

# Bellaire Public Schools



Home of the Eagles

November/December 2012

[www.bellairepublicschools.com](http://www.bellairepublicschools.com)

Volume 33, No. 2

## In This Issue...

Alert Now

Veteran's Day  
Assemblies

Winter Gear

Lost & Found

Walking Track

BPS Preschool &  
Before/After  
School Care

School Picture Retakes

Holiday Programs

Rotary Student  
of the Month

Fire Safety

School Calendar



## Fall is in the Air



There's no mistaking another fabulous fall in Bellaire. Mrs. Smolinski's class excitedly waved goodbye to their Painted Lady butterflies that they enjoyed in their classroom. The first and second graders learned firsthand about the life cycle of a butterfly (top). Mr. and Mrs. Paul Koepke of Trees North generously donated mum plants to students to celebrate the season (left). Plus, fourth graders contributed to Harvest Festival festivities by creating *unique* scarecrows for downtown display (right). What an eventful and enjoyable season... time to make way for winter!

## School Closure Alerts

- Jim Emery,  
Superintendent



After a very wet and colder-than-normal fall, one can only wonder what is ahead of us for winter! Bellaire Public Schools will once again use the Alert Now communication system whenever inclement weather forces the school to close for the day. A school closure or delay message is sent to all “general” phone numbers in the school database. General numbers are typically parents’ home and cell phone numbers. Alert Now calls are normally made between 5:30 and 6:00 a.m. on days when the weather prevents us from safely transporting students to school.

Schools throughout the Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District must make closure or delay decisions much earlier than 5:30 a.m., as buses for center-based special education programs leave Traverse City by 4:30 am to pick up students. This is why you may see that BPS is closed while watching television or listening to the radio prior to receiving an Alert Now phone call.

On very rare occasions, we may have to close school early *during* the school day. This has happened in the past due to power outages, but could also occur if snow plows are removed from routes due to high winds and low visibility. If early school closure is necessary, an Alert Now message will be sent to all “emergency” phone numbers in the database. In this case, messages go to the general contacts (parents’ home and cell numbers) along with others indicated as emergency contacts (often grandparents or neighbors). This is done so that a wider base of people will be aware that students will be returning home at a time different than normal.

### TV stations that will broadcast closures include:

TV 7 & 4  
TV 9 & 10  
Fox Channel 3

### Radio stations that will broadcast closures include:

WKLT (106.7, 97.5, 98.9, 92.5, 94.3)  
WKHQ (105.9, Lite 96, 1270 AM and 1320 AM)  
WTCM  
WCCW (Oldies 107.5)  
WCBY  
WDIG  
WMJZ (101.5 Gaylord)



## Salute to Veterans

BPS students will honor those who have served in the U.S. military during Veteran’s Day assemblies. Elementary students will celebrate on November 9 at 1:00 p.m., and middle/high school students celebrate November 12 at 10:00 a.m. The community is cordially invited to join in.

## Winter Weather Gear



As northern Michigan winter weather arrives, students need to be prepared with all the appropriate outdoor gear to keep them warm and comfortable. Please send children to school with a warm jacket, boots, hat, gloves and snowpants. As the temperature and conditions fluctuate, students will be allowed to leave winter gear in lockers if it is not necessary.

Please remember to label all winter items with the student’s name, as many boots, gloves, etc. look alike.

If a family is struggling to make room in the budget for this important winter gear, contact Mrs. Poel for assistance.



## School Sleds

Students are permitted to keep a sled at school for winter playground time on the elementary hill. If you plan to purchase a sled for your student, please be aware that *only roll-up sleds are allowed*. Label sleds clearly with student’s name *and* teacher’s name in large black letters.

## Lost and Found



Please label student belongings that are brought to school (hats, mittens, lunch boxes, sleds, personal books, etc.). Items are left behind frequently, but when properly labeled, they make it back to their owners more easily. Unclaimed lost and found items will be donated to Goodwill or Nifty Thrifty at the end of each nine-week marking period. Please check the lost and found each time you visit the school.



## Settle in with a Good Book

Elementary students enjoy finding a cozy spot to stretch out and get extra comfortable with reading.



## BPS is a Walking Zone!

Bellaire Public School maintains a wonderful walking track that is open to the public for climate controlled, well-lit exercise. Consider taking advantage of this community asset to stay fit and healthy.



The track circles the upper balcony of the high school gym and is open when school is in session. The BPS web site features a walking track calendar updated regularly, listing open times. In general, the track is open 7:00 - 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. daily. However, when there are school athletic events scheduled, the track is closed. During winter months, the track may be opened to walkers some afternoons prior to athletic events.

