

# BASD

BARRON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Newsletter*



5th Grade students enjoy an afternoon at the hockey rink!

Capitol Visit p4-5 | Mentorship p8-9 | Music Updates p28-30



**FOLLOW US!**



**@BarronAreaSD**

# Highlights

*Winter 2024*  
DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

## FEATURING

4-5 **Capital Visit**  
Legislative Priorities

8-9 **Mentorship**  
Spotlight and Career

26-27 **Technology Education**  
RMS Updates

28-30 **Music Updates**  
RMS and BHS

34-35 **FFA**  
News and Updates



**p26-27**



**p4-5**



**p34-35**



**p28-30**



**p8-9**

# Spotlight on Education

Avery and Evelett Glinski, 6th grade and 4th grade Montessori students, presented at our November Board Meeting in Almena about their experiences and cool programs at their school. They talked about dinosaur research, the life cycle of a star, fraction booklets, animal research presentations and much much more.



# School Board Convention

MILWAUKEE, WI

In January, some members of our Board of Education attended the Wisconsin Association for School Boards annual convention in Milwaukee to learn more about school governance and effective leadership strategy. We are so grateful for their dedication to our district's mission, always putting our students at the forefront of decisions while caring for our community as a whole.



Superintendent Tremblay, along with BJ Williams, Associate Dean of Workforce and Community Development from Northwood Technical College, and students from our surrounding schools presented to our legislators at the capitol the beginning of February. The group showcased all of the wonderful academic and extra-curricular opportunities that our NW public schools offer their students.

## DELEGATION

Superintendent Tremblay made her annual visit to our capitol this past month. She visited the offices of thirty-five legislators from the Joint Finance and Education Committees. The purpose of her visit was to showcase all of the amazing things that are happening in our public rural schools in Northwest Wisconsin and to show gratitude as well as the need for state financial support.

These discussions educated our State Assembly and Senate about the rigorous academic course options including college coursework offered at our schools, regular apprenticeship and career shadow opportunities, and all of the club and athletic leadership opportunities that our students delve into during their educational journey in all of our public schools.

Also in discussions, was the financial reality of the additional state support that is still needed in our schools. The amplified need for special education reimbursement and a commitment to increased revenue limit authority to keep up with the National Consumer Price Index is at the forefront of making our schools financially sustainable; this is common ground for all of the school budgets in the state of Wisconsin. If our schools don't see a greater commitment to this financial support from our state to effectively educate our kids, then the result will likely lead to an increase in operational referendums or districts being forced to make unfortunate cuts that negatively impact our students' educational journey into their futures. This partnership from the state level is crucial to our district's mission achievements. Superintendent Tremblay also presented them with a copy of our most recent newsletter and the following letter:



# Legislative Priorities: Heart of the North

January 30, 2024



Dear Entrusted Wisconsin Legislators,

I hope this communication finds you well. The main purpose of this communication is to reintroduce myself and to show our gratitude for your work and commitment to funding the education of our youth.

I am the current Superintendent for the Barron Area Schools in NW Wisconsin, and I am in my 31st year as an educator. I am truly passionate about the importance of doing our best to educate every student. Investing in the education of our youth has a tremendous impact on the direction and future success of our country. 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. It is paramount that we have your partnership in order to do this effectively and sustainably. It is vital for our country to be second to none in this challenging global economy and this requires rigorous programs in all core subjects and extra-curricular programs so we have the ability to create high capacity, innovative leaders of tomorrow.

Next, I would like to let you know that I am truly appreciative for your work as our trusted legislator. I certainly recognize that it is a tremendous job to understand the needs of so many, represent those diverse needs and communicate this effectively through our legislative processes. I also want to say thank you for moving the needle in our current biennial budget on revenue limit which added \$325 per student and also for the increase of over 4% to get us from 27% to 31.43% this fiscal year in special education reimbursement. Our district will transfer \$2,559,299.00 this year out of our operational budget of 20 million dollars to cover mandated special education programming. This year's biennial budget provided an incremental new aid amount at \$103,971.96 due to the increased reimbursement. We are thankful for this reimbursement because it allows us not to have to take this additional amount away from our regular education, rigorous core coursework, technical education programming and extra-curricular programs.

This year our district will be running approximately a \$500,000 deficit to sustain programming for our students, so we look forward to the promise of the next biennial state budget to maintain on-going educational opportunities for our district families and larger community. We hope to see this trend continue to increase revenue limit and SPED reimbursement in the 2025-27 budget.

BASD has a dedicated and passionate staff that work 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 which provides future promise of our nation's accomplishments and global competitiveness as we foster the potential and ambitions of our children.

Please feel free to contact me anytime if you have any questions at all about our district or any of the districts in CESA 11 and Heart of the North conference schools. I am committed to representing all of the districts in northwest Wisconsin as our legislative advocate.

Sincerely,  
Diane Tremblay  
Superintendent  
Barron Area School District

# Barron Area Education Foundation

## NEWS AND UPDATES

### Annual BAEF Mailing to Begin in March

The BAEF will be sending out the annual fundraising mailing to Barron High School Alumni in March. The annual mailing is the only fundraising event, other than the Social which was held in October of 2023. Last year, the BAEF was able to award over \$125,000 in scholarships to Barron High School seniors. Donations from the mailing make it possible to continue helping students reach their career dreams through the scholarship program. The BAEF also uses donated funds to sponsor students to attend various educational camps, clinics or conferences. Funding is also used to produce podcasts from BHS grads.

Not all alumni are included in the mailing due to lost addresses. Any alumni that wish to be included in the annual mailing can email their current address to [barronaef@gmail.com](mailto:barronaef@gmail.com) Anyone can donate funds to the BAEF by completing the form on this page or by contacting Sue Hanson, President @ 715-418-0270. More information about BAEF can be found on the BASD website under the Barron Education Foundation tab.

### BAEF TouchScreen Pro

The BAEF purchased an interactive device called TouchScreen Pro for the new BHS gym entrance. The device features information about the Barron area communities, events, history, school district clubs and sports and yearbooks that date back to 1941. Besides

interacting with the physical device, people can also access the device by going to [baef.touchpros.com](http://baef.touchpros.com).

