

# Bellaire Public Schools



Home of the Eagles

January • February 2016

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

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## First Snow!

Grown-ups probably remember looking forward to the first snow of the season and the fun of playing outdoors in the crisp air. Well, these Bellaire students feel the same way. The enthusiasm for the wintry white stuff is written all over their faces!



## Holiday Cheer

The gifts of musical talent and glad tidings were shared by Bellaire Public School students with the entire community during their annual holiday concerts. High school band and choir, middle school band, and elementary students performed many favorites sure to inspire holiday cheer.

Visit our new  
website

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

## From the Desk of Mr. Emery



Last year at this time, we already had four winter weather-related school cancellations. Yet we look outside today and see green and wonder if the grass needs mowing! Winter in northern Michigan can bring about surprising conditions and I'm sure we'll be dusting off the snowblowers, skis and such soon enough. If school must be cancelled for any reason, we will use School Messenger to announce the cancellation, along with posting the announcement on the school website and on local television news programs.

### School Board Appreciation

The month of January marks the annual observance of School Board Recognition Month. School board members come from a variety of backgrounds, yet they share a common goal: to help students achieve in school and in life. As a state, Michigan has faced many challenges, but the key to a brighter future is a strong public education system.

Public education is the backbone of American society and local school boards are deeply rooted in U.S. tradition. It's the foundation on which our democracy was built. Today local school boards continue to do the most important work of their communities -- that of educating our youth.

Showing appreciation for the work of school boards should be a year-round process. If you see a Bellaire Public Schools Board member, please recognize their hard work and dedication to our students and families.

### Thank You BPS School Board Members

Rob Silk  
Patti Savant  
Mike Robinson  
Tony Martinek, Jr.  
Walt Mann  
Peter Wendling  
Aimee George

### New School Website

The school district has been working on a new website for the past few months and the Board of Education is happy to announce that the site is up and running. Please visit

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

*The school district website is the only official place to find information about our schools and district. Please bookmark it and visit often.*

## Goal of Giving Back

BHS Student Council's Holiday Workshops have been taking place for 20 years with the goal of giving back to the community. The project has been making fleece blankets for the Antrim County Baby Pantry in Mancelona. Student Council members, the entire student body, and staff will donate blankets to more than 125 families this year. Antrim Baby Pantry board member Cathy Kestner says, "It is fun to watch the children pick out their very special blankets to bring home."

Great Lakes Energy generously donated \$1,000 to Student Council through its Peoples Fund. This grant helped purchase far more fleece than the group would have been able to afford otherwise. Great Lakes Energy members are encouraged to participate in the Peoples Fund "round up" in support of service groups like Student Council. Peoples Fund participants can donate \$0.99 each month to the fund, which equates to an annual donation of \$11.88 per participant.

Jo-Ann Fabrics in Traverse City is another supporter of the Student Council project by providing the fleece material at a discount so the students can afford more fleece for more blankets. Store employees prepare a mountain of material for easy and fast pick-up.



## Honors Band

Following rigorous auditions in November, four Bellaire High School band members were selected to participate in the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (MSBOA) Honors Band. Isaac Bigsby (oboe), Erin Emery (French horn), CJ Miller (bass clarinet) and Maggie Rathke (alto saxophone) spent the first weekend in December in Petoskey practicing new music and performing in the Honors Band concert which featured 90 of northern Michigan's finest young musicians.

MSBOA's primary purpose is to advance quality music education through the study and performance of instrumental music. The organization's many musical festivals support music students' and instructors' growth and development.





## Museum to Go

John R. Rodger Elementary students enjoyed a fun learning experience thanks to Raven Hill Discovery Center’s “Museum to Go” service. Raven Hill was awarded grant funding to support science and history education. They came to the school equipped with sound-producing devices and simple machines for the students explore. The experience allowed kids to connect what they learn with hands-on creative tools.



## Works of Art

*Middle school art students showcase their stunning and intricate monochromatic owl collages.*



## Historians at Work

Fifth grade students and teachers concentrate their social studies time on learning American history. Pictured above, small groups of kids work together to gather information about the first colonies that settled in the New World. Throughout the process, each group becomes very well-informed on a different colony. They focus on points such as settlement patterns, how land and climate affected settlement, economics, government and relationships with American Indians.

## School Cancellation Alerts

If school must be delayed or cancelled due to weather conditions, BPS families will receive a phone call notification. An email will also be sent announcing the cancellation or delay. Television stations including TV 7 & 4, TV 9 & 10, and Fox 3 will continue to broadcast closures.