Check out [www.bellairepublicschools.com](http://www.bellairepublicschools.com) for up-to-date track times. Please sign in at the office during the morning track hours so the school is aware of who is in the building while students are present.

## Background Checks



For the safety of students, all school chaperones and volunteers are required to have background checks. You can pick up a form in either building office. Thank you for cooperating with this important guideline.

## Bellaire Preschool



Kalkaska Memorial Healthcare provides preschool for children **3-5 years of age** at John R. Rodger Elementary School. The emphasis at Bellaire Preschool will be on early literacy skills through a daily literacy based curriculum and school readiness in the forms of social and emotional advancement. They will also be working on cognitive skills, as the children demonstrate that they are developmentally prepared to pursue them.

The cost is \$3.00 per hour and the schedule is flexible week-to-week. It is not too late to sign up! Contact Tonya Dupuie at [TDupuie1@mhc.net](mailto:TDupuie1@mhc.net) or call (231) 533-8916 x285.

## Before/After School Care

Kalkaska Memorial Healthcare will provide Kid's Club before/after school care for students ages 4 - 12 at John R. Rodger Elementary School. Childcare is available from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m., and from 3:02 to 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$2.00 per hour and scheduling is flexible. Contact Tonya Dupuie at [TDupuie1@mhc.net](mailto:TDupuie1@mhc.net) or call (231) 533-8916 x285.



## Autumn Colors

First graders Christopher and Zeb are all smiles as they cradle their colorful mum plants. Every student took home the beautiful fall flowers, compliments of Trees North.

## School Picture Retakes



MS/HS - Tuesday, November 13  
Elementary - Wednesday, November 14

## Holiday Programs



Mark your calendars for these upcoming **holiday music and band events!** More information will be sent home with students as the dates approach.

**High School**  
Band Concert

Tues., December 4, 7 p.m.  
Performing Arts Center

**Middle School**  
Band Concert

Wed., December 5, 7 p.m.  
Performing Arts Center

### Elementary

Holiday Program  
Wed., December 19, 7 p.m.  
High School Gym

## School Meal Accounts

You can access your child's food service account balance and/or add money to the account electronically at [sendmoneytoschool.com](http://sendmoneytoschool.com). If you already have an account it will be the same this year. To set up a new account, please follow the instructions online.

## Email Newsletter Delivery

The Bellaire Public Schools newsletter is distributed electronically every two months. Printed copies are available at school offices, public library, Senior Center, and the Bellaire Chamber of Commerce. To receive the newsletter via email, contact Bellaire Public Schools at 533-8141 to add your email address to the database.

# October Rotary Club Student of the Month

Congratulations to Michael Albers, selected as the October Rotary Student of the Month. Son of Steve and Ann Albers, Michael maintains a GPA of 3.975 and is ranked first in his class. He has been on the "All A's" honor roll throughout his high school career. Michael has also been honored by Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District with a Math and Science Award as well as recipient of the BHS Social Studies Department Award.



Michael Albers

A member of the Bellaire High School student council and National Honor Society, Michael plans and runs school activities, takes charge of recycling efforts, and volunteers at the Bellaire Youth Center and Meadowbrook. In his free time, Michael enjoys hunting, fishing and golfing.

Michael plans to attend Michigan State University next year to study agriculture, with an emphasis in viticulture.



Left to Right: Emma Ramsey, Quentin Baeckeroot, Juden Love, Salar Hassan

## Focus on Fire Safety

Thank you to the Bellaire Fire Department for educating students on fire safety in case of an emergency.

Bellaire Public Schools Newsletter, Vol. 33, No.2, November/December 2012. This newsletter is produced five times a school year for parents, residents and taxpayers in the Bellaire Public School District. The newsletter is published by the Bellaire Board of Education:

Tony Martinek	Scott Steiner
Patricia Savant	Timothy Underwood
Robert Silk	Walt Mann
Mike Robinson	

Newsletter editing and layout is provided by the Information Services Department, Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District. Comments and inquiries about the newsletter should be directed to James Emery, Superintendent, Bellaire Public Schools, 533-8141.

