

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

A monthly publication of the Barron Area School District

March 2018



Please join the Barron Area School District and Wisconsin's State Superintendent, Tony Evers to celebrate and recognize our district's academic accomplishments and cultural diversity.

Tuesday, March 20

5:00 p.m. in the high school gym

A FREE cultural food festival to follow in the commons

This celebration program will include performances by the Barron High School band and choir students, Somali students singing and dancing, and Dr. Evers will be addressing the school's successes. Following the program, all can taste a wide variety of foods from cultural groups from our community. There will be cultural food stations to taste German, Somali, Hispanic, Swedish, Norwegian, Chinese, Italian, and more. Please come and celebrate with us on Tuesday, March 20 at 5:00 p.m.



Barron High School students came together last month with the intention of raising money to help support some non-profit organizations in our community. Our students chose to raise money through a 50/50 raffle. All of the proceeds went towards the purchase of items that were needed for both Benjamin's House and The Barron County Domestic Abuse Shelter. In total, BHS students helped to raise \$340! Individuals that contributed their time include: (Top, left to right) Michael Nichols, Faith Hanson, Taryn Reardon--AmeriCorps member, Brenda Haag--Math Teacher/Key

Club Advisor, and Jordan Nevin. (Bottom, left to right) Zackary Mickelson, Chase Peltier, Gracie Smith, Jada Brunkow, and Phoebe Jerome. Students not pictured are Ryan Leistikow, Sage Eichman, Rylee Stauner, and Tyrone Smith.



Winter can be difficult to handle for **native Wisconsinites**--imagine if you were born and raised in an African country! Snow and cold are foreign to them. Mr. and Mrs. Frandsen's ESL classes took some time to enjoy some winter fun.

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.

District Administrator's Report

Academics and Curriculum

All of our kindergarten and 1st grade students have participated in winter screening for reading this past month. Kindergarten students were given Letter Sound Fluency probes and 1st Grade students were given Oral Reading Fluency probes. The probes that are done in the winter are 1-minute long per student.

The elementary and middle school also participated in the winter screening window for STAR Reading (grades 2-8 language level 3 and above) and Math (Grades 1-8).

At our Middle School, ELA teachers in grades 6-8 will receive their second official training on My Perspective, the new curriculum that they are piloting.

Our GoMath Trainer met with our 6th-8th grade middle school math teachers this past month. She taught a 6th and 8th grade math lesson for the teachers to observe. They also had the opportunity as a math team to collaborate and discuss the new curriculum with the trainer and Cari Schlosser, who is currently serving as part-time Curriculum Director for our district.

We are seeing changes in cut scores on the state required civics exam. This exam, required for graduation, will allow students to retake the exam if they have not made this cut score in their previous tests.

At our High School it is the end of the first trimester, and STAR data looked promising for both ELA and Math students that are participating in our new math curriculum and our ELA efficacy study.

We are currently looking at a few different program updates and implementations in our High School Read 180 Intervention program. Ryan Hayes was trained on January 18 on the updated version. This intervention targets students that are having trouble with comprehension in reading.

We are also researching interventions to replace Academy of Reading and Academy of Math, which are used at the elementary and the high school. The company that we purchased these programs from years ago will no longer be supporting them.

Community and Parents

We launched our open enrollment campaign beginning the last week of January. This will include radio broadcasts, parent surveying and "We Back our Bears" promotions.

We have Dave Armstrong, Economic Developer in Barron County, partnering with us to successfully implement our Youth Apprenticeship program for our juniors and seniors.

Through continued conversations with the community, I am learning a great deal about the perceptions of our district, and I want to thank all those that have taken the time to meet with me to give me input, feedback and history about our BASD. These conversations are open to everyone and can be arranged at any time at your convenience. Please contact cutsforthc@barron.k12.wi.us or 715-537-5612 ext. 413 if you are interested.

We showed our appreciation to our crossing guards this past month by hosting a breakfast and sharing these important duties.

Extracurricular

The WIAA has officially approved Cameron joining the Heart O'North Conference starting in 2019-2020.

Our Academic Decathlon competed at Regionals this month, and we are very proud of our scholars and the hard work they are putting into this program. Seven Academic Decathlon students wrote an essay for this regional competition.

