubble gum blowing contest. March 14 is chosen as the day to celebrate pi because the numerical date, 3/14, represents the first 3 digits of pi. Students were encouraged to memorize digits of pi and compete for the honor of "Riverview Middle School's Pi Wizard." Students were awarded fabulous circle trophies for reciting the most digits of pi. The current school record is held by Jacqui Erb for reciting 202 digits after beating out Aaron Williams for reciting 201 digits. This year's first place winner was Anisa Adan for reciting 129 digits of pi. Second place winner was Fran Peterson with 116 digits, third was Jacob Bever with 84, fourth was Emmelee Shipley with 77 and 5th place was Bailee Hillmann reciting 62 digits. Also, reciting over 50 digits of pi were Sydney Stauner with 58, Emily Roberts with 57, and Amelia Verhulst and Taylor Johnson with 54. Pictured are all the students that memorized and recited 25 or more digits of pi with their pi prizes.



Advanced Learning Academy of Wisconsin (ALAW)

is a virtual charter school in the district. ALAW student Summer Stokes had the opportunity to build a birdhouse made out of barn board for her HomeLife class. HomeLife is a project-based class that is offered to our elementary and middle school students. Activities for this class include cooking, crafts, sewing, simple home maintenance, family outings and genealogy.



CONCERT CORRECTIONS

May 15th

5:30 p.m.: 5th Grade Concert at RMS Gym

6:30 p.m.: 6th Grade Concert at RMS gym

May 17th:

7:00 p.m. 7th and 8th grade band and choir at RMS gym

2018 Ruth Kreuser Music Scholarship

The 2018 Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs Ruth Kreuser Music Scholarship was awarded to Emily Mettner, a talented young woman who is a senior at Barron High School. Haylee Lytle, Emily's band director and member of the Barron Federated Music Club, nominated Emily for this competitive \$500 award designed specifically for students who are extremely dedicated and involved in music both in school and in the community. Emily will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in the fall as a music major and will be using the scholarship money to further her musical education. Karyn Schauf, president of the Barron Federated Music Club, said "It is one of the goals of the Federated Music Club to encourage the musical talents of young people and we are so pleased one of our own students has been recognized." Congratulations, Emily!!



Barron High School Band, Choir & Piano Solo and Ensemble Results 2018

High School band, choir and piano students from Barron recently participated in the 2018 Solo and Ensemble Festival. The Festival was held at Rice Lake High School on April 7, 2018. Students prepared pieces for the Festival in two classes: A and B with Class A being the most difficult. After performing for a judge, students receive ratings of I through V. A rating of I is considered excellent, II is very good, III is good. Students who receive a starred 1st continue on to the State Solo and Ensemble Festival at UW-Eau Claire on May 5th. Band students of Haylee Lytle, and piano students of Lynn Emmons, worked for several weeks with piano accompanists Shirley Sorenson and Haylee Lytle. Choral students attended the Rice Lake Festival and a second festival in Chetek on Tuesday, April 10. Choral students of Jocelyn Dietsche, and piano students of Julia Zappa, along with piano accompanists Karen Wilber, Shirley Sorenson and Jocelyn Dietsche, worked to prepare students prior to the festivals.



State Band Participants (missing from photo: Tara Glaser)

Choral Awards

Best in Site Award:
Ashton Blick,
Emily Mettner
and Melissa Yahr:
Trio



Band Awards

Best In Site Award:
Elias Mettner
Alto Saxophone Solo



Class A - State Qualifiers

Phoebe Jerome--piano solo; Edward Mettner, Elias Mettner, Phoebe Jerome--saxophone/bassoon trio; Elias Mettner--saxophone solo; Iris Shipley, Hallie Jerome, Mikayla Eraquam, Maddie Larson--flute quartet; Emily Mettner--saxophone solo; Julia Cox, Justin Whiting, Faith Tracey, Liz Erb, Ashton Blick, Marcus Peterson, Mitchell Klatt, Tara Glaser, McKinley Verhulst, Carson Glaser--percussion ensemble

