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Giving Thanks...

Special thanks to the Bellaire Conservation Club for donation of the media center magazine subscription!

Also, many thanks to the PTO for hosting the Book Fair, Box Tops fundraiser, and Holiday Store!

Holiday Musical Extravaganza



The spirit of the holidays filled the air as students young and old performed the music of the season. Their performances were a joyful way to lead into a restful two-week break.



Santa's Helpers at BPS

The Parent Teacher Organization set up shop for the annual Holiday Store. Students are welcomed to the festive shopping area for browsing and gift purchases. Pictured, Katie and

Kiersten happily select gifts for family members. As always, gift wrapping is provided free of charge by the PTO volunteers. Shown at left is an assembly line of parent wrappers and shoppers who are checking their lists... twice.





Superintendent's Notes - Jim Emery, Superintendent

School Board Recognition Month

January is School Board Recognition Month and Bellaire Public Schools joins other Michigan local and intermediate school districts to thank these volunteers for their dedication to public education.

Bellaire board members devote countless personal hours to attend school committee meetings and functions, and prepare for important decisions. The job is difficult; staying abreast of the changes that impact education is time consuming. Our board members are committed individuals who strive to see that our students are successful.

Showing appreciation for the important work of school boards should be a *year-round* process! If you happen to see one of the following board members, please take a moment to thank them: Scott Steiner, Rob Silk, Patti Savant, Mike Robinson, Tony Martinek, Jr., Walt Mann, and Peter Wendling.

The Year So Far...

The first half of the school year will wrap up with the end of the semester on January 24. So far, the year has been a very successful one in many ways. Academically, 87% of middle school students (97 of 112) made the honor roll during the first marking period. At the high school, 59% of students (90 of 152) earned a certificate. Three high school students have been recognized by the staff as Rotary Students of the Month, and one won the Traverse City Daughters of the American Revolution essay contest. Ten seniors earned Academic All-State honors from their sports' coaches associations.

The music program continues to be outstanding, having just finished their holiday programs and preparing for the upcoming concert seasons. Athletic teams had a great fall with numerous athletes earning All-Conference, All-District, All-Region, and even All-State accolades. Students throughout our district should also be applauded for their community service achievements – blood drives, food drives, making blankets for the baby pantry, and ushering in the holiday season downtown. Bellaire is blessed with outstanding young citizens.



Spreading Good Cheer

Bellaire Elementary students braved the cold temperatures to carol during the Village of Bellaire's Light Up the Night celebration.

Coaches Needed

Bellaire Public Schools is seeking job applicants to fill three coaching positions: **Varsity Softball Coach, Varsity Soccer Coach, and MS Track Coach**

Preferred qualifications for each position include:

- Previous athletic experience
- Experience *coaching* softball/soccer/track
- First aid/CPR certification
- Ability to work well with students and parents

Required work hours include afternoons, evenings, and weekends. To apply for a coaching position, send a letter of interest to the address below by 3:00 p.m. on January 22, 2014.

Brad Fischer
Bellaire Public Schools
204 W. Forest Home Ave.
Bellaire, MI 49615



Team Learning

Five first grade students teamed up with five fifth grade students for a reading extension project to enhance learning and teaching. Students completed research on bats and created "learning posters." The buddies then presented what they learned to both classes.

Bellaire Public Schools Newsletter, Vol. 34, No.3, January/February 2014. 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	Robert Silk	Scott Steiner
Patricia Savant	Mike Robinson	Walt Mann
		Peter Wendling

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

School Closure Alerts

School closures may be announced via these stations:

Television	Radio	
TV 7 & 4	WKLK (97.5, 98.9)	The Bear (98.1)
TV 9 & 10	WKHQ (105.9)	Big Country (102.9)
Fox 3	Lite 96 (96.3)	Real Rock (105.1)
	WMKT (102.3/1270)	WQEZ (95.5, 106.3)
	ESPN (1320 AM)	WTCM (93.5, 103.5)
		WCBY (100.7/1240)



Magical Air

“Dumpster Doug” was assisted by kindergartener, “Marleigh the Magician” to showcase how planting trees helps clean our air and supports our environment. The PTO sponsored the environmental assembly entitled “Pollution Solution” for kindergarten through fifth grade students.