Alison Wohlk and Aspen Cuper represented our FFA at the WI FFA Halftime Conference this month. Also, I had the opportunity to judge at our FFA speaking contest and the students all did a beautiful job. These are great skills for our students to have in their tool belt, as they move into the real world.

Facilities

Phase I of our building project is nearing completion. The new tech area should be ready for students at the beginning of third trimester. Anyone in our community that would like a tour of our new facility, please contact us, and we would be happy to arrange this tour.

Our facilities department has dealt effectively with everything from broken pipes, snow/ice removal, faulty parts in boilers and everything in-between. I would like to give a shout out to Mr. Poulter and staff for dealing with all of this effectively and efficiently.

Finance

January 12th was our "Second Friday" count. These numbers impact our state aid calculation and not the revenue limit.

Wisconsin DPI was awarded \$95 million for Charter School Expansion projects on a competitive basis. We will be looking to see if either of our charter schools can identify needs in the areas that will be funded by this state award.

ESSA, Every Student Succeeds Act, state plan was finally approved January 12th, so we will be seeing more to come on all the approved changes.

Food Service

We would like to welcome Shelly Balts to full time at the High School, Shannan Vaughn at the High School, and Holly Stralka to Ridgeland. We make approximately 100 backpacks for weekend meals for kids. There have been some changes made with some guidelines and as a result, some more of our families were blessed with free lunch. If you have any questions regarding qualifications, please feel free to contact Ms. Kohel at koheln@barron.k12.wi.us or 715-537-5627, ext. 123.

We are preparing for our state inspection. We tried some new menu items this past month to bring variety to our students. Our cooks are doing an outstanding job with changes occurring in our foods department.

Pupil Services

We will be taking a close look at the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant program. We are looking to the Boys and Girls Club to partner with and help us complete the collaboration portions of the grant. We hope to see those funds come through so we can continue with our club at our middle school.

School Board

Our School Board attended the 2018 Wisconsin School Board Association Convention where there were informational presentations about best practices with board governance, updates in school law, state technology initiatives, community engagement and legislative and financial projections.

Staff Talent

Thank you Mosaic Telecom for conducting a CyberSecurity training for Central Office staff this past month.

Kristin Hanson was recognized as one of six National Agriscience Teachers of the Year.

State monies in grants toward student teachers were allotted recently to our state. The purpose of these monies is to encourage rural cooperation. The focus of these appropriations is to help finance student teachers in our rural districts for mileage, housing etc. We will be looking into these funds in the months to come.

I intend on attending a hearing about the teacher protection bill, which is currently on the table. This bill has the potential to give rights for teachers to remove and suspend kids without administrative approval. I have many concerns about this bill, because I feel our teachers should not have to bear the burden of laws, policies and regulations that surround these disciplinary actions. Pun intended with the "bear" noun, as it is meant to be a verb.

Student/Staff Health and Safety

Some of the things that have been going on in this pillar include updating student immunizations on new students, preparing supplies for Winter Survival in February, ordering new pediatric blood pressure cuffs to better serve the needs of the smaller students.

Mrs. Roske taught hygiene lessons to the outlying 3rd and 4th graders on January 18th, and will schedule lessons at Woodland as well.

We continue to receive letters from Optometrists regarding vision exams done related to the referrals that were sent home. As a result of this, many students are returning back to school with glasses.

Technology

We are currently working on our server and student laptop preparation for upcoming state testing (ACT, Forward, etc.)

January was the month to begin preparing for 18-19 school year with a Student Information System (Infinite Campus) new-year rollover with set-up, and we will begin scheduling for all buildings in the coming months.

Transportation

I want to send a shout out to our transportation department for their flexibility to all of our students, who have personalized needs for transportation to and from school. This is a complex system of issues, and our department is stellar in providing these services.

Also, an additional thank you for all the feedback in the early hours that Mr. Sadtler, Mr. Lien and Mr. Stralka provide me with in regards to road safety information, as we make these difficult decisions about whether to put the buses on the winter roads. In addition, I am also on a conference call with Rice Lake, Chetek, Turtle Lake, Prairie Farm, Bloomer, Cumberland and Cameron Superintendents in order to receive more information about the surrounding road conditions.



