

BASD

BARRON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newsletter



**Congratulations,
Class of 2023!**

REFERENDUM project update

Dear BASD Community Members,

The investment the community approved through the referendum has provided current and future Golden Bears with additional safety and security modifications, new spaces and updated building systems.

Additionally, the investment has inspired so many of our students to learn about the design and construction process, and our partners have been able to provide these students with real-life exposure.

The design and construction industry has so many amazing careers for our students to be involved in—some take place in the office and some on the jobsite. The great thing about all of these options is that our Golden Bears can stay in the area or travel the country since these jobs are applicable everywhere!

This summer we are on schedule to wrap up our referendum projects and plan to host dedications for these spaces in the fall. I am excited to share the details with our community soon!

#buildingforthebears

~Diane Tremblay, District Administrator



Visit the [District website](#) to see project schedules, floor plans, conceptual renderings, and more!

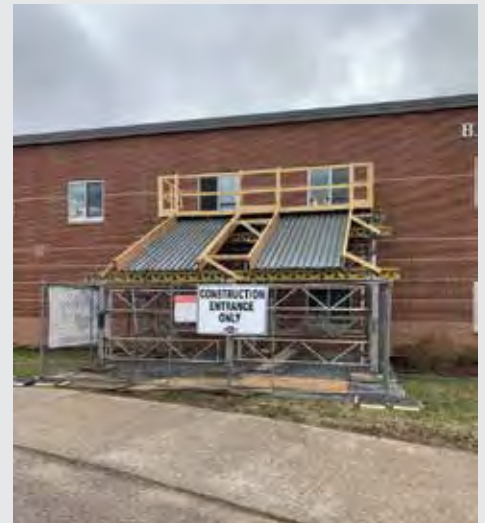


WORK IN PROGRESS

We are in our homestretch for construction!

Our construction team will work through the summer to finish the referendum projects, but everything is scheduled to be completed for the start of the next school year.

Summer projects include a lot of building system updates and upgrades to the high school library, science classroom, and Riverview's tech ed space.



Our team comes up with creative ways to be as efficient as possible. The photo above shows two temporary "chutes" that were built onto the second story exterior to allow our construction team to remove demolition debris in a safe and efficient manner.

REFERENDUM project update

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

In March, more than 15 students from our Junior class attended a career day at the Miron office in Eau Claire.

Our Golden Bears had the opportunity to learn about careers in construction and hear from Miron employees about how passion and interest can be turned into a career in the office or on the job site!



Career day at the Miron office in Eau Claire.

Additionally, students interested in engineering and architecture had an opportunity to meet with Amanda Thomas, a civil engineer with ISG.

Amanda shared her experience in civil engineering and how other types of engineering careers are involved in the design and construction process.



Students interested in engineering met with Amanda Thomas, a civil engineer with ISG.

MEET THE MIRON TEAM!

Chad Raether is a project superintendent leading our construction projects. As superintendent, Chad oversees all on-site activities. First and foremost, he ensures the safety of all students, staff, and construction personnel who access the sites.

ABOUT CHAD...

HOME: I live north of Chippewa Falls.

EXPERIENCE: I joined the Miron team seven years ago, but I have been in the trades for 30 years as a carpenter.

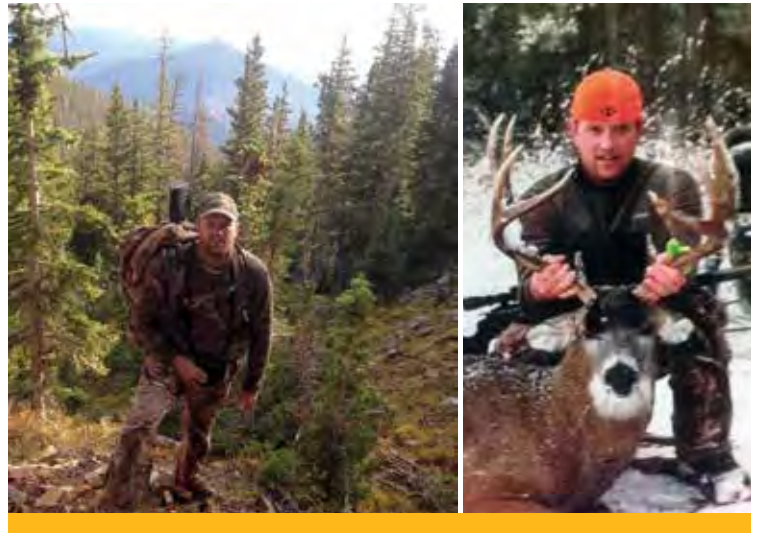
BARRON BEARS: My favorite part of working on the Barron job was being a part of their homecoming parade, driving the Miron trucks in the parade, and throwing candy to all the kids. Also, I was the Superintendent at the Barron Riverview Middle School and got the opportunity to meet and become friends with many of the staff members and students.

HOBBIES: I enjoy boating, hunting, and exploring new places.

PERSONAL GOAL: A personal goal next year would be to mentor young individuals that need guidance on future endeavors.

FAVORITE FOOD: Medium ribeye steak with asparagus is my favorite meal.

FAVORITE PLACE: Scuba diving in the Grand Cayman Islands or visiting the Great Wall of China.



Hunting and exploring are two of Chad's favorite hobbies.



FOLLOW US!



@BarronAreaSD

Highlights

Spring 2023
DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

FEATURING

6-8 **Legislative Advocacy**
Capitol Visit

12-13 **National Police Week**
Woodland Elementary

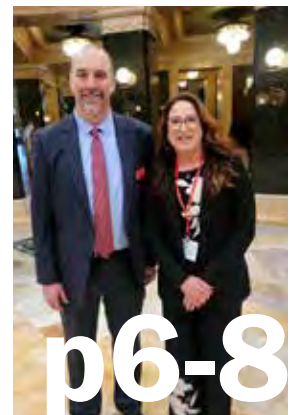
15 **Staff Appreciation**
Celebrating Staff!

20-21 **Ridgeland News**
Updates!

28-29 **Band News**
Sharing Talents



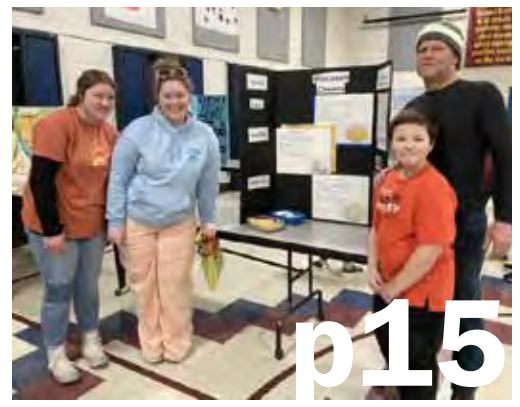
p12-13



p6-8



p21



p15

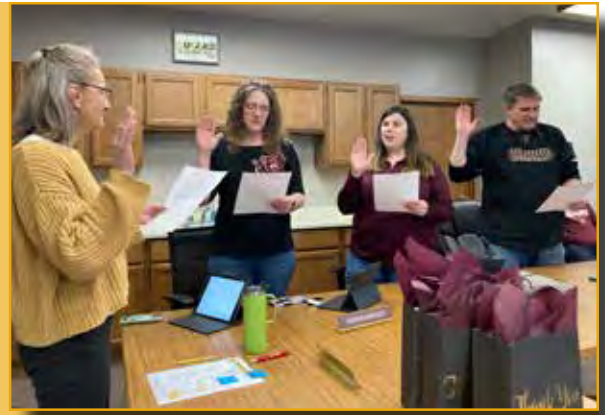


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School Board

During the Spring Election, three of our incumbent School Board Members were up for re-election. After the final results were canvassed, they took the official Oath of Office at the April School Board meeting with School Board Clerk, Kelli Rasmussen. Megan Marion, Kate Vruwink and Chris Donica will continue to serve another three-year term. Thank you for your commitment to our students, staff and district.