### Podcasts Continue

To date, the BAEF has launched 16 podcasts. The podcasts feature former Barron Area School District alumni and staff members and their amazing stories. Podcasts that were launched in 2023 were Mark Hallberg, a 2004 graduate and 1st base coach for the San Francisco Giants, Sophie Ewald, an exchange student from 2007 who ran cross country for D1 Northwestern and is a doctor and Lorin Humphrey, a 1982 grad and owner of the Enchanted Barn. The most recent podcast features 1993 grad, Jennifer Dobberfuhr who has her PhD and is internationally known for her work with language and cultural immersion in education. The podcasts can be found on various providers such as Spotify, YouTube, Apple or Google or on the BAEF webpage under the district's website.

### BAEF Scholarship Application

The Barron High School seniors met with BAEF members Linda Mikunda and Sue Hanson to share information about the 2024 BAEF Scholarship application. The application is a fillable form and can be found on the list of scholarships the BHS Student Services has on their webpage and on the BAEF webpage on the district's website. The application is due May 1st to BHS Student Services. For more information, contact BHS Student Services.

## Barron Area Education Foundation

Making Dreams Come True For All Students

Yes, I would like to donate funds to the Barron Area Education Foundation to help students reach their dreams.

A receipt will be mailed to each donor for their tax deductible contribution.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Scan this QR Code



Or send donation to:

BAEF  
P.O. Box 271  
Barron, WI 54812

*Make checks out to the Barron Area Education Foundation.*

*Questions can be emailed to [barronaef@gmail.com](mailto:barronaef@gmail.com)*





# Celebrate!

## NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK

**We want to give a huge shoutout to our three amazing school counselors as we celebrated National School Counseling Week February 5-9th.**



Elementary School Counselor, Mrs. Johnson is the guiding light for our youngest students. She isn't just our school counselor; she's a dedicated helper, listener, and cheerleader for our kids, and she is always ready to lend a hand or an ear. Mrs. Johnson is a true superhero in our school's community, making a difference one student at a time!

Riverview Middle School is truly fortunate to have Mrs. Beckendorf as our exceptional counselor. She does an outstanding job aiding our students in setting and achieving academic, social/emotional, and career goals. Mrs. Beckendorf's dedication extends beyond individual guidance; she stands as a key team member in our Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) program, contributing to the positive and nurturing school environment.

As we acknowledge her outstanding contributions, we express our sincerest thanks to Mrs. Beckendorf for being an invaluable asset to our team at Riverview Middle School!



BHS recognized their outstanding counselor, Mrs. Nehring! She is involved with assisting our students in academic and career planning, meeting social-emotional needs, and establishing positive, growth mindsets. She is a member of our Student Success Team that works to meet the variety of student needs that arise throughout our school year. Brooke was instrumental at getting our first ever Barron High School Wellness Conference off the ground on February 13. She is always looking for ways to assist our students with the many needs they need met to be prepared for post-secondary success.

# Mentorship

## SPOTLIGHT

### Joe Johnston

#### Why is Joe the spotlight mentor?

Joe knows it is important to give back to the community, and wanted to give his time to a young person who needs him. With his wisdom and experience, he has a lot to offer his mentee, and genuinely enjoys spending time together.



#### What James says about the mentoring program:

James says that Joe is a nice guy, and that he's good at advice and listening. He also enjoys learning about new foods when they have lunch together from area restaurants.

#### What inspired you to mentor?

My wife Debbie inspired me to be a mentor. I watched her make a difference in her mentee's life and she felt I might be able to be a positive influence for a young person also.

#### What is your favorite aspect of mentoring?

I have been a mentor for James for the past year and a half. My favorite aspect of mentoring is that James looks forward to our visits and genuinely appreciates our time together. James even joined me during hunting season and helped me watch for deer from my hunting stand.

#### Why do you think others should mentor?

I think mentorship is a great experience for both the mentor and the mentee. For me, sharing some time and passing on a little bit of what I've learned to a young person is the best part of being a mentor. Sharing that time with a developing young person who appreciates it makes it worth it!

## CAREER MENTORSHIPS

To help students plan for their futures, the Mentorship Program offers career mentorships and job shadowing opportunities.

If a student is interested in learning more about a career, a "career mentor" is found who will meet with the student and share information about their profession and education. Students may also job shadow their mentors to observe a typical day.

Career mentorships have been established in a wide variety of occupations. Students in middle and high school may request job shadowing experiences by contacting Mentor Coordinator Diane Sloan at 715-537-5627 ext 139.



### Nursing

Senior Jordan Taylor met with registered nurse Shelby Balts to learn more about a nursing career. Shelby and Jordan talked about education options and various career paths in nursing.

### Pastry Chef & Baking

Senior Wilbur Richards spent an afternoon with Ashley Estreen at Simply Cake Couture.







## Diesel Mechanic

Golden Bear students visited Tony Malsom at Cameron Diesel Repair to learn more about career opportunities in diesel mechanics.

## Elem/ Special Education

Junior Rory Moline is considering an elementary education career, so spent the day observing a teacher and helping out in the classroom.



## CNA

Sophomore Bailey Scherer job shadowed a CNA at Barron Care and Rehabilitation to learn more about this career.



## Nurse Practitioner

Senior Hailee Halverson knows she's interested in a healthcare career, and is especially interested in being a nurse practitioner. She job shadowed with Nurse Practitioner Kaitlyn Sloan to learn more about the role and responsibilities of this career.



## Forestry

Two Barron High School students, Garrett Sadtler and Dawson Sinclair, spent a day with Rusk County Forester Dane Gravesen to learn more about the work and educational requirements of a forestry career.