Congrats to all of our winter sports teams for representing our school so well in competitions!



Administration and the Board of Education members attended the State Education Convention in Milwaukee



Thank you to our dedicated crossing guards for keeping our students safe.

BHS Art Club Paint Alongs

The BHS Art Club will be hosting one final Paint Along this year on Tuesday, March 13 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The theme will be "Spring". Everyone ages 8 and up is welcome. The cost is \$15.00 to be paid at the door. Please call Suzanne Vergin 715-537-5627 ext. 122 to register or email vergins@barron.k12.wi.us.



DOSE OF REALITY
PREVENT PRESCRIPTION PAINKILLER ABUSE IN WISCONSIN.

How can you help prevent prescription painkiller abuse and save lives? Find out here: <http://doseofrealitywi.gov/take-action/>.



Of the 55+ entries total, Riverview Middle School band and choir students received all 1 and 2 ratings at the WSMA Solo & Ensemble event. These young musicians showcased their talents and hard work and gave outstanding performances at Spooner High School on Saturday, January 27th.

Spotlight on Staff Golden Bear Award

January 2018

Jake Schneider

Jake has been with the District since 2013, but recently transitioned into Central Office taking over the Accounts Payable duties. Jake has proven over the course of a year that he is knowledgeable, meticulous with the details of his job, and self-driven. Jake learns new facets of his responsibilities quickly and without hesitation.

He is also one of the most positive and helpful colleagues in our District. Jake goes out of his way on a regular basis to make others' work lives easier. He is as humble as they come, and probably is embarrassed to be receiving this award. He deserves to be recognized for his contribution.

Jake Schneider is a great asset to Central Office and to the Barron Area School District. We are lucky to have him.

Sue Becker

Sue is a valued member of the Barron Area School District. Her positive attitude and leadership skills are reflected in the outstanding quality of her Family and Consumer Science program at Riverview Middle School. She provides outstanding leadership with our Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Inc. (FCCLA).

In addition to this, she provides extra-curricular time outside of school coaching the girl's high school golf team. We are fortunate to have Sue on our team. Congratulations, Sue.



There is help right here in your community to connect your kids to free or low-cost health care coverage! Call today to get started 1-855-792-5439.

Spotlight on Staff Golden Bear Award

February 2018

Carmen Larson

Carmen Larson is a master teacher. From her love of students to her knowledge of curriculum to her classroom management to her leadership within our schools, Carmen is a master. You will walk into her kindergarten room to see kids genuinely engaged in learning, sometimes with iPads, sometimes with toys, sometimes with each other . . . but ALWAYS engaged. Carmen is also a leader with technology and with improving what we do for all of our students. She's a member of our CITI team and our Universal Reading Team. She serves as a mentor to young teachers; her door is always open for observation and feedback with new staff. Carmen is a calm, confident, happy teacher who makes our school a better place for kids. Thank you, Carmen. We are grateful for your leadership and your work with young students.

Tom Karnitz

Tom Karnitz is an upstanding community member and hard-working, knowledgeable, proactive custodian at Woodland Elementary. In the 20 years that he has served our students, he has kept Woodland spotless. If there are no flu, restroom, or other "Tom Emergencies," you can find Tom based on his minute-to-minute schedule; it doesn't waver. Polishing sinks, clearing windows, keeping halls and sidewalks safe - Tom does it all, and he does it well. Beyond the care he gives our Woodland facilities, Tom also is a volunteer firefighter, he donates a great deal of time to the Special Olympics, and he is involved in our luncheon fundraisers at school. (On a side note, thanks to Tammy for the delicious meatballs.) Finally, Tom is great with kids; he interacts with our students every day. We couldn't ask for a better role model or colleague than Tom Karnitz. Thanks, Tom.



Riverview Middle School's Students of the Month
Pictured left to right: Kesha Palmquist (8th grade), Jordan Taylor (6th grade), Amelia Weise (7th grade), Maggie Cole (5th grade)

Barron High School's Students on a Roll
Science

Mitch Fornell has been doing some outstanding work in Chemistry this year.

Social Studies

Emily Myers is a hard working student who is always ready to help.