Health Services



It's just about summertime here in Wisconsin! As we all know, with the warm summer sunshine comes so not pleasant pests. I'm talking about ticks and mosquitos here. But more than just bothersome, these pesky insects can spread many illnesses to people. Prevention of bites is key to staying healthy this summer.

Follow these steps to fight the bite this summer:

1. Wear the right clothing outdoors
 - If you will be walking through the woods or tall grass, pants, long sleeves and tall socks are best. If you're not a fashionista, tuck those pants into your socks to prevent the ticks from crawling under.
 - Wear light colored clothing, so ticks are easier to spot
2. Avoid direct contact with ticks
 - Walk in the center of trails, away from wooded, brushy areas with tall grass.
3. Use repellent on skin and clothing
 - Find the right repellent for you and your family at <https://www.epa.gov/insect-repellents/find-repellent-right-you>
 - Always apply per manufacturer instructions
4. Always check for ticks after being outdoors
 - Do a full head to toe check, paying close attention to the head, ears, armpits, belly button, between legs, and behind knees
 - Showering within 2 hours of being outdoors has shown to reduce the risk of Lyme disease, it's also a good opportunity for a full body check!
 - Your risk for Lyme disease is very low if a tick has been attached for fewer than 24 hours.

If you find an attached tick, remove it as soon as possible

- With a tweezers, grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible
- Pull upward with a steady, even pressure. Avoid twisting or jerking.
- Clean the bite with warm soap and water or with rubbing alcohol.
- Watch for the following symptoms for 30 days: rash, fever, joint swelling, muscle pain, headache or fatigue.

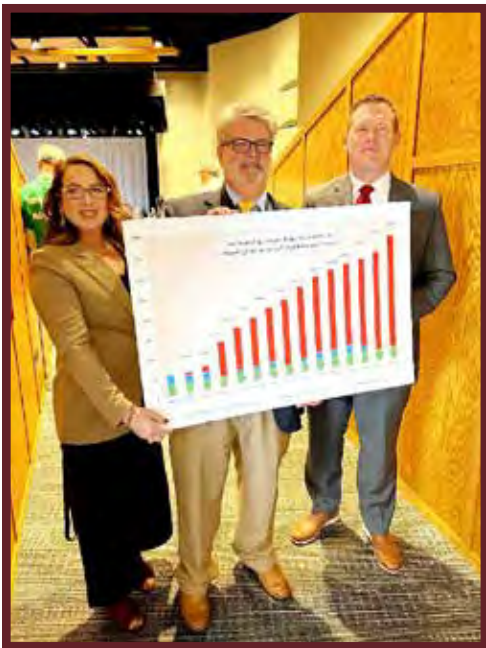
Consider calling your health care provider after a tick bite for further instruction, in some circumstances a single dose of antibiotics may reduce your risk of Lyme disease.

More information about fighting the bite can be found on the Wisconsin Department of Health Services website: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/fight-bite/index.htm>

Hope everyone has a safe and healthy summer!
Hannah Mueller School Nurse, BASD

Legislative Advocacy for Education

Superintendent Tremblay, along with the Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) representative Ben Neihaus, spent time at the Capitol continuing their conversations with our entrusted Wisconsin legislators regarding budget priorities for education.



This past spring Superintendents Tremblay-Barron, Superintendent Dr. Dave Aslyn-Spooner and Superintendent John Groh-Spring Valley, spoke at the Joint Finance Committee (JFC) hearings, and we will all continue to advocate for education funding into the fall. Below is the testimony from Superintendent Tremblay JFC Listening Session in Minocqua.

Testimony for JFC Listening Session

April 26th Minocqua, Wisconsin

My name is Diane Tremblay, and I am joined with two of my colleagues John Groh, Superintendent of Spring Valley and Dave Aslyn, Superintendent of Spooner.

First, I wanted to acknowledge that we realize that education funding isn't the only item on your agenda. Our joint finance committee members have a tremendous job to do in order to understand the needs of so many, represent those diverse needs and communicate this effectively through our legislative processes as you all serve as the principal legislative committee in charge of reviewing all state appropriations and revenues. That is a huge responsibility and we are grateful for that work.

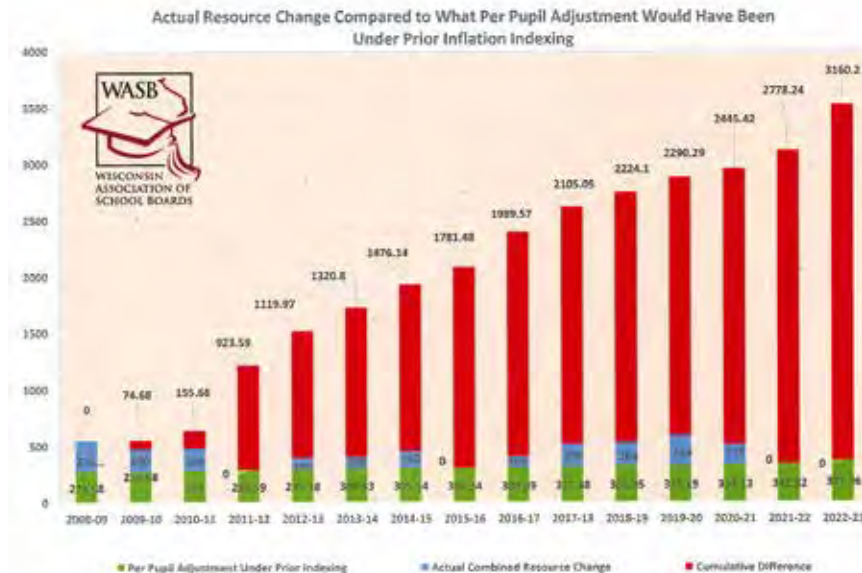
With that said, I am truly passionate about the importance of doing our best to educate every student. I believe it is pertinent to the overall success of our society and in rural schools we are the heart of our towns and our successes are our communities' success. We help drive the economy now and into the future. Our school systems in Wisconsin, whether public or private, all work diligently to serve their constituencies and give every student what they need to reach their academic potentials, regardless of what capacity they have when they enter our doors. We do our best to educate every child.

And so the main purpose of this testimony is to inform you and your office regarding the vital support and funding that is necessary to educate our youth now and in the future. We need your partnership in order to do this effectively and sustainably.