# Spotlight on Staff

NOVEMBER

## Shana Hover



Shana Hover is in the midst of her 8th year working for the Barron Area School District as a School Psychologist - and what a year it has been. Without question, complaint, or argument, Shana has stepped up to the challenge of being the only school psychologist for the district when we typically staff two full-time employees for the large task of supporting the various needs of our students, families and staff. Shana is extremely efficient and detail oriented. Her strong organizational and time management skills allow her to juggle the many duties, meetings, and paperwork her role requires. Shana makes this look easy,

but it is no simple task. While Shana excels in the areas previously mentioned, most importantly she cares deeply about doing what's best for kids, and she devotes herself to advocating for students' needs. Shana does not shy away from difficult conversations or situations and confidently takes on any challenge that she encounters. She has been a great support to staff members and is sought out as a resource for the entire district. She offers suggestions and helps provide creative solutions when tough situations arise and decisions need to be made. This year she has had to support grade levels outside of her typical scope, and she has taken it upon herself to study and research to find the information and answers needed.

In her spare time, Shana loves to be with family, especially enjoying her 6 beautiful grandchildren. She also enjoys being outside spending time on the lake, fishing, kayaking, walking her dogs, snowshoeing and gardening. Shana's amazing gardening skills benefit many of her colleagues in the district as she often brightens others day with beautiful flower arrangements. And if you happen to be looking for a great Christmas gift, Shana's talents also include making very nice wool mittens.

Shana, I know being in the spotlight is not your favorite thing, but we all agreed that we wanted to take this opportunity to recognize and thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the Barron Area School District. Thank you!

DECEMBER

## Brandon Thalacker

Since Brandon started at Riverview as our Special Education Teacher back in 2021, he immediately impacted our building with his positive energy. Brandon understands that a positive attitude is not just a personal trait; it's a powerful tool for creating a conducive learning environment. His classroom is a space where students feel supported, encouraged, and eager to learn.

In addition to his classroom responsibilities, Brandon helps play a pivotal role in our school's PBIS Program. As one of our leaders in Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports, he has worked tirelessly to

foster a positive school climate, ensuring that our students thrive both academically and socially.

In conclusion, Brandon is not just an exceptional educator and leader in our PBIS Program; he is also a dedicated and successful track and boys' basketball coach, and one of our leaders with our seventh-grade winter survival unit. He truly embodies the spirit of excellence in every role he undertakes. Please join me in extending our heartfelt thanks to Brandon Thalacker for his dedication, positive attitude, genuine care, and outstanding contributions to our school and the PBIS Program, making our school a better place for everyone.



## JANUARY

# Amity Mathews

We have the honor of presenting the "Spotlight on Staff" award to an incredibly deserving educator, Mrs. Amity Mathews. When considering which staff member should receive this award, your name rose to the top not only because of your hard work and positive impact, not only because you often step up and do whatever is needed, but also because we know that your selfless efforts may sometimes go unnoticed, and you definitely deserve to be recognized.



Mrs. Mathews started her journey at Woodland in the fall of 2019, as an instructional aide in the computer lab. She also spent time managing medications in the office. Mrs. Mathews consistently demonstrates a high level of commitment and care, that all of us who know her understand, is her selfless nature. Alongside these duties, Mrs. Mathews dedicated herself to volunteering with our parent group, PAWS. She selflessly lead that group when no one else would.

In August of 2021, Mrs. Mathews embraced a new challenge as a 4K teacher in Ridgeland-Dallas. During that time, she continued to show us her dedication to student growth and well-being and transitioned into a 4K role at Woodland. Last school year, Mrs. Mathews went above and beyond by also taking on the additional role of early childhood-special education teacher. She supported our 3 and 4-year-olds, managing not only her 4K teaching position but also additional responsibilities. This included numerous meetings, evaluations, paperwork, and coordinating services in the children's homes. These are all tasks that required quite a bit of additional time and effort.

When you consider Mrs. Mathews' impact, you can't help but be inspired by the ways that she balances her professional responsibilities with her personal life. She is a very busy, devoted mother and wife, and she manages each role with grace and strength. These qualities are inspirational, as her impact reaches beyond her students, as she inspires her colleagues.

Amity, we recognize all that you have done for our school, your students, and your family. We recognize who you are. We feel proud of every contribution, every late night, and every helping hand you've extended, and we're grateful to know you and are thankful to be inspired by you. Congratulations, and thank you for being a cornerstone of our Woodland family.

# Food Bags

## PROVIDING FOR OUR GOLDEN BEARS

For over 10 years, the district has been teaming up with our local food pantry, Cupboard and Closet to provide take home food bags each week during the school year. The Backpack Food 4Kids program offers families meals for weekends and school breaks. Food backpacks include healthy, easy-to-prepare food for kid-friendly meals.

Each week, a group of Golden Bears spend time every Wednesday packing food bags to send home with families in our district!

Our Food Bag Program is 100% funded by donations from YOU! Because of the generosity of our community, our Golden Bears can build teamwork and share compassion within the BASD!

**Donations can be made to:**  
**Cupboard and Closet Food Pantry**  
**411 E. LaSalle Avenue**  
**Barron, WI 54812**



# Ridgeland-Dallas

## 1st GRADE

The first grade class got to wear their pajamas, bring in their blankets, stuffed animals, make a neat bracelet and watch a Charlie Brown movie! This was a reward party for the entire Ridgeland/Dallas Elementary School for being Caring, Safe, and Fair! What amazing kids we have!



# 4K Updates

## UPDATES

During December, 4K classes at Woodland joined together with students from Barron High School for our annual gingerbread house decorating day. Afterwards, students visited together, read stories, and sang songs.



Families and friends recently attended the Winter Program and BINGO party for 4K students at Woodland Elementary. The children sang songs they've been practicing, which was followed up with hot chocolate and cookies, and a rousing round of Winter BINGO. The 4K teaching team is grateful to the families for attending these monthly events and supporting our students' hard work!

# Kindergarten News

## POP TAB COLLECTION

Mrs. Ovsak's Kindergarten class has been collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Minnesota! The class began collecting in November and have collected over 60 pounds of pop tabs!

How does that compare to everyday objects?

- 30 pounds is:
- \*4 gallons of milk
- \* 20 dozen eggs
- \*a 50-inch LED TV!!

With our donation, we are going to be able to help so many families at the Ronald McDonald House in Minnesota! If anyone would like to donate their pop tabs to the Kindergarten collection for the Ronald McDonald House, please drop them off at the Woodland office!