Class A - Excellent

Justin Whiting--drumset solo; Julia Wirth--piano solo; Ethan Thompson, Emma Knutson, Sydney Frandsen, Rachel Peterson--trombone quartet; Alex Townsend--clarinet solo

Class A - Very Good

Phoebe Jerome:--saxophone solo; Edward Mettner--bassoon solo; Mikayla Eraquam--flute solo; Maddie Larson--flute solo

Class B - Excellent

Marcus Peterson--drumset solo, snare solo and piano solo; Ian Krance--tuba solo; Collin Krance--trumpet solo

Class B - Very Good

Emily Mettner--piano solo

Class A - State Qualifiers

Classical Solos--Ashton Blick, Mikayla Eraquam, Hallie Jerome (perfect score), Erv Kraft, Amie Kurtz, Esther Mashak, Edward Mettner (perfect score), Elias Mettner, Emily Mettner (perfect score), Michael Nichols (perfect score), Iris Shipley (perfect score), Andrew Smith, Brayden Stralka, Ethan Thompson, Angel Tipsin (perfect score), Ashley Tyler, Justin Whiting, Melissa Yahr, Theresa Yahr. Musical Theatre Solos--Ashton Blick, Erv Kraft (perfect score), Emily Mettner; Duets--Sydney Frandsen and Angel Tipsin; Ashton Blick and Brayden Stralka (perfect score); Iris Shipley and Ashton Blick. Trios--Ashton Blick, Emily Mettner and Melissa Yahr (perfect score); Mikayla Eraquam, Hallie Jerome, Iris Shipley. Treble Barbershop Quartet--Ashton Blick, Mikayla Eraquam, Hallie Jerome, Iris Shipley.

Class A - Excellent

Solos--Sydney Frandsen, Andrew Smith, Wyatt Workman. Musical Theatre Solo--Nora Hellmann, Ryan Leistikow.

Class A - Very Good

Classical Solo--Andrea Bates, Grace Donica, Nora Hellmann, Ryan Leistikow, Garett Lettner, Taylor Lytle. Musical Theatre Solos--Garett Lettner, Ashley Tyler, Melissa Yahr, Theresa Yahr. Duet--Erv Kraft and Andrew Smith. Men's Barbershop--Erv Kraft, Brayden Stralka, Ethan Thompson, JT Whiting.

Class B - Excellent

Solo--Jada Raiter. Piano Solo--Michael Nichols.



State Choral Participants

(missing from photo: Mikayla Eraquam, Sydney Frandsen, Emily Mettner, Michael Nichols, Ashley Tyler)

Riverview Students Perform in Honors Choir

Choral students from Riverview Middle School performed in the Shell Lake Honors Choir Thursday, April 5 at the Shell Lake Arts Center. Students were selected through an application process which included past solo and ensemble results as well as a director's recommendation. Pictured left to right: Clayton Cecka, Destiny Lewis, Chase Knutson, Mikayla Ecklor, Trey Johnson, Xantha Jerome, Collin Fenton, Lorena Meza, Sam Nelson.



Dear Parents and Guardians:

I'm writing this letter to let you know that I have accepted another position that I will start on May 7th. I have enjoyed working with you and your children over the past three years as your school nurse, and I look forward to continuing to see their achievements through the newspaper, district and school newsletters, as well as seeing them out and about. I will continue my nursing career in the Family Birth Center at Mayo Clinic in Barron. My last day with the district will be May 4th. Please feel free to contact me prior to that with any questions or concerns you may have regarding your child's health needs at school. The wonderful staff of the district will still be available to meet needs of the students in my absence, so call upon them as well if there are questions or concerns after I have left.