In all my years in education, I have not yet experienced the collective anticipation that myself, along with my colleagues, are having regarding the upcoming biennial budget 2023-25. We have a copy of a survey of our priorities and price tags and my colleagues and I hope you consider each of these in our upcoming biennial budget. This survey of priorities is relevant to all of our thirty-nine CESA 11 schools along with our ten Heart of the North conference schools. These priorities encompass schools from the major portions of Barron, Burnett, Dunn, St. Croix, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, Washburn, Rusk, Sawyer counties as well as portions of Buffalo, Chippewa, and Eau Claire. I anticipate that you will likely recognize similar priorities voiced for general revenue authority, Special Education reimbursement and mental health support consistently across the entire state of Wisconsin in all of the Joint Finance Committee listening sessions.



There are many reasons for this anticipation toward our next budget cycle. The main issues that have impacted our most recent budget deficits are the understandable fiscal cliffs ahead of schools and many other agencies from the one-time ESSR federal funding, high inflation and the necessary budget cuts we have made due to no revenue limit adjustment in six of the last eight years. In addition, we have not kept pace with inflation even in the recent past when inflation has been historically very low. We have included a chart that shows how this lagging has added up over the years. From the 1998-99 to the 2008-09 school year, revenue limit increase amounts were indexed for inflation and tied to changes in the Consumer Price Index. The green shows what an inflationary increase would have been. The blue shows the actual increase provided including categorical aids not just revenue limits. Finally, the red indicates the amount the blue fell short of the green, or how far the state's funding levels have lagged behind inflation.



Another recent challenge is our staff shortages which force us to contract out in order to meet these mandated services. Contracting out is a minimum of one and a half times the cost of having a certified staff member in house, which is not as effective and certainly not sustainable. We need to be able to pay competitive salaries and benefits in order to attract candidates to fill all of our vital positions.

In summary, our next biennial state budget is crucial in order for us to sustain on-going educational opportunities for our district families and larger community. Investing in the education of our youth has a tremendous impact on the direction and future success of our country. At all of our schools, we have a dedicated and passionate staff that works effectively as a team to meet our district mission. We want to see all of our students reach their dreams while making a positive impact on our world. Education is a proven way to bring hope and equity to our youth and future promise of our nation's accomplishments.

We truly appreciate the time you take to look through these supporting documents. Lastly, we look forward to our continued conversations regarding our upcoming biennial budget so feel free to reach out to us anytime with any questions you may have.

LEGISLATION ADVOCACY FOR EDUCATION

Our Board of Education Back our Bears all the way to the Capitol. This past May, they wrote a letter of support for education funding to the Joint Finance Committee and the Education Committee.

Dear Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee:

As members of the Barron Area School District Board of Education, we found Governor Evers' K -12 education state budget initiatives very interesting.

Investing over \$2.6 billion in general and categorical aids for public schools is welcoming news. Since 2008-2009 funding for schools has not kept up with inflation. We have lagged behind ever since then. Despite higher inflation each year, we have done our best to meet the basic needs of our schools and students. Recent inflation increases have made sustainability more difficult. More budget cuts will have a serious negative impact on our staff and students and communities.

As you know, like other school systems, we have also had staff shortages. Recruiting and retaining quality teachers, administrators, secretaries, bus drivers, support staff, custodians and food service personnel requires providing a competitive salary and benefits. Yearly salary increases to keep up with inflation also help to retain staff.

We have children with special education needs, children with unmet mental health needs, and an increased number of economically disadvantaged students and English Learners. We also need to improve early learning opportunities to help prepare children for their PK -12 experience. The additional costs of meeting the diverse needs of these children are important to their educational and social growth. We are determined to meet their needs, but there is only one pot of money and costs continue to inflate.

We need additional funding. We need your support to make that funding a reality for our students, staff, and area communities. We urge you to support Governor Evers' K-12 education initiatives and pass them as part of the 2023-2025 state budget.

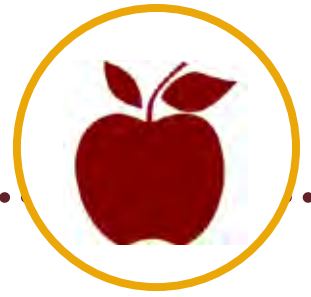
Sincerely,

Barron Area School District
Board of Education

Brittany Stephens, President
Dan McNeil, Vice President
Danette Hellmann, Treasurer
Kelli Rasmussen, Board Clerk
Wil Sinclair, Member
Chris Donica, Member
Kate Vruwink, Member
Orin Thompson, Member
Megan Marion, Member



Retirees 22-23



Thank you for your service and dedication to our district. Congratulations on your retirement!



Wendy Coss: 25 years



Sonja Diedrich: 25 years



Laurie Hensel: 38 Years



Bonnie Hilbert: 25 Years



Tom Karnitz: 25.5 Years



Kim Melgaard: 13 Years



Rachel Waite: 34 years

Spotlight on Staff

FEBRUARY



Mariah Millerman

There are not enough adjectives to describe what an asset Mariah Millerman is to the Barron Area School District. Mariah is a professional, hard-working, creative problem-

solver to name just a few. She balances multiple responsibilities as our Speech and Language Pathologist supporting our elementary students, including having a lead role in our Early Childhood programming.

Mariah is efficient, organized and detail oriented. She always follows through on what needs to be done, even though she is spread thin meeting all the needs of the many students and families she works with. She never misses a deadline or

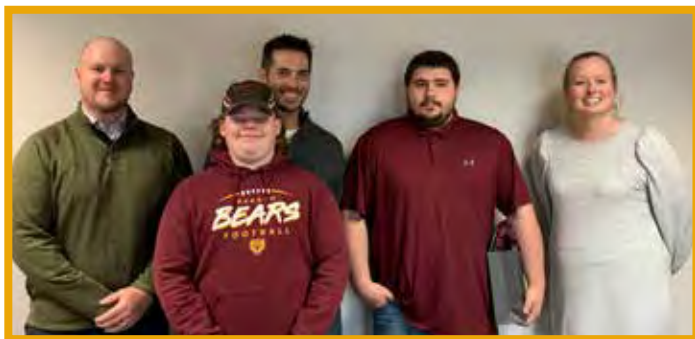
meeting and is available to assist others whenever needed without complaint. She jumps in to help with building celebrations, responds to requests for classroom support, and continues to look for ways to improve our practices to best reach our students and families. Mariah is enthusiastic about her work, a natural leader and advocate for helping others, even at the sacrifice of herself many times.

The number of students, families and staff that Mariah has positively impacted is too great to measure. She always has the best interest of others in mind and cares deeply about the success of her students. Mariah celebrates the successes of her students, big or small and makes everyone she works with feel special and important.

Mariah, we can't begin to thank you enough for your commitment to the Barron Area School District. We are incredibly lucky to have you.

MARCH

Technology Education



L to R: Andrew Sloan, Alex Featherly (technology student), Jon Thompson, Charles Gluege, Brittany Stephens

Jon Thompson, Jon Cerney, Charles Gluege, and Andrew Sloan have been instrumental in getting our Entertainment Technology class off and running. This class has allowed our students yet another opportunity to be introduced and potentially pursue a career in technology or entertainment industries.

From the initial work of securing sponsorship partners, to choosing a vendor, learning brand new software and the problems solving that goes into implementing a brand new system, these four staff members took the initiative to get all of this work done in a relatively short amount of time.

Their positive attitudes, willingness to take on challenges, and donation of a significant amount of time to make this a positive experience for our students did not go unnoticed.