## Student Absences

BPS families will receive a phone call if a student is absent without being excused by a parent or guardian by 10:30 a.m. on the day of the absence. You may excuse a student’s absence any time day or night by calling 231-8015 ext. 324 or 325.



## Winter Gear Notice

There are many winter hats, jackets, boots and snow pants that look alike, so please label them with the owner’s name in case of loss. If you are in need of winter gear for your child please contact Mrs. Poel at 533-8916. Remember, roll-up sleds are the only type of sled permitted at school, and should also be labeled with students’ names.

## Preschool Options

Bellaire Public Schools is pleased to offer three preschool options at John R. Rodger Elementary School: Great Start Readiness Program (4 year-olds) is free for qualifying families; Headstart (3 and 4 year-olds) is a fee-based program for qualifying families; and Preschool (3-5 year-olds) is a fee-based option for all families. Contact Tonya Dupuie at 533-8916 x285 for more information.



## Before/After School & Snow Day Care

Kid’s Club child care is available before and after school at 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. It is also available all day on snow days at John R. Rodger Elementary School. Advance registration is required. For information, contact Tonya Dupuie at 533-8916 x285.



## School Nurse Notes

Bellaire Public School Nurse Sue Coen, RN reminds families that flu season is upon us. Everyone should wash their hands frequently, and stay home from work or school when illness causes a temperature above 100 degrees fahrenheit. Please call the school to report student absences, leaving a message with the reason for absence and type of illness. We request this information as the health department is tracking all illnesses to help our community with its health needs.

## After School Activities

Bellaire Youth Center (BYC) is an after-school program offering elementary and middle school students the opportunity to meet new friends, have a snack, create arts and crafts projects, take guitar lessons, play games, and more. Middle school students experience footgolf at Shanty Creek and the Bellaire Historical Museum. Elementary kids usually meet at school, and sometimes go on field trips to sites such as the Bellaire Library in January. Musician Dan Hall leads students in multimedia and music; plus, BYC kids have opportunities to be active in outdoor and indoor games. Seven new tablets are also available for a fun way to learn math and science. To sign your child up for BYC, or for more information, contact the school office or BYC Director Debbie Goldenberg at [dgoldenberg2@gmail.com](mailto:dgoldenberg2@gmail.com).



## On Stage 4 Kids

Thanks to a large grant and generous donation from the Dockside, Bellaire Public Schools was recently able to host On Stage 4 Kids. The Michigan musician group presented its educational program about the history, songwriting and culture of American music, combining humor, storytelling, live music and audience participation. The musicians included songwriter, instrumentalist and vocalist Mike Lynch; percussionist Michael Shimmin; and Joshua Davis who was third runner up in the television program The Voice. For more information, visit [www.onstage4kids.org](http://www.onstage4kids.org).



## Bellaire Public Schools Common Calendar 2015 - 2016

Dec	23-31	No School - Christmas Recess
Jan	1	No School - Christmas Recess
	4	School Resumes
	22	Half Day for Students
		End of First Semester
Feb	15	No School - Mid-Winter Recess
Mar	15	Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:45 p.m.
	17	Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:30 p.m.
	24	End of Third Marking Period
	25-31	No School - Spring Recess
Apr	1	No School - Spring Recess
	4	No School for Students or Staff
	5	School Resumes
May	30	No School - Memorial Day
June	6	Half Day for Students - Exams
	7	Half Day for Students - Last Day
	10	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. - 11:40 a.m.  
MS/HS 8:00 a.m. - 11:55 a.m.

Additional days may need to be added to the calendar if excessive snow days are used.



## November Rotary Student of the Month

Myles Westerhof, son of Rick and Sigrid Westerhof, was selected by the Bellaire Rotary Club as Student of the Month for November. Myles is a creative learner and has been successful at Bellaire High School. The senior is maintaining a 3.89 grade point average and has been on the All-A Honor Roll for most of high school.



Myles has participated in varsity soccer for four years, varsity track for three seasons, junior varsity basketball for the past two years and will play varsity this year. Outside of school, Myles has volunteered as a camp counselor at "Wow Camp" for six seasons, and is a three-year member of the Antrim County Youth Coalition.

His notable accomplishments include membership on a multiple-award-winning soccer team with Team Academic All-State, Conference Championships, District Championship, Regional Championship, and Final Four one season. Myles is also the vice president of the Bellaire Chapter of the National Honor Society.