Music/Art

Maddie Larson is a 9th grade flutist who is extremely kind and has a wonderful work ethic.

Skyler Dwyer is a very talented pottery student. He is very personable and always willing to help other students.

English as a Second Language

Adil Omar has a great attitude and works hard in all that he does.

Language Arts

Taylor Braden is doing fantastic in her Honors English class. She always displays leadership and only turns in work of the highest caliber.

Physical Education

Sawyer Blick always has a positive attitude and great work ethic in her weightlifting class. She has made tremendous progress over the course of the trimester because of her willingness to work hard and her dedication. She is kind, thoughtful, and goes above and beyond of what is asked of her in class.

Austin Hogan has taken several of my classes and has always given 100%. He always has a positive attitude and a smile on his face. He also serves as an assistant and is always fair.

Math

Jacob Hillmann works hard to excel in geometry. He works well with others, always being polite and helpful to his peers. Great job, Jacob!

Career and Technical Education

Hailey Zurn's work in Digital Imagery is of superior quality and exhibits masterful skills in the Photoshop program.



Pictured front row, left to right: Austin Hogan, Jacob Hillmann, Skyler Dwyer, Mitch Fornell, Adil Omar
Back row: Maddie Larson, Sawyer Blick, Taylor Braden, Hailey Zurn, Emily Myers

Barron High School's Tech College/Career Math class has been busy studying basic operations



with fractions and decimals. To celebrate the end of this unit, students prepared a breakfast for their class on Friday, February 2nd. All participants learned and enjoyed this project, Mr. Trent Nelson included!

Barron FFA Hosts District Leadership Development Events

The Barron FFA chapter hosted 50 members from seven area FFA chapters for the District 3 FFA Leadership Development Events on Tuesday, February 6th. This contest was one of 30 district FFA contests for FFA members to showcase their public speaking skills in a variety of settings. Contests included FFA Creed Recitation, Discussion Meet, Extemporaneous Public Speaking, Employment Skills, Prepared Public Speaking, Parliamentary Procedure, and Middle School Quiz Bowl. Over 25 community, staff, and FFA Alumni members volunteered their services as judges, timers, and serving a light meal to all of the FFA members participating.

Eight Barron FFA members competed in the Leadership Development Events. The contest had over 50 FFA members representing six area FFA chapters. Barron FFA participants included:

Discussion Meet: **Brandon Skinner**

Extemporaneous Speaking: **Lyndsey Mickelson**

Parliamentary Procedure: **Erv Kraft, Tristan Massie, Johnny Scheps, Emily Pintens, Catherine Krance, Brandon Skinner**

FFA Creed Recitation: **Megan Bartlett - 2nd place**

Job Interview/Employment Skills: **Emily Pintens - 1st place**

FFA members assisting in running the contests as timers included Sam Beckendorf, Zach Beckendorf, Zack Mickelson, Isaac Mullikin, Faith Peltier, Sierra Schwarz, and Alison Wohlk.

First and second place students move on the Section 1 FFA Contests on Monday, March 5th at Amery to compete for one of ten spots at the Wisconsin State FFA Contest in June. Students were advised by Ms. Kristin Hanson. The FFA chapter would like to thank everyone who helped in running the event--community members, staff, parents, FFA Alumni members and FFA members. Your donation of your time and talent is greatly appreciated.



Barron FFA member Megan Bartlett earned second place honors in the FFA Creed Recitation contest at the FFA District Speaking Contest held at Barron High School on February 6th. Megan will move on to compete in the Section 1 Speaking Contest at Amery on March 5th.

Members of the Barron FFA hosted and participated in the District 3 FFA Speaking Contest held on February 6th at Barron High School. Participants included Brandon Skinner, Johnny Scheps, Catherine Krance, Tristan Massie, Ervin Kraft, Lyndsey Mickelson, and Megan Bartlett. Also participating but not pictured was Emily Pintens.



Barron FFA member Emily Pintens earned first place honors in the Job Interview-Employment Skills Contest at the FFA District Speaking Contest held at Barron High School on February 6th. Emily will move on to compete in the Section 1 Speaking Contest at Amery on March 5th.