Technology Education, cont.

Their work has added another dimension to our high school that will showcase our district and community as a whole for years to come. Our district received numerous compliments from other schools and fans after we successfully held the girls basketball sectional final at our gymnasium this past season. These compliments made their way to the WIAA

where they received many requests to hold more tournament games at our amazing facility in the future. Part of this recognition is due the work of Jon, Jon, Charles, and Andrew. Thank you for your dedication to our students and the continued work you all do to make our district better.

MAY

Aimee Pintens

Aimee has been a pillar of strength and inspiration at Ridgeland-Dallas Elementary for the past eight years. Her journey with this institution began even before she officially became a teacher. As a devoted parent, Aimee was actively involved in the education of her own children, all of whom attended Ridgeland-Dallas Elementary. She understood the value of a nurturing and supportive educational environment and had always dreamt of becoming a part of the Ridgeland-Dallas family. Aimee selflessly served as a substitute teacher in our district for many years, gaining valuable experience and honing her skills. Aimee's dedication, passion, and natural ability to connect with students soon became evident to everyone fortunate enough to witness her in action.

Aimee had always wanted to be a teacher at Ridgeland Dallas. Her dream was realized when she was welcomed into the Ridgeland-Dallas community as a fourth-grade teacher. Since then, Aimee's impact on her students and colleagues has been immeasurable. Her classroom is a space where learning flourishes, curiosity is nurtured, and every child feels seen and valued.

Aimee possesses an exceptional ability to create an inclusive and engaging learning environment. Her innovative teaching methods, coupled with her unwavering belief in her students' potential, have resulted in remarkable academic growth and personal development among her students. Aimee encourages critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration, and empowers her students to reach their dreams while making a positive impact on the world.



Beyond her classroom walls, Aimee is a mentor and role model to her colleagues. Her dedication and commitment to consistently improve her craft are inspiring to those around her. Aimee's willingness to share her knowledge, collaborate, and support her fellow educators has had a ripple effect throughout the entire school community. Aimee has taken on a leadership role in implementing Conscious Discipline at Ridgeland-Dallas Elementary. She recognized the importance of creating a positive and nurturing social-emotional environment for her students, and she embraced the principles of Conscious Discipline with open arms. She is always willing to share her expertise and support their own implementation of Conscious Discipline.

Thank you, Aimee, for being a guiding light and an invaluable resource for all of us. Thank you for always displaying genuine care and compassion for each and every child you encounter. Thank you for recognizing that education is not just about academics but also about fostering emotional well-being and building character. Your impact on Ridgeland-Dallas Elementary and the lives of our students cannot be overstated. Congratulations, Aimee Pintens, on this well-deserved recognition.



National Police Week

WOODLAND ELEMENTARY



At Woodland Elementary, the PBIS Celebrations Committee wanted to do something to thank our police officers. Back in January, we came up with the idea to invite our local police department and sheriff's department to come hang out with us over our lunch and recess hour! May 15-19 was National Police Week, and we had multiple people show up representing the Barron Police Department and the Barron County Sheriff's Department! There were so many smiles and high fives from our students. The students made different thank you's to show how much we appreciate them!

It was so wonderful to see the positive relationships happening! The officers are excited to return next year for a fun day in our school with the students.

Thank you again to our City of Barron Police Department and the Barron County Sheriff's Department for coming to hang out with us! We appreciate everything that you do for all of us!



Mentorship

The Barron Area School District has a mentorship program for students in grades five through twelve. Students are matched with community volunteers who serve as mentors for their students with the purpose of providing another positive role model who listens to, supports, and advocates for the child. By being a consistent adult presence in a young person's life, mentors can offer advice, share their life experiences, and help a young person navigate challenges.

Research shows that mentoring provides many benefits for the student with both short and long-term benefits. Young adults with a mentor are 55% less likely than their peers to skip a day of school, 46% less likely than their peers to start using illegal drugs and 27% less likely to start drinking (Public/Private Ventures study of Big Brothers Big Sisters). In addition, students who meet regularly with their mentors are more likely to participate in sports or extracurricular activities (The Mentoring Effect, 2014).

Mentoring can improve academic performance, school attendance, graduation rates, and attitudes. But, the power of a mentor runs deeper than numbers can show. Showing someone that you believe in them can truly impact a student's potential and change the direction of their life.

Any student attending Riverview Middle School or Barron High School is eligible to have a mentor. The student must agree to and want to have a mentor and his or her parents must also give their permission. Students in the program are students who may desire an additional supportive adult in their lives or may just need a little extra support and encouragement to thrive.

If you are interested in mentoring, would like your child to have or mentor, or would like to learn more about mentoring, please contact Diane Sloan, Mentor Coordinator, at 715-537-5627 ext. 139.



CAREER MENTORSHIPS

Amanda Thomas, a civil engineer with ISG, met with six Barron High School students who are interested in an engineering career. She not only talked about her education and career as a civil engineer, but also shared information about other types of engineering careers.

ISG is a nationally recognized multi-disciplinary design and engineering firm offering architecture, engineering, environmental and planning capabilities. ISG was the designing architect of the recent referendum work.

Thanks Amanda and ISG for your commitment to education!



*Front Row: Ashlynn Mark, Alex Featherly
Back Row: Max Schoenke, Johnathen Wakefield,
Amanda Thomas-ISG, Kyle Hillmann, Evan Berg*



Staff Appreciation

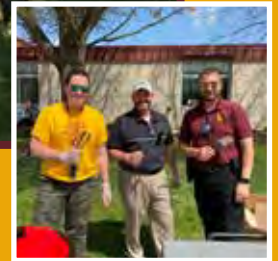
In celebration of Staff Appreciation Week, the administration, students and clubs showed their appreciation towards their staff by serving them. There were many treats, meals and messages that were shared during this week.



Mr. Van Ess and Mr. Schlauderaff made breakfast for the Elementary staff.

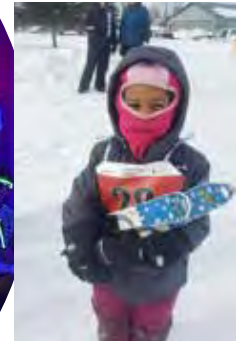


Riverview Staff had a wonderful time enjoying the weather along with barbeque brats and burgers cooked by Mrs. Danielsen, Mr. Stralka and Deputy Krahenbuhl. A big shout out to Riverview's Sunshine Committee for organizing their lunch!



Barron High School wrapped up Teacher Appreciation Week with our annual Somali Feast! A huge thank you to our Golden Bears that worked so hard to provide this absolutely amazing meal!!





BARRON AREA

Montessori School

The Montessori classroom is set up to allow children to be independent and learn at their own pace.

It has been a busy third trimester with events, learning, and discovering! There was the Barnebirkie Ski Race we hosted in Almena again this year rather than traveling to Hayward. Turtle Lake, Ridgeland, and the Montessori School participated this year with over 100 skiers ages 3-11!

We had Food With Our Favorites serving fruit and donuts to families who joined their young ones for breakfast at the school.

There was a snake discovery night showcasing many reptiles. This event was very interactive and informative! We are fortunate to have such great resources willing to travel here and also that our parent group (ACE) is so supportive. Almena Citizens for Education continues to provide fantastic opportunities for our students to enjoy.