Sincerely,
Liz Roske, RN

Students Attend FCCLA State Leadership Conference

Barron High School and Barron Riverview Middle School FCCLA students attended the Wisconsin State Leadership Conference in Wisconsin Dells at the Kalahari on April 9-11th. There were over 900 students competing from around the state. Each category was evaluated by three judges using the given rubrics. The top two students in each category qualified to compete at nationals. The FCCLA National Leadership Conference is in Atlanta, GA June 27-July 2, 2018. State participants include: Kylie Amundson - Career Investigation - Investigated a career as a Health Administrator; Hannah Holst - Teach and Train - Worked with children in Early Childhood Education; Megan Bartlett - Illustrated Talk - Taught sixth graders on how sleep impacts all aspects of their wellness; Andrea Bates - Focus on Children - Taught fourth graders on kindness and being a good friend; Michael Nichols and Cecelia Prentiss - Stop the Violence - Taught high school students a self defense class and more; Ahna Mikunda and Sophie Kieler - Illustrated Talk - Taught multiple ages about smoking and the impact it has on respiratory health; Isaiah Curtis and William Weise - Entrepreneurship - Researched and developed a plan for operating and running a concession stand; Jacqueline Erb and Ashlynn Harmon - Focus on Children - Taught a third grade class the importance of a good breakfast; Keshia Palmquist and Delaney Willers - Advocacy - Presented to classes on the importance of ALICE safety training; Emma Thompson - FCCLA Creed Speaking - Recited the FCCLA creed to judges; Madeline Mickelson - Food Innovations- Developed a new food item and conducted focus groups to test it's flavor; Ashlynn Mark and Mackenzie Weltzin - National Programs in Action - Families First - Created a game for a family to play together to increase togetherness; Teagan Mickelson, Chandra Pelch and Kami Zurn - National Programs in Action - Student Body - Presented to 5th grade students on the topic of confidence and self worth; Isabel Massie - Recycle and Redesign - Created a garment from recycled items, completed a material profile, itemized the cost and presented a photo storyboard of how she made it.



Michael Nichols was elected Vice President of National Programs!

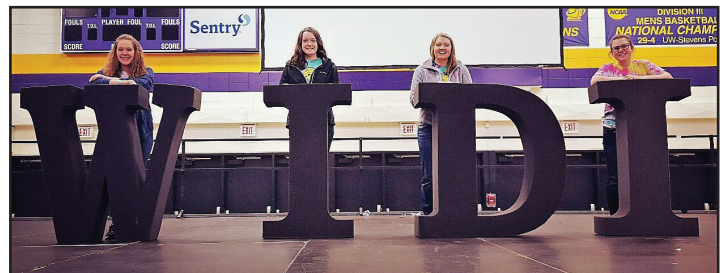
Barron High School Band and Choir Students Travel to California

The morning of Tuesday, March 27th, the choir and band students boarded a bus bound for the Minneapolis airport and after two flights and two sets of buses, ended their trek west at Laguna Beach at the Las Brisas Hotel later that afternoon. We traveled with 48 students, 6 chaperones and 2 directors. Students had the opportunity to see sights, play in the ocean, and explore and perform while in California. On Wednesday, students learned about the historical beginnings of a beautiful mission in San Juan Capistrano. That specific mission is known as the 'jewel' of the missions due to its beauty. They performed and received clinics at Concordia University in Irvine, CA with Dr. Michael Busch (choir) and Dr. Jeff Held (instrumental). Later that evening found the group whale watching on a cruise off the coast of Newport. We even saw a whale and followed it for about 45 minutes. Thursday the group enjoyed Disneyland and all it has to offer. On Friday it was off to LA and Hollywood. The morning found us taking tours of Warner Bros. Studio, a 110 acre lot that produces many movies, sitcoms and TV shows. At the end of that tour, students were looking up job postings to see if they could stay and work at Warner Bros! Later that day, we went to Griffith Observatory to see the Hollywood sign and go on a quick hike. We then stopped by the Hollywood Bowl and sat in awe and wonder of the magnificent performing venue. Finally, we had a quick walking tour on Hollywood Blvd. and saw the famous Chinese Theatre, the Dolby Theatre (where the red carpet is!) and walked among stars. Students and adults enjoyed one final evening in Laguna Beach and took in the ocean one final time Saturday morning before heading to LAX to return to the snow! It was a trip of lifetime that will not soon be forgotten! Thank you to the community for all your support as we fund-raised this year to make this trip possible and thank you to the students who were an absolute pleasure to travel with!