Winter Weather Gear

Please send students to school with winter weather gear for outdoor play. They should have a warm jacket, boots, hat, gloves and snowpants each day. Students are allowed to leave gear in lockers if it is not necessary. Remember to label all items with the student’s name. If a family is struggling to make room in the budget for winter gear, contact Mrs. Poel for assistance.



School Sleds



Students are permitted to keep a sled at school for playground time on the elementary hill. **Only roll-up sleds are allowed.** Label sleds with student’s name **and** teacher’s name in large letters.



Lost and Found

Labeling belongings that are brought to school (hats, mittens, lunch bags, books) makes it easier to find lost or forgotten items. Unclaimed items will be donated to Goodwill or Nifty Thrifty at the end of each nine-week marking period. Please check lost and found each time you visit the school.

Preschool Options at BPS

BPS offers **three** on-site preschool programs for young children: Headstart is available for youngsters ages three to five years, and is a fee-based program for qualifying families. Traditional preschool is a fee-based program for three to five-year-olds. Great Start Readiness Program for four year-olds is **free** for qualifying families. Contact Tonya Dupuie at 533-8916 x285 for schedules and to learn how to qualify.



Before/After School Care

Kalkaska Memorial Healthcare provides Kid’s Club before/after school care **and snow day care** for students ages 4 - 12 at John R. Rodger Elementary School. Hours are 7:00 to 8:00 a.m., and 3:02 to 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$2 per hour with flexible scheduling. Contact Tonya Dupuie at TDupuie1@mhc.net or call 533-8916 x285.



Bellaire Public Schools Common Calendar 2013 - 2014

Dec	23-31	No School - Winter Recess
Jan	1-3	No School - Winter Recess
	6	School Resumes
	24	Half Day for Students
		End of First Semester
Feb	17	No School - Mid-Winter Recess
Mar	28	End of Third Marking Period
	31	No School - Spring Recess
Apr	1-4	No School - Spring Recess
	7	School Resumes
	9	Elem/MS/HS Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:45 p.m.
	10	Elem/MS/HS Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:30 p.m.
	18	No School - Good Friday
May	26	No School - Memorial Day
June	3	Half Day for Students (Exams)
	4	Half Day for Students - Last Day
	6	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.

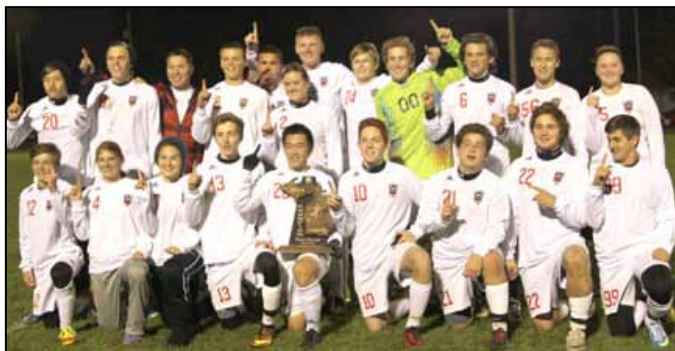


Free or Reduced Cost Meals

A free and reduced cost school breakfast and lunch program is available to families meeting income eligibility requirements. If you qualify, your children can receive food services at reduced or no cost. Families may complete an application online by visiting lunchapp.com. You may also obtain applications in the school office.

School Meal Accounts

You can access your child’s food service account balance and/or add money to the account electronically at 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.



Stand-Out Student Athletes

With an outstanding record of 24 wins and only two losses, the Bellaire soccer team completed the season with a host of honors:

- Conference champion
- First-ever MHSAA District title
- MHSAA Regional title and
- Runner-up at the MHSAA Division IV State Semifinals

Despite a 3-2 loss to Grand Rapids Covenant Christian in the State Semifinals, the team was thrilled with its many successes. Selected to the All-State team were Denny Hall (first team), Hunter Rowe (second team), and Drew Emery (honorable mention). In addition, six seniors earned Academic All-State recognition for having a 3.5 grade point average or better: MacKenzie Ciganick, Drew Emery, Denny Hall, Colin May, Alec Stilwell, and Johanna Westerhof.