The Brat Feed and Book Sale was another great fundraising success provided by ACE! We served more dinners this year than last year and our teachers were submerged in the dunk tank more often than last year as well!

The whole school earned a glow party through good behavior and positive choices! Everyone had a great time dancing in the black light with glow gear and accessories! The next reward day will be outdoor water fun!

Grandma Joyce comes to read to our classes, buys a book for each student, and creates a craft for them to do while she reads. She leaves a positive impression on our young people, and we wish we had more people like her! She had each student decorate a small pail, then left paper hearts for us to write messages on to be placed inside the pails. Students love giving and receiving compliments and kind messages!



Several E1 students were recognized and published in two separate poetry contests! They loved learning how to create various forms of poetry and were very proud of their work when they discovered it would be published in a book!

Several more students were recognized for their art in the conservation poster contest. There were many runner-ups, a few third place winners, a second place winner, and one first place winner! The students were recognized for their art and ideas about caring for the environment and were given a calendar featuring all the winners! Congratulations to the many talented students!

As a fundraiser, the school sold flowers for May Day. Students love giving and receiving flowers. We discuss the origin of May Day and are trying to hold on to a tradition that seems to

be slowly disappearing. A flower always brings a smile to the face of the recipient, and one thing we love to do is spread joy!

Miss Amanda once again showed real examples of the life cycle of a butterfly. The students are amazed at watching the transformation from caterpillar to butterfly. They learn about painted ladies and draw their own life cycles. Everyone likes to go outside to release them into the environment and watch them fly away.

Miss Carolyn taught a lesson on DNA, then the students used what they learned to build their own strand with pipe cleaners. The follow-up work after a lesson is a great opportunity for students to show what they have learned and how to apply it in some hands-on form.



Postcards Around the World

MRS. OVSAK: KINDERGARTEN



Mrs. Ovsak's kindergarten class wrapped up their 12th annual postcard collection. They began collecting back in March. Every year they start with the postcards that people have sent since last year's project finished while they wait for the mail to start arriving. The class gets to learn about all of the different places through the pictures on the front of the postcards along with any fun information the travelers write on the back. In the beginning, they had 2 goals. 1-Get at least one postcard from every state. 2-Try to reach 500 postcards. After reaching 500, they had to up their goal to 700. With a couple weeks left in the project, they made one last goal of reaching 1000 postcards! A third bonus goal was to see how many different countries they could get postcards from.

The kindergarten class was lucky to have so many people who wanted to help with their annual project! They also had one of the students, Inray along with his parents, come in and talk about Thailand! Last summer they spent eight weeks there visiting their family. Each student also received their own postcard from Thailand!

Another student received a Canada care package with some fun items! Many kids in the class discovered how to use the maps app on our Ipads to find some of the places that we learned about! The class even got a postcard from ANTARCTICA!!! How cool is that?

The class finished off their project on May 12th with a record breaking 1035 postcards from all 50 states and 57 different countries! The postcards decorated an entire classroom wall and extended onto another. Each year after the postcards come down, the students get to take them all home to keep! Every year they start over!



Woodland Elementary Students enjoyed celebrating Read Across America Day.

On Read Across America Day, our Nation recognizes the value of literacy. We celebrate the books that inspire our children to dream big, expand the limits of their understanding, and explore diverse perspectives and cultures through the eyes of others.



Read Across America

DR. SEUSS DAY



“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”

-Dr. Seuss



Ridgeland News

FIELD TRIP



On April 27th, the Ridgeland-Dallas 4K, Kindergarten, and 1st grade classrooms took a field trip to the Eau Claire Children's Museum.

Students were able to explore many different activities all while learning through fun play. Featured at the museum was a dairy cow that students could milk and see the milk go into a bucket, a huge operation body where students could try to take objects out just like the smaller board game, a fossil pit and so much more.

The Children's Museum offers so many great opportunities for all ages. All three grade levels had a great time and cannot wait to go back! The Children's Museum even gave each child a free admission ticket to go again with a parent!

After the museum they all went to River Prairie Park to eat their lunch and relax before getting back on the bus to head back to school.



FIRE SAFETY

Congratulations to Lee Christopherson who is a student in Mrs. Carr's first-grade classroom, at Ridgeland-Dallas Elementary School.

Lee received 3rd place in the state of Wisconsin for his Fire Safety poster! Over 450 students entered this contest!



The first grade students at Ridgeland-Dallas Elementary School enjoyed making a mural of our Solar System. They learned about the planets, our Moon, the constellations, and how to locate these neat creations in the sky. They used paint, chalk, stars, and their mighty brains to add creativity to each part of their mural.



SCIENCE!



First grade students at Ridgeland- Dallas Elementary enjoyed learning about plants in Science. They learned how to gather the baby spider plant off of Mrs.Carr's and Mr. Pederson's mama spider plants, they helped them grow roots, they transplanted them into soil, and they planted them in a special planter they made for their mom for Mother's Day. They sure love Science!

Conservation Contest



BARRON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION POSTER CONTEST

Congratulations to three of Mrs. Carr's first grade students at Ridgeland-Dallas Elementary School for doing amazing in the 2023 Conservation Poster Contest.

Bennett Reinikainen received a first-place award in the 2023 Conservation Poster Contest. This theme this year was "One Water." Bennett drew a picture of a lake, a river, and a dam. He also had some people fishing in his picture. Mrs. Carr had taught the class about the Barron Dam, and the Hoover Dam, so he was excited to draw a picture of all that he had learned.

Bennett Reinikainen - 1st place
Keslah Pierce - 2nd place
Brynlee Dearborn - 3rd place



Congratulations to Riverview Middle School art students Micahl Braden, Ellie Edwards, and Steven Tinnel for doing well and placing Runner-up in the Barron County Soil & Water Conservation Poster Contest! All of them earned a certificate and a calendar.

Jake Reinikainen was awarded 3rd Place in the county and has his art featured in the calendar! Congratulations to all participants!





5th Grade Ambassadors

UPCOMING ORIENTATION

This April, 5th Grade Ambassadors traveled to the elementary schools and met with the 4th grade students. They shared information about Riverview, answered a lot of questions, and invited them to 5th Grade Orientation in August. The 4th graders were very concerned about lockers, finding their way around Riverview, and moving from room to room for classes.

After the Ambassadors met with them, most of the 4th graders began to realize lockers aren't as hard as they may seem, and Riverview is one big square with most of the 5th grade classes on the south side of the building. The 4th graders became excited hearing about all the classes they will have in 5th grade!

Thank you to the 5th Grade Ambassadors for the work you put into preparing your presentation and sharing with the 4th graders. You were great examples of what it means to BE GOLDEN!