## GINGERBREAD HOUSES

Before the winter break, family members and high school tutors came in and joined Mrs. Ovsak's Kindergarten class in making their annual gingerbread houses!





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

- \$34 Full Day
- \$20 After Summer School
- \$6 Before Summer School Session
- 10% Discount for multiple children



Available for students: 4K-5th Grade



# Montessori School



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

## Barron Area Montessori School Accepting Applications

Applications for the Barron Area Montessori School are currently being accepted for the 2024-25 school year. The Primary program, ages 3-6 is accepting applications at this time. At each level, Montessori hosts a 3-year curriculum.

The Children's House meets the needs of children from three years of age through the Kindergarten year. The elementary program includes grades 1-6.

Three-year-old students follow a half day schedule five days a week. Four-year-old students may attend half days or full days five days per week. Students five and older have an all day schedule, five days a week.

The Barron Area Montessori School is a charter school with no tuition. Enrollment applications are available at the Almena Elementary School office or online at <http://www.barron.k12.wi.us/schools/Montessori.cfm>.

Applications must be received by Tuesday, April 30th, to be considered for the 2024-25 school year. Applications received after this date will be placed on a waiting list for 2024-25 or be considered for the 2025-26 school year.

*Barron Area Montessori School does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religious affiliation, national origin or differing ability.*

For more information, please contact Barron Area Montessori School:

Tawnee Keller, Director

230 LuLu Ave

Almena, WI 54805

Phone: 715-357-3263, ext. 214

E-mail: [kellert@barron.k12.wi.us](mailto:kellert@barron.k12.wi.us)







It was a Bright Sunny Day at our Almena Montessori as Goldie Bear and Teddy Bear Waylon joined our Golden Bears for Safety Drills and hands on learning.

October

5th Grade



Anna Ganong, Mrs. Schauf, Emmett Roske, Emmitt Queiser, Ameli Aldana, Mr. Stralka

6th Grade



Mr. Stralka, Oscar Lopez, Gus Schoenke, Jordy Fick, Lillian Marion, Ms. Knapmiller

7th Grade



Mrs. Meincke, Mateo de la Torre Ramirez, Landon Hecht, Jake Reinikainen, Jessalyn Grant

8th Grade



Mrs. Witscher, Caden Witscher, Madalyn Kallsen, Callie Stokes, Sophia Dantzman, Mr. Stralka

RMS STUDENT RECOGNITION

Golden Bear Bravos are awarded to Riverview Students every month for “doing the right thing because it’s the right thing to do.” The students are nominated by Riverview Staff because they are responsible, respectful, and safe. Each student receives a certificate from the nominating staff member, an a la carte coupon for a free treat at breakfast or lunch, and a personalized medal. A positive postcard is mailed home to share the good news with the family. Thank you to our Bravos recipients for being examples of what it means to BE GOLDEN!

Riverview

B  
R  
A  
V  
O  
S

# November

## 5th Grade



Mr. Stralka, Kamila Ramirez, Tayton Dahlberg, Madalyn Saffert, Mr. Nelson, not pictured: Arianna Horton

## 6th Grade



Mrs. Halverson, Shyanne Hammann, Ava Emery, Rayaan Abdulkadir, Ashtin Witscher, Mrs. Horvath

## 7th Grade



Mrs. Meincke, Kennedy Harrington, Morghan Ecklor, Addie Kroeze, Hunter Evitch, Ms. Elam

## 8th Grade



Alexis Provencial, Josi Ramirez, Hailey Ganong, Izzy Felber

# December

## 5th Grade



Mr. Stralka, Kiera Baker, Lainis Kraucis, Ryker Emery, Jacob Gunther, Mrs. Bell

## 6th Grade



Mr. Randy Fossum, Arietta Andreasen, Riley Nelson, Victor Ramirez, not pictured: Eden Kisting

## 7th Grade



Mrs. McLennan, Jorja Floyd, Aisha Mohamed, Bella Meza, Jason Goff, Mr. Stralka

## 8th Grade



Mr. Stralka, Landry Bell, Hugo Acevedo-Sanchez, Marrisona Nadeau, Carly Chase

# COMMUNITY Service



Riverview Middle School gives a big shout out to our students 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, Yearbook, Kiwanis etc.. Thank you so much!

## 5th Grade

Front: Shelby Rieschl, Gael delaTorre, Carter Olson, Austin Vroman, Emmett Roske, Emmitt Queiser and Siham Dahir, Back: Lyric Conyers, Beau Scherer, Alyna Marks, Tanzania Hightower and Gracelyn Wittrock



## 6th Grade

Left to Right: Axton Rick, Caleb Duncan, Lilliann Horvath  
Not Pictured: Gus Schoenke, Rankin Mathews



**7th Grade**

Front: Keegan Diesterhaft, Ethan Hagen, Trenton Groveau, Domanic Fogelberg, Jade Korzenieski, Cimberleigh Insong, Corbin Manor  
Back: Cadence Holten, Zayda Johnson, Jessalyn Grant, Jaylin Barefoot, Jaslyn Smyth, Jamie Hinojasa, Jake Reinikainen, *not pictured: Audrina Toombs*



100 Hours  
Community Service:  
Cadence Holten



**8th Grade**

Left to Right: Brody Saffert, Mikaela Rose, Reuben Stokes, Sophia Dantzman, Hugo Acevedo-Sanchez



100 Hours  
Community Service:  
Grace Marvin

# Student Senate

## RIVERVIEW



Riverview Middle School is fortunate to have an exceptional Student Senate leading the way this school year. The members of the Student Senate are dedicated to actively volunteering in both the community and the school, setting positive examples, serving as role models, and advocating for the student body.



In September, we had the privilege of participating in the district ribbon-cutting ceremony, marking the completion of various projects throughout the district. Additionally, we joined in the homecoming festivities, enjoying themed dress-up days alongside our fellow students.



October was a particularly fulfilling month as we focused on community engagement. We contributed to the Middle School Book Fair by organizing entertaining games and activities to support book purchases for students. Moreover, we had a blast participating in Trunk-or-Treating at Woodland, showcasing our Gator Golf interactive trunk. It was heartwarming to see our elementary students engaging with us as they played games, selected prizes, and enjoyed the festivities.