Volleyball Honorees

On and off the court, the Bellaire varsity volleyball team had a great year. Performing well as a team, the ladies also excelled academically. Pictured above, seniors Madalyn Balon, Gillian Nevarez, Samantha Niepoth, and Renee LaLone have an overall combined grade point average of 3.596, and each of them qualified for individual Academic All-State honors. Bellaire is proud of *all* its athletes' hard work and dedication.

Email Newsletter Delivery

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

Financial Aid Workshop



Bellaire seniors and their parents are invited to attend a financial aid/FAFSA workshop on Monday, January 13 in the high school computer lab from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Northwestern Michigan College financial aid representatives will be present to assist parents and students as they begin the very important process of applying for postsecondary education financial aid. The session will include review of the FAFSA form. Contact Dave Lewandowski at dlewandowski@bellaire.k12.mi.us, or call him at 533-8015 x226 with questions.



Amazing Artists

Mrs. Graham's middle and high school art students chose a realistic animal face to draw with pencil, then added color with oil pastels. The project encouraged the young artists to focus on balance and texture. The amazing results showed students' careful use of different shades and tints of colors to show the animals' furry, feathery, and leathery details.



Fifth Grade Swim Lessons

Thanks to a partnership coordinated by school nurse Sue Coen, Shanty Creek and the Charlevoix County Pool offered Bellaire fifth graders the opportunity to take swim lessons to improve their personal safety and confidence in the water. In this region surrounded by water, it is wise for children to be familiar with swimming skills and prepared in an emergency. In addition to safety, swimming is also a great way to improve motor skills and fitness.

January/February 2014

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		January 1	2	3	4
No School Winter Recess					Bowl @ Lucky Jacks Hockey v Grandville
				V B BB v Hillman Hockey v Cadillac	
6 School Resumes	7 V B BB @ Inland Lks Ski @ Crystal Mt	8 V G BB @ Jo'Burg Hockey @ Alpena	9 V B BB v Forest Area	10 V G BB @ Gaylord SM Hockey v Petoskey	11 Bowl @ Lucky Jacks Hockey v Tri-Valley Titans
13 Board of Education Meeting	14 V B BB @ Jo'Burg Ski @ Crystal Mt	15 V G BB v Pellston	16 V B BB @ Gaylord SM	17 V G BB v Onaway Ski v Elk Rapids & TCSF (Schuss) Hockey v GP Univ Liggett	18 Bowl @ Lucky Jacks Hockey v Saginaw Eisenhower
20 V G BB @ Ellsworth Ski @ Crystal Mt	21 V B BB v Pellston Ski @ Grayling Invite	22 V G BB v Lake Leelanau SM Hockey @ Cheboygan	23 V B BB v Onaway	24 Half Day of School End of 1st Semester V G BB @ Mancelona	25 Bowl @ Lucky Jacks Hockey @ TC West
27	28 V G BB v Inland Lks Ski @ Schuss	29 V B BB v Northport Hockey @ Manistee	30 V G BB @ Central Lk	31 V B BB @ Mancelona Hockey v Gaylord	February 1 Bowl @ Lucky Jacks Hockey v TC Central
3	4 V G BB v Jo'Burg Ski Conference Finals @ Crystal Mt	5 V B BB v Inland Lks	6 6th Grade Trip to Camp Hayo-Went-Ha V G BB @ Forest Area	7 V B BB v Central Lk Hockey @ Mattawan	8 Bowl @ Lucky Jacks Hockey @ Forest Hills Northern
10 MHSAA Ski Regional @ Schuss Board of Education Meeting	11 V G BB @ Pellston	12 V B BB v Jo'Burg	13 V G BB v Gaylord SM	14 V B BB @ Forest Area Hockey NMHL Tourney Bowl @ Lucky Jacks	15 Bowl @ Lucky Jacks Hockey NMHL Tourney
17 No School Mid-Winter Recess	18 V G BB v Mancelona	19 V B BB @ Pellston	20 V G BB @ Onaway	21 V B BB v Gaylord SM	22
24 MHSAA Ski Finals @ Nubs Nob	25 V B BB v Mancelona	26	27 V B BB @ Onaway	28	March 1
3	4	5	6	7	8
10 Board of Education Meeting	11	12	13	14	15

Dates & Times Subject to Change

Free Breakfast

All students in Grades K-5 will have the opportunity to eat breakfast for free each weekday morning. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. 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 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. An application is available online at www.lunchapp.com. You may also find applications in the school office.