Diane Tremblay, Barron Area School District Superintendent, getting into some competitive foosball games at the hockey arena Tuesday, February 8th.

FCCLA stands for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America and is a career and technical organization that helps students establish bonds with their community and family while giving tools that will help them be successful in the workforce. For more information on FCCLA, visit www.FCCLAinc.org.

STAR Events are a competition where students from around the United States can show their community projects. They are judged based on a rubric, and from this, awards can be given. Barron High School has its' regional competition on February 14th at UW-Stout.

Linda Mikunda and Carrie Amundson were also significant contributors to this event. Linda is the guidance counselor at BHS and the PAL advisor. Carrie Amundson is the Family and Consumer Sciences teacher and FCCLA advisor.

Self-Defense Training Held at Barron High School

Barron High School FCCLA in partnership with PAL (Positive Attitude for Life) and Brown's Karate held a self-defense training on Thursday, January 18th. The training was part of Michael Nichols' and Cecelia Prentiss' FCCLA STAR (Students Taking Action for Recognition) event. PAL assisted us in finding Lloyd Brown of Brown's Karate. All BHS students were invited to take part in this no-cost event. Barron Wrestling also allowed us to use their mats for training purposes. Shane Massie was extremely helpful in the setup of the mats that kept our students safe.



Left to right: Sensei Brown, Hunter Schultz, Callista Jerome, Zak Olson, Trinity Bee, Megan Bartlett, Tiffany Aderhold, Ana DeLaTorre, Amie Kurtz, Abby Stafford, Kenzie Evitch, Lexi Brunkow, Jordy Bakken, Sophie Kieler, Jada Raiter, Ahna Mikunda, Michael Nichols, Cecelia Prentiss.

Lloyd Brown taught students practical ways to defend themselves and identify possibly dangerous situations through hands-on training, personal narratives, and response-based questions.



Riverview Middle School ESL students have been reading mysteries as part of Mrs. Emmons and Miss Olmstead's reading classes. They have read how actual mysteries can often be solved by detectives. Officer Nathan Emmons visited the ESL class to share with the students how he goes about looking for and collecting evidence in order to solve cases. The students were excited to relate their learning with real-life detective procedures, tools, and the steps taken to solve cases.

MARCH 2018

Barron Area School District – Calendar of Events

Theme of the Month:
Conflict Management

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Conflict Management

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday																	
February 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	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	4 4:00 RVMS Site Council TR: 1st Practice MSWR: Home	5 4:00 RVMS Site Council TR: 1st Practice MSWR: Home	6 6:30 R-D Parents Club Mtg	7	8 Elementary P/T Conferences 4-9 5:30 BAMS Board Mtg BB: Sectionals MSWR: @ Ladysmith	9 RVMS Student of the Month HKY: State Read Across America Day Employee Appreciation Day	10 BB: Sectionals	11 Daylight Savings Time Starts	12 4:30 Policy/Personnel Cmte Mtg 6:30 Finance Cmte Mtg BHS Blood Mobile 12-6 SB: 1st Practice	13 4:30 Almerna ACE Mtg MSWR: @ Cameron	14 4:30 Almerna ACE Mtg MSWR: @ Cameron	15 MSWR: Home	16 BB: State	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 6:30 School Board Mtg Dynamic Learning Maps Start WI Forward Exam Gr. 3-8 and 10 Starts GSCR: 1st Practice BSBL: 1st Practice	19 Freshmen Orientation 6:30 School Board Mtg Dynamic Learning Maps Start WI Forward Exam Gr. 3-8 and 10 Starts GSCR: 1st Practice BSBL: 1st Practice	20 MSWR: @ Cumberland Multicultural Celebration- High School Gym & Commons - 5:00 p.m.	21 MSWR: @ Hayward	22 K-12 All School Play	23 Barron Electric Annual Mtg TR: Varsity Invite @ UW Stout	24 Barron Electric Annual Mtg TR: Varsity Invite @ UW Stout	25 BGF: 1st Practice	26 BGF: 1st Practice	27 TR: Varsity @ UW Stout BSBL: @ Somerset MSWR: @ Camerison	28 HS Band and Choir Trip NO SCHOOL	29 NO SCHOOL	30 NO SCHOOL	31 Good Friday