In November, we organized a penny war fundraiser to support the Gift From the Heart Program. Through our efforts, we raised \$1,405.87, which assisted 64 families and 151 children in the Barron Area School District. These families received boxes of food to prepare Christmas dinners, and 38 children received coats, hats, and mittens. Our 8th-grade students excelled in fundraising, earning shakes for the entire grade during lunch.



November also marked our first-quarter assembly celebration, where we recognized responsible, respectful, and safe behaviors through activities like musical chairs, accompanied by music provided by our 6th-grade band students, and raffles.



We recently celebrated a successful 2nd quarter with an assembly, featuring activities such as an arm wrestling contest, snowman building, and a raffle. As we approach the second semester, we remain committed to finding ways to give back to our community and make a positive impact.



December was filled with grade-level activities and community service opportunities, culminating in a school-wide popcorn party to express our appreciation for our outstanding students. As we embark on the new year, we reflect on our achievements and look forward to continued growth and gratitude.





# FCCLA

## RIVERVIEW



FCCLA members from Riverview spent an evening spreading holiday cheer by ringing the bells for the Salvation Army. Their singing put smiles on a lot of faces. They loved the experience of interacting with their community in such a positive way!



# Family and Consumer Sciences

## NEWS



8th Grade students in Mrs. Becker's Life Connections class had the opportunity to go out into our community and participate in a job shadow in the field of their choice. Some of the places they selected to go to were the Barron DNR office, Liden, Dobberfuhl and Harrington Law Firm, Barron Humane Society, Barron Vet Clinic, Mary's Locke Shop, Barron High School and Woodland Elementary teachers, John Deere, Sensible Solutions Care Clinic, Kitchen and Floor Decor, Todd's Redi Mix, Rausch and Steel Funeral Home, and Rice Lake Weighing. What a great opportunity for them!



# Grant Recipient

## RIVERVIEW



### Wisconsin Northwest Heritage Passage Announces Grant Recipients for Art Teachers

The Wisconsin Northwest Heritage Passage (WNHP) is pleased to announce the successful recipients of its grant program for art teachers in Northwest Wisconsin. The nonprofit 501(c)(3) arts advocacy organization has awarded four grants of \$500 each to area art teachers for the January 2024 semester.

The goal of this grant is to provide additional supplies for art teachers in Northwest Wisconsin working with students (K-12) to supplement their current art budget. WNHP recognizes the importance of art education and is committed to supporting the visual arts in Northwest Wisconsin. Ellyn Schneider, Riverview Middle School, was awarded \$500 for art journals for her 8th grade art students. Students will respond to art prompts within the journals, use as warm ups and early finisher activities, and as independent practice to sharpen their skills as artists!

In addition to the grant program, WNHP has a program that features student artists in its Arts in Hand gallery. Selected students have a showing of their work, including an opening reception for family, friends, and the community. WNHP believes that this program will help students realize that there is more to art than just art class. These receptions will be held in the spring of 2024.

Founded in 1999, Wisconsin Northwest Heritage Passage is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts advocacy organization that aims to celebrate and showcase the artisan handmade products of northwest Wisconsin. Our mission is to educate the public about the contribution of the creative community to the quality of life in the region, and to promote and foster growth in the area's creative industry.



# Technology Education

RIVERVIEW



8th grade Tech Ed students made signs where they learned how to use a scroll saw and pattern. They learned the basic layout and a finishing process (sanding steps with different grits, staining and sealing). They also used this as a design test to fit a letter inside a determined amount of space.



Our 7th grade students could not get enough of our 3D printing department! We had a blast learning about design, quality, process, and design theory.





Our 8th Grade engineers were hard at work designing and prototyping a solution for our 6th Grade students! These Golden Bears designed a drilling fixture to accurately drill the holes for the wheel axles on the 6th graders' C02 cars!

# Music Updates



## AWARD

Bravo to Riverview Middle School music teachers Karen Hale, John Krull and Samuel Barrett receiving the Wisconsin School Music Association Accreditation Award for their outstanding participation in WSMA programming such as in District Solo & Ensemble Festivals.



## MESSIAH SING-ALONG



Shell Lake Arts Center Messiah Sing-Along - Twenty three High School Choir Members traveled to Shell Lake Arts Center before Winter Break to partake in their 3rd Annual Messiah Sing-

Along. The students get the chance to sing parts of Handel's Messiah, a great choral work famous for the Hallelujah Chorus. They also listen to performances of the solos featuring teachers from the other participating schools.

## RMS CHOIR: SOLO & ENSEMBLE

Middle School Solo and Ensemble -Twenty seven 7th and 8th grade choir students participated in the Middle School Solo and Ensemble this year at Cumberland Middle School. The students had many successful performances including solos, duets, quartets, and even a soprano and alto octet! Their hard work was rewarded with 17-1 ratings (the highest you can get), 10-2 Ratings, and 1-3 rating. Additionally 5 students were awarded the best in site designation: Dominic Kolm, Hailey Sirek, and Alexis Provencial for their solos and Addie Kroeze and Annie Edwards for their duet. Most of the judges listen to 50-60 performances throughout the day so to have four of our performances be designated the best of the day from a judge is a huge honor.



## BHS HONORS CHOIR

Wartburg College's Meistersinger Honor Choir - Seven BHS choir students traveled this past weekend to Wartburg College in Waverly, IA to partake in the Meistersinger honor choir. The students (Nathan Humphrey, Rory Moline, Presten Pedersen, Alivia Rick, Winona Schneider, Jude Slayton, and Kenzie Weltzin) sang alongside the world renowned Wartburg Choir and had the opportunity to learn from composer Craig Hella Johnson who wrote most of the songs they performed. The students were split into two choirs, both with hundreds of singers represented from 100 schools in five different states. At the end of the concert, the two choirs came together in a joint song that fit 800 people on the stage. At the honor choir, students had many opportunities to learn about joining choirs in college and heard performances from a variety of auditioned and non-auditioned groups. They also experienced a bit of college life, staying overnight in the dorms and eating meals in the student dining center. The students all came home having said it was a life-changing experience and can't wait to go back next year!