The following is a directory of school administrators:  
 James Emery, Superintendent/High School Principal, 533-8141  
 Kristi Poel, Elementary/Middle School Principal, 533-8916  
 Eric Matusik, Food Services, 533-8141

# Bellaire Public Schools Common Calendar 2012 - 2013

- Nov 2 End of First Marking Period
- 5 No School for Students
- Regional Staff Development Day
- 21-23 No School - Thanksgiving Recess (Wednesday - Friday)
- 26 School Resumes
- Dec 24-31 No School - Winter Recess
- Jan 1-4 No School - Winter Recess
- 7 School Resumes
- 18 Half Day for Students
- End of First Semester
- Feb 11 Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30 - 7:45 p.m.
- 18 Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- Mar 21 End of Third Marking Period
- 22-31 No School - Spring Recess
- Apr 1 No School - Spring Recess
- 2 School Resumes
- May 27 No School - Memorial Day
- June 5 Half Day for Students - Exams
- 6 Half Day for Students
- Last Day of School
- 7 Graduation 7:00 p.m.

### Regular School Day Schedule:

Elem 8:05 a.m. - 3:02 p.m.  
 MS/HS 8:00 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.

### ½ Day School Schedule:

Elem 8:05 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
 MS/HS 8:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

## Board of Education Meeting Dates for 2012-2013


Meeting Location: Bellaire Middle/High School  
 Performing Arts Center  
 204 W.Forest Home Ave.  
 Bellaire, MI 49615

Time: All meetings are scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

- Mon., November 12, 2012 ..... Regular Business Meeting
- Mon., December 10, 2012 ..... Regular Business Meeting
- Mon., January 14, 2013 ..... Regular Business Meeting
- Mon., February 11, 2013 ..... Regular Business Meeting
- Mon., March 11, 2013 ..... Regular Business Meeting
- Mon., April 8, 2013 ..... Regular Business Meeting
- Mon., May 13, 2013 ..... Regular Business Meeting
- Mon., June 10, 2013 ..... Regular Business Meeting
- Mon., July 8, 2013 ..... Regular Business Meeting\*

\*This meeting will include Board of Education organizational agenda items for the 2013-2014 school year.

# November/December 2012

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
 <p><i>May your holiday season be joyous and bountiful!</i></p>			<b>November</b> 1 MS G BB @ Pellston	2 MHSAA VB District Final @ Bellaire	3	
			5 MS G BB @ Mancelona	6 MS B BB v Mancelona	7 MS G BB @ Forest Area	8 MS B BB v Forest Area
12 Board of Education Meeting MS/HS Veteran's Day Assembly MS B BB @ Jo'Burg MS G BB v Jo'Burg	13	14 MS G BB v Central Lk	15 MS B BB @ Central Lk	16	17	
19 MS B BB @ Forest Area	20 MS B BB v Pellston MS G BB v Pellston	No School Thanksgiving Recess			23	24
26 MS B BB @ Mancelona	27 MS G BB v Mancelona	28	29 MS B BB v Jo'Burg	30	<b>December</b> 1	
3 MS B BB v Central Lk V G BB @ Boyne Falls	4 HS Winter Band Concert	5 MS Winter Band Concert	6 V B BB v Ellsworth	7 V G BB @ Central Lk	8	
10 Board of Education Meeting MS B BB @ Pellston	11 V B BB v Boyne Falls	12 V G BB v Inland Lks	13 V B BB v Central Lk	14 V G BB @ Forest Area	15	
17	18 V B BB @ Suttons Bay V G BB v Jo'Burg	19 Elementary Holiday Program	20 V B BB @ Forest Area	21	22	
24	25	26	27	28	29	
No School Winter Recess						
31 No School Winter Recess School Resumes 7	<b>January</b> 1	2	3	4	5	
No School Winter Recess						

**Dates & Times Subject to Change**

Regular School Day Schedule:  
 Elem 8:05 - 3:02  
 MS/HS 8:00 - 2:50

½ Day School Schedule:  
 Elem 8:05 - 12:00  
 MS/HS 8:00 - 11:45

## Free Breakfast

All students in Grades K-5 may eat free school breakfast each weekday morning. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day, so kick-start your day in a healthy way!

## Meal Prices

### Breakfast

Grades K-5	Free
All other grades	\$1.35
Elementary Lunch	\$2.15
Secondary Lunch	\$2.40
Adult	\$3.35

No person because of race, color, national origin, sex, age or handicap shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in our United States Department of Agriculture donated food and nutrition programs. Any persons who believes he/she has been discriminated against should write immediately to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

## School Meal Program

Free and reduced cost of the school breakfast and lunch program is available to families meeting income eligibility requirements. If your family status changes at any time throughout the school year, you are eligible to apply. If you qualify, your children can receive food services at reduced or no cost. You can complete an application online by visiting the following website: [www.lunchapp.com](http://www.lunchapp.com). You may also find applications at the school office.

## Bellaire Public Schools



**HOME  
OF THE  
EAGLES**