Bellaire Public Schools



Home of the Eagles

Regular School Day Schedule:

Elem 8:05 - 3:02

MS/HS 8:00 - 2:50

Half Day School Schedule:

Elem 8:05 - 12:00

MS/HS 8:00 - 11:45

.....Bellaire Rotary Club Students of the Month.....

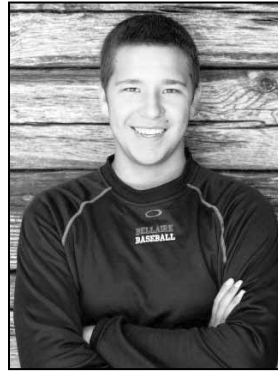
Alec Stilwell

The Bellaire Rotary Club Student of the Month for November is Alec Stilwell. Alec is the son of Brad and Judy Stilwell. Alec is a well-rounded student, maintaining a busy schedule of academics, athletics and service.

As vice president of the senior class, Alec demonstrates great ambition and energy. He is a disciplined athlete and is a member of the varsity soccer and baseball teams. Adding to the diversity of his interests, Alec is also a member of the high school band.

Amidst his many extracurricular commitments, Alec manages to prioritize his academic responsibilities with a current grade point average of 4.0. His favorite fields of study are science and technology. As a student in the TBAISD Career-Tech Center's highly challenging Manufacturing Technology Academy, he is able to focus on his favorite subjects. For additional hands-on education, Alec spent a summer as an intern at the Antrim Conservation District monitoring the lakes in the area for the Three Lakes Association.

As a long-time, dedicated Boy Scout, Alec is on his way to earning the revered Eagle Scout status. The community is grateful for his fundraising and hard work to improve the Bellaire baseball park. His Eagle Scout project included plans to paint the dugouts and concession stand, level the batting cage and make repairs to the storage shed. Alec is a model student and community member, well-deserving of this Rotary Club honor.



Mackenzie Ciganick

Mackenzie Ciganick, daughter of Pam and Dave Ciganick, was selected as the December Rotary Student of the Month by the Bellaire Rotary Club. She is an exemplary student and an outstanding individual. Throughout high school, she has been involved in many school activities and service, while remaining on the all-A's honor roll, earning a current grade point average of 3.98.



Mackenzie's leadership skills are reflected in her work preventing drug use with Antrim County Youth Organization, and as student representative with the Bellaire Athletic Council. As a member of the National Honor Society she has served two years with community activities such as Bellaire's "Light up the Night" and local blood drives. Mackenzie's warm personality and contagious sense of humor is appreciated by all.

Academically, Mackenzie sets high standards, demonstrating critical thinking and detail orientation, resulting in outstanding work. She plans to study pre-med/biology at Notre Dame College in Cleveland, and aspires to become a physician's assistant before working toward a doctorate degree.

During her three years as a track team member, she was an All-Conference, All-Region athlete, for which she has been awarded a college scholarship. A four-year soccer player, the team took the conference title and became regional champs. Mackenzie's endless determination, positive attitude, and dependability has earned the respect of teachers, coaches, and peers.

Good Citizens Award

The Job Winslow Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will honor Sierra Kintigh in April as the first place winner of the Good Citizens Award. Her academic achievements, leadership, and service made her a leading candidate for the award.

Sierra has served as a member, secretary, and currently as vice president of Student Council. She is also president of the National Honor Society. Her philanthropic involvement includes Friends of the Jordan River, tutoring, blood drives, and AC Paw Animal Rescue. As band member, yearbook editor, and captain of the cross country and track teams, dependability and leadership is modeled by the busy senior.

DAR will present Sierra a \$250 award and send her along to the state-level competition with DAR. After graduation, she plans to study pre-med in the Lyman Briggs program at Michigan State University.

Board of Education Meeting Dates for 2013-2014

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., January 13, 2014.....Regular Business Meeting
Mon., February 10, 2014Regular Business Meeting
Mon., March 10, 2014.....Regular Business Meeting
Mon., April 14, 2014.....Regular Business Meeting
Mon., May 12, 2014.....Regular Business Meeting
Mon., June 9, 2014.....Regular Business Meeting
Mon., July 14, 2014Regular Business Meeting*

*This meeting will include Board of Education organizational agenda items for the 2014-2015 school year.