## WINTER CONCERT

Winter Concert - High School Band and Choir members have been bonding this year through pre-concert meals provided by parents of the students. Here you can see students from both groups eating a great Christmas dinner together before preparing to give a great concert.



## ORDWAY VISIT

On December 13, Mrs. Hale and Mr. Krull took a very excited group of 6th grade music students to Ordway Center for the Performing Arts to see a live performance of Peter Pan. It was a day filled with firsts as many had never been to the Ordway and some had never been into the city of St. Paul. The decorations for the holidays were just the beginning of the wonder as we entered the venue. We saw a wonderful performance which prompted the students to inquire about their next adventure to the Cities and another live performance! Everyone looked great and enjoyed the show. We are looking forward to the next time we can visit. It was a wonderful day of making memories!



## 6TH GRADE SOLO & ENSEMBLE



Sixth grade band students also had the opportunity to perform in the District Solo/Ensemble Festival held in Cumberland on January 19. There were 14 students who chose to do a solo and four of those students also participated in two duets. They all spent time learning their music, learning how to deal with nerves and learning the joy of performing. Thank you to our special guest accompanists also. It was a marvelous day! All 14 students received helpful comments from the judges and will bring that back to the band in our ensemble playing. Many are looking forward to playing again next year



## RMS HONORS BAND

Back in November, 5 of our 7th and 8th grade band students got the opportunity to perform in one of three honor bands at the Shell Lake Honor Band Festival (Desiree Glinski, Annabella Bartels, Mason Thompson, Bella Meza, Mateo de la Torre Ramirez). They had the chance to rehearse and get sectional lessons from world class educators and conductors for a whole day, culminating in a performance at the end of the night. We are so lucky to have the Shell Lake Arts Center so close to us! Schools from around the state and even some from out of state came all the way to Shell Lake for this festival. It was a wonderful chance for our students to get to play with



other top musicians from their respective schools!



# Music Updates, continued...

## RMS BAND: SOLO & ENSEMBLE



7th and 8th grade band students had the opportunity to participate in the middle school Solo and Ensemble Festival on January 19th. Sixteen students performed in a variety of contexts from solos, duets and even a jazz quintet! We had four events earn a 1, 11 earn a 2, and one earn a 3. Each student spent the months of November through January practicing and taking lessons on their chosen pieces. It takes a lot of courage to perform in front of a judge and an

audience and for some of these students it was their first time ever performing outside of band. We are so proud of our 7th and 8th grade band students!



## RED CEDAR HONORS BAND

At the beginning of January 4 high school students (Wyatt Weise, Braiden Eraquam, Drew Schepps, Winona Schneider) had the opportunity to perform in the Red Cedar Music District Honor Band at Chetek Weyerhaeuser high school. The band was made up of students from high schools in the area such as Rice Lake, Spooner, Bloomer and many more. They



had the chance to work with renowned Illinois educator and conductor Randy Greenwell for the whole day, culminating in a final performance in the evening. They spent roughly a combined six hours of rehearsing to put together some challenging pieces with musicians they had never played with before. Despite the long hours and tough music the students were able to put together a wonderful performance and learned a ton about making music in a large ensemble!



## ALUMNI PEP BAND

Earlier this year the high school pep band held our annual Alumni Pep band event during a girl's Varsity Basketball game. Although the snow storm that night caused some alumni to not be able to make it, we still had a blast with ones who were able to come. We hope to hold this event again next year and hope even more alumni are able to attend and get that pep band experience again!



# GIRLS BASKETBALL

## Youth Basketball

The 2nd and 3rd grade youth basketball players had the opportunity to practice with the Girls Varsity team.

Our Girls Varsity team continues to support our youth, hosting a Youth Night where our youth players got autographs and everyone got to hang out together!



## Staff Appreciation

Our Girl's Basketball Team showed their appreciation to staff during their Annual Staff Appreciation Night! Each athlete chose a staff member who has made an impact on them! A video with favorite memories and reasons why they were chosen was a highlight of the night!



# Technology Education

## HIGH SCHOOL

During the district renovations in the past year, the old bleachers were removed from the stage, and the Tech Ed department repurposed some of the steel and lumber for use in their classes. Some of the steel has been used for students to weld on to develop and sharpen their skills in welding. Some components were used to create cattle guards and other projects. Recently the Cabinet and Furniture class utilized some of the lumber to make benches to take home and enjoy.



## Advanced Learning Academy of Wisconsin **ALAW**

Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year has officially begun at Advanced Learning Academy of Wisconsin (ALAW). Often, a one-on-one approach is what it takes to realize a child's innermost possibilities. ALAW is a virtual, public charter school program for K-12 students in the state of Wisconsin and offers full-time options through the Barron Area School District.

We offer:

- A high-quality, virtual public school education
- Support from passionate, experienced, Wisconsin-licensed teachers
- Flexible pacing and an individualized approach to learning
- Early graduation for those students who qualify

Online education boasts the ability to complete course work at any time of day or night according to what fits the student's situation. Every child is different. What might work for some won't necessarily work for another.

Contact ALAW today! Jessica Mullikin, Director 715-537-5627 Ext. 152



# STEM Fest

## UPWARD BOUND

About 40 high school students from six northwestern Wisconsin schools recently visited the University of Wisconsin-Stout to participate in hands-on workshops at STEM Fest. As participants in the Upward Bound program, the students have the opportunity to explore what colleges around Wisconsin and Minnesota have to offer through tours, hands-on learning experiences and engagement sessions. UW-Stout welcomed the students with two workshops that demonstrated what a polytechnic university has to offer for degree programs and future careers in STEM — science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The students were from Barron, Hayward, Shell Lake, Siren, Turtle Lake and Unity. Through these hands-on experiences, they got a glimpse at what UW-Stout has to offer and could imagine themselves studying in a university lab.

UW-Stout professors and staff planned and led the activities, each of which focused on the electrical connections between biology and engineering.