**Riverview is excited to welcome our new 5th graders next year,
and all the students are invited to attend 5th Grade Orientation in August.
Contact the Riverview Office to enroll your student. (715) 537-5641.**



*Front Row: Lilly Marion, Shyanne Hammann
Middle Row: Nasro Abdi, Rayaan Abdulkadir, Dalanee Gander, Caleb Duncan
Back row: Maci Allen, Grant Sinclair*



January

February



5th Grade



Mrs. Bell, Maustyn Johnson, Eli Feidt, William Weiten, Gus Schoenke, Mr. Stralka

6th Grade



Kennedy Harrington, Mateo de la Torre Ramirez, Mrs. Horvath, Jessalyn Grant, Raegen Duncan

7th Grade



Ellie Edwards, Hannah Coss, Emily Bigler, Enrique Campuzano, Mr. Stralka

8th Grade



Melani Novinski, Mrs. Bell, Alexis Halverson, Ozker Kunkel, Isabella Grant, Mr. Stralka

5th Grade



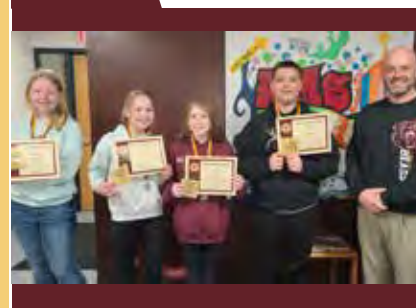
Mrs. Schauf, Carmelia Khail, Eden Kisting, Harper Vandenbrink, Nasro Abdi, Mrs. Bell

6th Grade



Samariel Perez, Mrs. Horvath, Zayda Johnson, Cimperleigh (Amber) Insong, Blake Glaser, Mrs. Hale

7th Grade



Aalayah McDonald, Avery Mathews, Callie Stokes, Aiden Cole, Mr. Stralka

8th Grade



Mrs. Zdroik, Hailey Featherly, Braiden Eraquam, Aidan Rick, Brady Valentine, Mr. Stralka



**B
R
A
V
O
S**

March

5th Grade



Mrs. Schauf, Matty Schill, Bell Tenquist, Palmer Dagestad, Adrianna Aderhold, Mr. Stralka

6th Grade



Mr. Stralka, Jorja Floyd, Nataly Garduno, Xaysha Jilek, Cadence Holten, Randy Fossum

7th Grade



Mrs. Bell, Josi Ramirez, Myles Buck, Dominic Kolm, Ahmed Abdi, Mr. Stralka

8th Grade



Naima Abdi, Oscar Severson, Zoey Frandsen, Ashtyn Massie, Mr. Stralka

COMMUNITY Service



Riverview Middle School gives a big shout out to our 5th, 6th, and 7th graders that have reached a milestone for community service. Great Job! You may see students volunteering in our community for church projects, helping improve our community properties,

providing help at our summer school programs and volunteering at our community programs such as 4H, Boy and Girl Scouts, Kiwanis etc.. Thank you so much!



5TH GRADE

Rankin Mathews, Gus Schoenke, Taevin Davis, Lilliann Horvath, Maci Allen, Madelyn Weinert, Addysen Goodlet, Shyanne Hammann, Axton Rick, Eden Kisting



6TH GRADE

Caden Rose, Jacob Reinikainen, Xander Kahl, Morghan Ecklor, Bella Meza, Kennedy Harrington, Mateo dela Torre Ramirez, Cadence Holten
Not Pictured: Jessalyn Grant



7TH GRADE

Mikaela Rose, Myles Buck, Grace Marvin, Sophia Dantzman, Hugo Acevedo-Sanchez, Annabella Bartels
Not Pictured: Izzy Felber

Riverview News



LIFE CONNECTIONS

Mrs. Becker's students from her Life Connections class had a job shadow conference with Mrs. Gunther about orthodontics and dental hygiene.



ONLINE SAFETY

Huge shout out to Deputy Andy for talking to our 6th graders this week about online safety. We want our Golden Bears to be Internet Awesome by helping them understand the fundamentals of digital citizenship and safety. We also want our students to be able to explore the online world with respect and confidence.



Career Day

BARRON HIGH SCHOOL



Members of our junior class were part of a Miron presentation that gave a brief overview of Miron's history and the various industries they serve. The bulk of the conversation centered around the career opportunities that construction has to offer. Typical education/training paths for careers in the trades, careers in management, and careers in support-type roles were offered for students to explore. An in-depth explanation of the pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs for the students was also shared. Thank you Miron for serving our students and being outstanding partners with our school district!



MARION E. JEROME MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP



The Barron Federated Music Club, in partnership with the Mary Ella Jerome Family Foundation, announced the recipients of five scholarships for 2023. Auditioned scholarships are \$650 each. Congratulations to Winona Schneider, Brett Schlosser, Lucas Zueger, Steven Tinnel and Andrew Gunther.

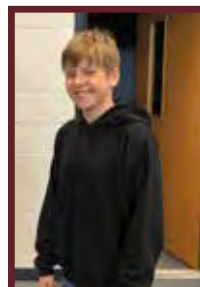


KIWANIS PERFORMANCE

Mrs. Lytle, band director, along with 7th Graders Brett Schlosser and Lucas Zueger, performed for our local Kiwanis members this past week. Kiwanis has supported our school district for many years, and we appreciate their charitable work and partnership.



RMS AWARDS



7th and 8th Grade Band and Choir Awards Given at the May 16th Concert

Band Award of Excellence 7th Grade: Lucas Zueger and Brett Schlosser

Band Award of Excellence 8th Grade: Will Hoveland and Zoey Frandsen

Choral Award of Excellence 7th Grade: Dominic Kolm

Choral Award of Excellence 8th Grade: Zoey Frandsen

STATE SOLO & ENSEMBLE

On Saturday, May 6th, six band students performed at the UW-Eau Claire WSMA State Solo and Ensemble. Congratulations to the 2023 State participants! Jacob Bever, marimba; Amelia Weise and Destiny Jeske, flute duet; Fran Peterson, piano; Winona Schneider, bass clarinet; Ella Mathews, timpani.



Band News

COLLAGE CONCERT

On May 15th, the BHS Band, Jazz Band, and Chamber Choir performed their annual Collage Concert, and what a fun night it was! Outstanding soloists, a World Premiere from the HS Choir, jazz band guest performers, Mr. Yamada and Mr. Krull, and a lights out performance by the Percussion Ensemble. Many awards were given. Jacob Bever is the recipient of the 2023 Amy Gagner Band Award. This award goes to the student who demonstrates superior musicianship and outstanding dedication.

The Band Director's Award of Excellence was awarded to Fran Peterson. Amelia Weise was awarded The Spirit of the Band. For choir, Jason Dau was awarded the Spirit of the Choir. Amelia Weise was voted the Outstanding Choir Member award and Destiny Jeske was selected for the Choral Director's Award of Excellence.



Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America

FCCLA



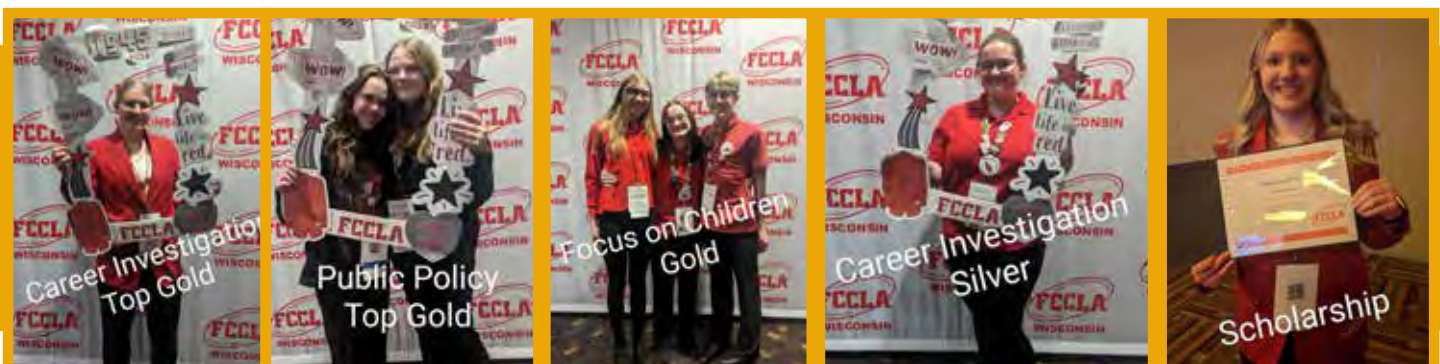
We had a great FCCLA State Leadership Conference. Three national qualifiers (2 groups) will travel to Denver, Colorado in July to compete at Nationals.