1st Ladies of DI Compete at State Destination Imagination Tournament by Mikayla Eraquam

During the month of March, my team, The 1st Ladies of DI had the privilege of competing at the State Destination Imagination tournament in Stevens Point. For those of you who don't know, Destination Imagination (sometimes referred to in short as DI) is a worldwide nonprofit organization whose intent is for kids to be able to express their creativity and ingenuity in unique ways and is also a part of the Barron Area School District's gifted and talented program. Destination Imagination has a series of challenges/categories that each showcase a different skill. For the 2017-2018 season, there were seven challenges- Technology, Science, Engineering, Fine Arts, Improvisation, Service Project and Early Learning. Our high school team competed in the Improvisational Challenge called "Treasure". We took 1st place at Regional Competition in Osceola on March 10th, and went on to State Competition in Stevens Point on March 24th where we took 4th place – just missing 3rd place and the opportunity to advance to Global Competition in Tennessee by 1.10pts. Even though we were unable to compete at Globals we walked away from this season with such incredible memories. I think that DI not only pushes teams to solve challenges but also creates a true feeling of togetherness. My team means the world to me and even though we didn't take home any State awards, I feel like the bonds we have created with these wonderful ladies have rewarded me more than any medal could and I we look forward to next year's season.



Pictured left to right: Mikayla Eraquam, Hallie Jerome, Kiara Hardina, Iris Shipley

May 2018

Barron Area School District – Calendar of Events

Theme of the Month:
Courage

Theme of the Month:
Courage

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6	7 4:00 RVMS Site Council 7:00 BHS Collage Concert @ BHS BGF: @ Ladysmith	8 4:30 Almena ACE Mtg BSBL: Chetek-Weyer SB: @ Chetek-Weyer TR: @ Rice Lake GSCR: @ Amery <i>May Day</i>	9 E Day Rain Date	10 5:30 BAMS Board Mtg BGF: Invite @ Rice Lake SB: @ Northwestern TR: @ Spooner GSCR: Spooner	11 BGF: @ Chetek-Weyer GSCR: Washburn	12 BSBL: JV DH Bloomer SB DH: @ Bloomer BSBL DH: Bloomer
13 <i>National Nurses Day</i>	14 4:30 Policy/Personnel Cmte Mtg 6:00 Finance Cmte Mtg	15 5:30 5th Gr. Concert @ RMS Gym 6:30 6th Gr. Concert @ RMS Gym BSBL: Northwestern SB: Ladysmith TR: Conference Meet @ Bloomer GSCR: @ Baldwin-Woodville	16 Baccalaureate/Senior Banquet BGF: @ Spooner	17 SB: Cumberland 7:00 7th/8th Gr. Band and Choir @ RMS Gym TR JV; Conf @ Chetek-Weyerhaeuser	18 Senior Class Trip BSBL DH: Cumberland	19 <i>Armed Forces Day</i>
20 <i>Mother's Day</i>	21 6:30 School Board Mtg TR: Regionals @ Cameron	22 BHS Achievement Awards BGF: Regionals @ Rice Lake GSCR: Hayward	23 Almena All School Picnic BGF: Regionals	24 BSBL: Regionals TR: Sectionals BGF: Regionals GSCR: @ Somerset	25 Senior Awards 8:30 AM Commencement: 7:30 PM	26
27	28 NO SCHOOL Memorial Day	29 BSBL: Regionals RVMS: 8th Gr. Graduation SB: Sectionals	30 BSBL: Regionals	31 GSCR: Regionals RVMS: 8th Gr. Valley Fair Trip SB: Sectionals BGF: Sectionals	April 2018 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	June 2018 S M T W T F S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30