The students, who come from many backgrounds and have vast career aspirations, said they learned a lot from their day on campus. Many did not know UW-Stout offered so many hands-on labs that allow them to utilize equipment they could potentially use out in the field once they graduate. They also said Upward Bound has given them the opportunity to see universities up close.

“Upward Bound has helped me understand what my future could be if I go to college compared to if I don’t,” said Barron High School freshman Bethany Bigner, who wants to pursue forensic science or bioengineering.





The Barron Agriscience Department has had an active winter season with activities in the classroom, Supervised Agricultural Experience programs, and leadership development through FFA Activities.

## TREE IDENTIFICATION



Students in the Plants, Woods, and Wildlife classes took advantage of this winter's warmer temperatures and were able to complete tree identification activities in January with little to no snow on the ground! Will Hoveland and Ozker Kunkel were among students practicing their skills in identifying conifers in the schools' forest area near the water tower.

## POINSETTIA PROJECT

Agriscience students took the FFA motto, "Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, and Living to Serve" to heart with our annual poinsettia project. Ag students cared for over 70 poinsettias in the school greenhouse and prepared them with foil covers, outer wrapping and holiday greeting cards for delivery to the Barron Senior Center. The plants were distributed to Barron area Meals on Wheels recipients to spread holiday cheer. This is a favorite project for all students in the ag department, including freshman Will Hoveland.



## HALL OF FAME

FFA members have maintained a busy schedule of leadership development events and activities in the fall and winter months. On October 23rd, FFA members were honored to be a part of the Hall of Fame Induction for Larry Jerome, an FFA Alumni member and longtime supporter of the Barron FFA Chapter and Barron County Junior Livestock Project. We are blessed to have had Larry's support for so many years.



## CAREER EXPO

Five FFA members took part in the 96th National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN October 31st- November 4th. Linsey Balts, Sierra Lien, MaryAnna Charron, Reanna Cook, and Makenna Roske represented Barron FFA and took part in the National Agricultural Career Expo, convention workshops and heard from keynote speakers at Lucas Oil Stadium and the Indiana Convention Center. Members also toured the Horicon Marsh, and Fair Oaks Dairy while enroute to the convention.





## RODEO

FFA members took some time for fun this winter as well! Thirteen members took part in our annual trip to the World's Toughest Rodeo at the Xcel Center in St. Paul. Members earned a discounted trip for reaching specific fruit sale fundraiser goals. The event included

behind the scenes tours, and FFA members Summer Hammann, Thorfin Moe, Brody Hammann, Noah Marvin and Oscar Severson took advantage of this opportunity.



## PUBLIC SPEAKING

FFA members also polished their public speaking skills at the District Leadership Development Events held on February 5th in Rice Lake. Students were greeted by the Wisconsin FFA President, Mary Schreiber; Wisconsin FFA Sentinel, Brooke Wittrock at the contest. Barron contestants included Summer Hammann in Employment Skills, Drew Scheps in Discussion Meet, Noah Marvin- FFA Creed Speaking, and Linsey Balts- Extemporaneous Speaking and Discussion Meet. Summer Hammann, Drew Scheps, and Noah Marvin each placed first in their contest areas and will compete at the Section 1 contest in March.

## SCHOLARSHIP

### Barron FFA Member Receives Grant from National FFA Foundation

Tristan Wigchers of the Barron FFA Chapter was awarded a \$1,000 National FFA Foundation Supervised Agricultural Education (SAE) grant. The grant is a special project of the National FFA Foundation, based in Indianapolis, IN, and required an in depth application to compete with other FFA members from across the United States. Tristan is the son of Samantha Fankhauser and Ben Wigchers of Barron.

Wigchers is a sophomore member of the Barron FFA Chapter. His application was selected from among 1,258 applications nationwide. His SAE project is in the area of sheep production and includes breeding animals and raising market lambs for sale to local buyers.

SAE grants are designed to help FFA members create or expand Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects, a requirement that all FFA members must complete. An SAE requires FFA members to create and operate an agriculture related business, work at an agriculture-related business or conduct an agricultural research experience. Upon

completion, FFA members must submit a comprehensive report regarding their career development experience.

This year 29 different sponsors funded SAE Grants. A full list of sponsors can be found on the National FFA Organization website on the SAE Grants webpage.

The National FFA Organization is a school-based national youth leadership development organization of more than 850,000 student members as part of 9,163 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



# Key Club



A group of BHS Key Club members helped sort and pack gifts for the Toys for Tots program. Working with Barron VFW/VFW Auxiliary members, our Golden Bears spent a day in Rice Lake organizing gifts for an amazing total of 192 local families!



Key Club members participate annually in the Salvation Army's bell ringing campaign. The weather was beautiful to be outside and ring!



## ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL FAMILIES

*\* Important information from Student Services\**

### ACT state standardized test for Juniors

Tuesday, March 26, 2024 all Juniors will take the ACT at Barron High School.  
Grades 9, 10, 12 will NOT have school that day.

### Forward Exam state standardized test for Sophomores

4/3/24: During their Biology class.  
If they do not have a section of Biology, we will reach out to them to schedule a time.

### Pre ACT state standardized test for Freshmen and Sophomores

All 9th and 10th grade students will be testing the morning of April 10, 2024  
11th grade students will be making college/career site visits on this day.  
Juniors will be loading buses in AM and will return for 4th hour.  
Seniors will be presenting portfolios or making finishing touches on their portfolio from home.  
You can schedule an appointment with Mrs. Lettner for you need her help on that day.