Ashlynn Harmon in Career Investigation
Liz Sadowski and Isabella Kallenbach in Public Policy

Also competing at the State Leadership Conference was a group (Winona Schneider, Trinity Halverson, Emma Schlosser). They received a gold but took third place. Top two advance to Nationals!

Elsie Goin also competed at State earning a silver in Career Investigation

Ashlynn received a FCCLA scholarship for Winona State University next year!



CNA Course



START COLLEGE NOW

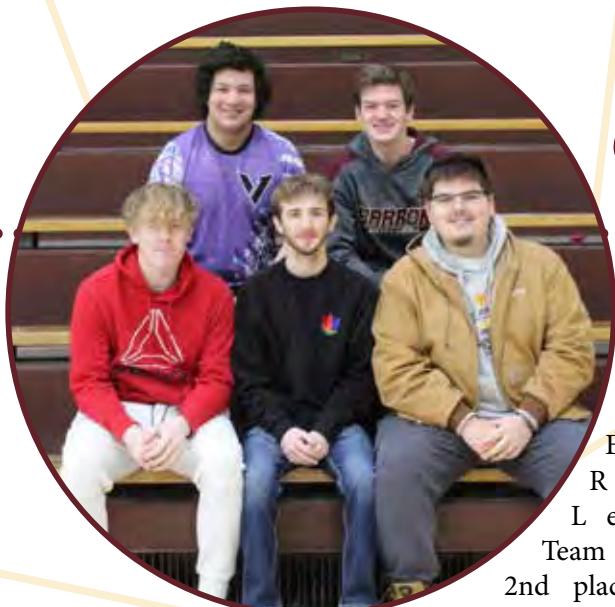


With the support of several community organizations, Barron High School was able to offer a local CNA course to junior and senior students. Through the Start College Now program, these seven students were able to enroll in this Northwood Technical College course to become licensed and certified nursing assistants. A partnership with Sensible Solutions Care Clinic and Barron Care and Rehab helped to make this possible. Throughout the year, students can enroll in CNA courses at the technical college in Rice Lake.

Many of these classes are held during the evening hours and students involved in athletics and activities can not find the time to fit this into their schedules. These same students have a lot of interest in careers in the medical field so Barron High School wanted to create an opportunity to support these students. Students report that they are really enjoying the class. Barron High School will continue to look for ways to offer this class in the future to prospective students.



ESports



STATE COMPETITORS

The 2023
B H S
E S p o r t s
R o c k e t
L e a g u e
Team took
2nd place for the
Wisconsin High School

ESports Association (WIHSEA) Division IV State Title.

Last Spring (2022) Jon Cerney (IT) and Trent Nelson (BHS SPED Teacher) began conversations about starting an ESports Club. They wanted to share their affinity for gaming with the students and give the opportunity to students who might not belong to any extracurricular activities. We wanted to start an all-inclusive club for everyone to get involved and feel like they belong somewhere. We want to reach everyone in the school, especially those who might not fit the 'athletic mold.' The club started as a gathering for casual gaming on a couple Saturdays for the remainder of the 2021/2022 school year. Cerney and Nelson put a proposal together and sent it to the board at the end of the school year to be considered an official school organization.

We had over 40 students interested in the organization, so we knew that we wanted to grow the program not only cater to the casual gamer, but we wanted to give the students the opportunity to compete against other schools as well. We researched different organizations and ultimately decided on the Wisconsin High School Esports Association. (WIHSEA). The WIHSEA is a nonprofit organization that services high school/middle school youth and has been around since 2017. It started with one game type and 29 schools and has evolved to 6 games over 3 seasons and has over 170 member schools. We decided to try the winter season out. We got enough interest to have two different teams to represent our school in two different games, Rocket League and Fortnite. It was a trial by fire situation, but we got our bearings under us. Our Rocket League team started off shaky but we started to excel. We started off the season 0-2 and won 6 straight games; earning us the Paladin Conference Championship and a 1st round bye in the Division IV playoffs. We won our quarterfinals, best of 5 games, against Bonduel, earning a trip to State.

On Saturday March 18th, we traveled to UW-River Falls to play Racine School District Walden III (Returning Division III State Champs). We beat Walden 3 games to zero in the semis. In the Championship match, we faced WCA (Wisconsin Connections Academy). Because of our relatively new entrance, we were the clear underdogs, but it was a best-of-7 series, and we played them tough. It was a back and forth battle, and we took them into overtime on three separate occasions. It all came down to game 7 and ultimately we fell 3-2. We battled well and are so proud of the boys. It was a great experience for everyone. The players got to connect with other students around the state. At this event, there were representatives from different colleges around the state for these kids to talk to as well. Many UW colleges are starting or have started Esports clubs of their own, so it was good for our kids to see that if they have this interest, it is something that could be beneficial to them in their futures as well.

For being a new club and first year in the WIHSEA and making it to state is very exciting, and we can tell we started a buzz around the school. We had students, teachers, and family members all tuning into the live stream to watch our team. We even had teachers travel to watch us live!

We want to build on our success this year and continue it into next year and the years to come. One of our main goals is to continue to grow and provide a place for our students in the club. We play our games in Jon Cerney's office right now, and we use Jon, my, and the student's consoles. We want to try to fundraise to get our own gaming PCs to use and maybe in the future have a space for our teams to practice and call their own.

Rocket League Players: Captain: Jason Dau, Nick Feidt, Preston Pedersen, Trey Johnson, and Alex Nowlin



Junior Prom

CLASS OF 2024



The 2023 Junior Prom court and their friends enjoyed prom this year at the Enchanted Barn in Hillsdale. The night was full of laughs and memories.



Front row: Bryce Bader, Cody Gander, Trinity Halverson, Alex Featherly, Grant Shipley
Back row: Rayna Hauck, Miranda Anderson, Ashlynn Mark, Summer Hammann, Brady Mickelson, Queen Cameron Mullikin, King Ahmed Hussein, Lexus Nelson, Emma Thompson, Andrea Bechard, Lance Knutson, Nora Benny, Jordan Taylor
Not Pictured: Johnathen Wakefield and Ethan Amundson



Queen Cameron Mullikin
& King Ahmed Hussein



Art Club

BHS



The BHS Art Club toured the Great Lakes Aquarium in Duluth and the murals at the Superior Library on April 26 to celebrate all of their hard work this past year! They hosted three wonderful community paint-alongs and had excellent attendance.