### Questions?

Contact Student Services (715.537.5627 ext 158) or [nehringb@barron.k12.wi.us](mailto:nehringb@barron.k12.wi.us)

# March

# 2024

Theme of the Month: Conflict Management			NO SCHOOL – Professional Development			1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	9
Start of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Trimester 7:00 6-12 Gr Choir Mid- Winter Concert @ BHS TR: 1 <sup>st</sup> Practice		Elem & RVMS Parent Teacher Conferences 4-7  BHS/RVMS Large Group Festival @ Rice Lake		Elem & RVMS Parent Teacher Conferences 4-7		Read Across America Day	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	16
NO SCHOOL – Spring Break							
4:30 Policy/Personnel Cmte Mtg 6:00 Finance/Facility Cmte Mtg SB: 1 <sup>st</sup> Practice		BHS Band & Choir Nashville/Memphis Trip					
Daylight Savings Time Starts		6:45 am Curriculum/Tech Cmte Mtg					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	23
6:30 School Board Mtg BSBL: 1 <sup>st</sup> Practice GSCR: 1 <sup>st</sup> Practice		R-D Parent's Club Mtg TR: @ UW Stout		TR: @ UW Stout		TR: @ UW Stout	
First Day of Spring							
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	30
Palm Sunday		Junior ACT GSCR: @ Menomonie		TR: @ UW Stout SB: DH		NO SCHOOL	
Easter						Good Friday	
31							



# UPCOMING EVENTS

# April

# 2024

	<p><b>NO SCHOOL – Professional Development</b></p> <p><i>April Fool's Day</i></p>	1	2	<p>5:30 Almena ACE Mtg R-D Spaghetti Feast Fundraiser GSCR: @ Rice Lake</p>	3	4	<p>Shell Lake MS Honor Choir</p>	5	<p>SB: @ Osceola GSCR: @ Baldwin-Woodville</p>	6	<p>BHS: Solo &amp; Ensemble @ Rice Lake HS</p>
7	<p>4:30 Policy/Personnel Cmte Mtg 6:00 Finance/Facility Cmte Mtg SB: @ Somerset BSBL: @ Clayton/Turtle Lake</p>	8	9	<p>6:45 am Curriculum/Tech Cmte Mtg 5:30 BAMS Board Mtg R-D Parent's Club Mtg BSBL: Cameron SB: @ Cameron GSCR: Ashland</p>	10	11	<p>Federated Music Summer Camp Scholarship Auditions</p> <p>BSBL: @ Ashland SB: Ashland GSCR: Spooner</p>	12	<p>BSBL: Hayward SB: @ Hayward GSCR: @ St Croix Central TR: @ Ashland</p>	13	<p><b>PROM</b></p> <p><i>Thomas-Jefferson's Birthday</i></p>
14	<p>6:30 School Board Mtg MSTR: @ Cumberland GSCR: @ Superior</p>	15	16	<p>BSBL: @ St Croix Falls SB: St Croix Falls GSCR: EC North @ Cumberland</p>	17	18	<p><b>BHS Parent Teacher Conferences 4-7</b></p> <p>BSBL: Ladysmith SB: @ Ladysmith TR: @ Cameron GSCR: Washburn</p>	19	<p>BSBL: @ Cumberland SB: Cumberland</p>	20	<p>BSBL: @ Chequamegon</p>
21	<p><b>NO SCHOOL – Professional Development</b></p> <p>BSBL: Northwestern SB: @ Northwestern</p>	22	23	<p>BSBL: @ Cameron SB: Cameron MSTR: @ Bloomer GSCR: @ Hayward TR: @ Baldwin-Woodville</p>	24	25	<p>BHS NHS Senior Banquet</p> <p>TR: @ Ashland GSCR: Osceola</p>	26	<p>BSBL: DH vs Chetek-Weyer SB: DH @ Chetek-Weyer BGF: @ Bloomer GSCR: Amery</p>	27	
28	<p>5:30 5<sup>th</sup> Gr Band &amp; Vocal Concert @ RVMS 6:30 6<sup>th</sup> Gr Band &amp; Vocal Concert @ RVMS TR: Home BSBL: Unity</p>	29	30	<p>2:00 &amp; 7:00 WD 4<sup>th</sup> Gr Program @ BACC BSBL: Ashland SB: @ Ashland TR: @ Amery</p>							<p><b>Theme of the Month: Courteous Cooperation</b></p>



# UPCOMING EVENTS

# May

# 2024

				1	2	3	4
	Theme of the Month: Courteous Cooperation			BAEF Scholarship Applications Due	BAMS: Brat Feed & Book Sale SB: Northwestern TR: Home GSCR: @ Spooner	BSBL: @ Hayward SB: Hayward GSCR: Medford	WSMA State Solo & Ensemble @ UWEC
				May Day			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
	BSBL: St Croix Falls SB: @ St Croix Falls MSTR: Home GSCR: New Richmond @ Cumberland	5:30 Almena ACE Mtg R-D Parent's Club Mtg BSBL: @ Ladysmith SB: @ Ladysmith TR: Home			TR: @ Hayward GSCR: Hayward	BSBL: DH @ Spooner SB: DH vs Spooner GSCR: @ Altoona	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
	4:30 Policy/Personnel Cmte Mtg 6:00 Finance/Facility Cmte Mtg 7:00 BHS Band & Choir Collage Concert SB: Amery BSBL: @ Grantsburg	6:45 am Curriculum/Tech Cmte Mtg 5:30 BAMS Board Mtg BSBL: Cumberland SB: @ Cumberland TR: @ Spooner GSCR: Somerset	BAMS All School Picnic 6:00 Baccalaureate @ BACC 7:00 Senior Banquet @ BHS Commons	BSBL: @ Northwestern 7:00 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Gr Band & Choir Concert @ RVMS	GSCR: @ Lakeland	GSCR: @ Wausau	
Mother's Day						Armed Forces Day	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
	6:30 School Board Mtg TR: Regionals @ Bloomer		Senior Trip	R-D All School Picnic TR: Sectional @ Colby	8:30 am BHS Senior Awards 6:00 BHS Commencement @ BHS Gym		
26	27	28	29	30	31		
	NO SCHOOL – Memorial Day  BHS Band Memorial Day Parade & Cemetery						





In Chad Massie's Outdoor Adventure Class, fishing is just one of the experiences that students get to engage in. The students do more than just fish, they learn about the rules and regulations, fish identification, equipment education, and best of all the cleaning of fish and fish fry as a culminating activity. Many students must use the DNR website for the first time to purchase a license. It's \$5 for a first time purchase. It's also the first time some students have ever pulled a fish through the ice.

The class was fortunate enough to get out three times, the last being an all day outing to Beaver Dam Lake in Cumberland.



# Outdoor Adventures