BASEBALL, GOLF, SOCCER, SOFTBALL, TRACK

Senior Athletes



Forensics

STATE

Congratulations to Mackenzie Weltzin and Rory Moline for earning a GOLD at Forensics State in Play Acting. State was held in DeForest, WI.

They had a perfect score to get the GOLD!



**ADVANCED
LEARNING
ACADEMY**

Have you ever wondered what it's like being an ALAW student?

Chase K - Senior

Why did you decide on ALAW?

I really wanted to work more and start more working towards what I wanted to do after high school. I also struggled with sitting in a classroom for 8 hours so going online felt like the best option for me.

With the flexible schedule of ALAW - how do you spend your days?

I was able to do my homework when it worked for me, sometimes I did it late at night and sometimes I would work way ahead. Then I was able to go to work longer during the day and also was able to start my CDL classes early as well.

What kind of support have you received from the ALAW Office and Teachers?

They would communicate through email or callbacks with answers or encouragement or just letting me know that I was doing a good job. All positive interactions.

Lorena M - Senior

What do you like best about taking your classes online?

The best thing about taking my classes online is being able to get a lot of work done when I am super motivated.

What is the most challenging with online courses?

When taking online courses you definitely need to stay on top of your work. Since you do not have someone telling you in person to keep up, you'll have to be self motivated.

What kind of support have you received from the ALAW Office and Teachers?

The support from alaw teachers and the alaw office is amazing. They care about everyone school wise and personally.

Jozymn M - Junior

With the flexible schedule of ALAW - how do you spend your days?

I love going to the school and doing alaw because I get to see my friends and favorite teachers, im still getting the high school experience just differently than other kids.

Why did you decide on ALAW?

I choose ALAW because I thought it would be a step in the right direction for my academic achievements.

What kind of support have you received from the ALAW Office and Teachers?

I have received a tremendous amount of support from both my online teachers and the Alaw Office, they have helped me achieve my goals and have pushed me to be the best student I could be.

Colton L - Senior

What is the most challenging with online courses?

Not being able to talk first hand with the teacher, right away.

What do you like best about taking your classes online?

No distractions.

With the flexible schedule of ALAW - how do you spend your days?

I spend my days working, lifting, then school.

What kind of support have you received from the ALAW Office and Teachers?

Helpful support.

Interested in learning more? Contact us at 715-537-5627 Ext. 152
Or send us a text message at (715) 869-3091



Join us for a fun-filled summer at the Bear Cub Den Summer Camp. There will be a lot of fun and exciting activities including but not limited to: arts & crafts, science experiments, fun in the sun, outdoor adventures, water games and much more!



BEAR CUB DEN

Summer DAY CAMP

6am - 6pm

This year summer care will be available June, July & August located at Woodland Elementary.

DAILY COST

- \$28 Full Day
- \$15 Half Day or After Summer School
- \$5 Before Summer School Session
- 10% Discount for multiple children



Available for students: 4K-5th Grade

UPCOMING EVENTS

June

2023

						1	2	3
							WDL: All School Picnic TR: State @ UW La Crosse	TR: State @ UW La Crosse
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
		Last Day of School 3 Hour Early Release	Required Teacher Inservice	BHS: Summer School				
		3 rd Trimester Ends						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
	BHS: Summer School							
	4:30 Policy/Personnel Cmte Mtg 6:00 Finance/Facility Cmte Mtg	6:45 am Curriculum/Tech Cmte Mtg						
			Flag Day					
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
	BHS: Summer School Elementary Summer School RVMS: Summer School							
	6:30 School Board Mtg							
Father's Day			First Day of Summer					
25	26	27	28	29	30			
	BHS: Summer School Elementary Summer School RVMS: Summer School							
	Independence Day - Somalia							

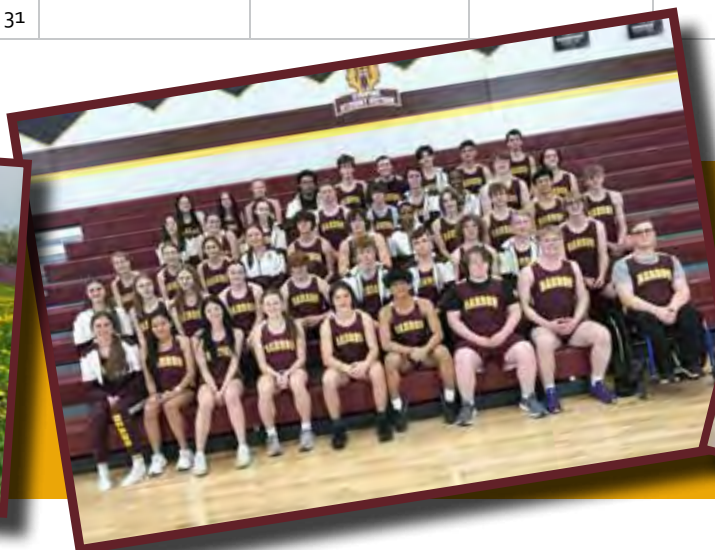


UPCOMING EVENTS

July

2023

							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
		Independence Day - USA					
9	10 4:30 Policy/Personnel Cmte Mtg 6:00 Finance/Facility Cmte Mtg	11 6:45 am Curriculum/Tech Cmte Mtg	12	13	14	15	
		World Population Day					
16	17 6:30 School Board Mtg	18	19	20	21	22	
23 Parent's Day	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30 Friendship Day	31						



UPCOMING EVENTS

August

2023

		1 FB: 1 st Day of Practice	2	3	4	5
					Coast Guard Day - USA	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 GTEN: Quad @ Baldwin-Woodville
Elementary Summer School RVMS Summer School						
	GGF: 1 st Day of Practice	GTEN: 1 st Day of Practice			GGF: Barron Invite	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Elementary Summer School RVMS Summer School						
	4:30 Policy/Personnel Cmte Mtg 6:00 Finance/Facility Cmte Mtg CC: 1 st Day of Practice BSCR: 1 st Day of Practice VB: 1 st Day of Practice	6:45 am Curriculum/Tech Cmte Mtg	GGF: Cumberland GTEN: @ Osceola	GTEN: @ Altoona	FB: @ Ladysmith GTEN: @ Altoona	National Aviation Day
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 FB: Glenwood City
Professional Development						
	6:30 School Board Mtg New Staff Inservice FB C Team: Ladysmith GGF: Superior	BSCR: Cumberland VB: Home Quad	VB: Varsity Invite @ Omni Center 6:00-7:30 Freshman Orientation	VB: Varsity Invite @ Omni Center CC: @ Ashland GTEN: Bloomer/Unity BSCR: @ Hayward		
27	28	29	30	31		
Professional Development		Elementary Welcome Day BHS/RVMS Goal Setting Day BHS, RVMS, WDLD Picture Day		Professional Development		
	FB C Team: St Croix Falls GTEN: Phillips	GTEN: @ Ashland MSFB: @ Bloomer BSCR: @ Unity/St Croix Falls		BSCR: Spooner CC: @ Spooner VB C Team Quad @ Fall Creek VB Varsity & JV @ Altoona		



THE CLASS OF 2023



“Together, we have experienced life.
Separately, we will pursue our dreams.
Forever, our memories will remain.”