## December Rotary Student of the Month

Lindsay Lampman, daughter of Jeff and Karen Lampman, was selected by the Bellaire Rotary Club as Student of the Month for December. With a 3.76 grade point average, she is a talented student and



can be relied upon regularly for volunteer service. Some of the activities in which Lindsay is involved are Quiz Bowl, Student Council, prom committee, and yearbook. She is also a member of National Honor Society and has been class secretary for four years.

Lindsay's service work extends well beyond Bellaire, as a member of the Antrim County Youth Coalition and the St. Luke's Youth Group. As such, she has participated in mission trips to Detroit, South Bend, and Belize, logging more than 100 hours of service in two years.

As athlete and captain in volleyball, basketball, and softball, Lindsay is adept at leading her peers toward a common goal - both on and off the court or field. When she enters college next year, Lindsay plans to continue to work on leadership skills to study education.

### Board of Education Meetings 2015-2016

#### 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., Jan. 25, 2016	Mon., May 23, 2016
Mon., Feb. 22, 2016	Mon., June 20, 2016
Mon., Mar. 21, 2016	Mon., July 25, 2016
Mon., April 25, 2016	

### Email Newsletter Delivery

The Bellaire Public Schools newsletter is distributed electronically and printed copies are available at school offices, public library, Senior Center, and Bellaire Chamber of Commerce. If you would like to receive the newsletter via email, contact Bellaire Public Schools at 533-8015.

Bellaire Public Schools Newsletter, Vol. 36, No.3, January/February 2016. 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	Walt Mann
Patricia Savant	Mike Robinson	Peter Wendling
		Aimee George

Newsletter editing and layout is provided by the Communications Department, Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District. Comments and inquiries about the newsletter should be directed to James Emery, Superintendent, Bellaire Public Schools, 533-8015.

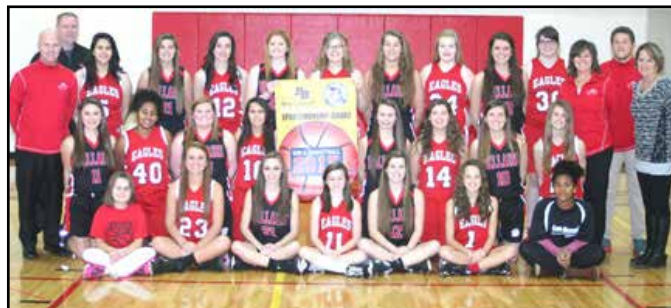
The following is a directory of school administrators:

James Emery, Superintendent/High School Principal, 533-8015  
Kristi Poel, Elementary/Middle School Principal, 533-8916  
Eric Matusik, Food Services, 533-8015 ext. 244

## Sportsmanship Award

The Bellaire 2014-2015 varsity girls basketball team was selected by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan and the MHSAA as a recipient of the Top 100 Sportsmanship Award. Sponsored by Better Basketball, the award recognizes teams whose players, coaches, administrators and fans demonstrate notable sportsmanship throughout the season as reported by MHSAA officials.

The award is based on feedback gathered after each regular season game. Basketball officials who worked the games were asked by MHSAA to evaluate the sportsmanship displayed. At the end of the season the evaluations were ranked for all MHSAA schools. To accompany the award, Bellaire High School also received a beautiful banner showcasing the honor which will be proudly displayed in the gym.



# January - February 2016

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
DECEMBER 21 Board of Education Meeting	22	23	24	25	26
No School Christmas Recess					
28	29	30	31	JANUARY 1	2
No School Christmas Recess					
4 School Resumes	5 V/JV B BB @ Mancelona	6 V/JV G BB @ Inland Lks	7 V/JV B BB v Forest Area	8 V/JV G BB v Gaylord SM	9
11	12 V/JV B BB @ Inland Lks	13 V/JV G BB @ JoBurg	14 V/JV B BB v Gaylord SM	15	16
18 V/JV G BB v East Jordan	19 V/JV B BB @ JoBurg	20 V/JV G BB v Central Lk PTO Meeting	21	22 Half Day of School End of 1st Semester V/JV G BB @ Pellston	23
25 Board of Education Meeting	26 School Spelling Bee V/JV G BB v Onaway	27 V/JV B BB v Central Lk	28 V/JV G BB v Mancelona	29 V/JV B BB @ Pellston	30
FEBRUARY 1 V/JV G BB v Charlevoix	2	3 V/JV B BB v Onaway	4 V/JV G BB v Inland Lakes	5 V/JV B BB v Mancelona	6
8	9 V/JV G BB @ Gaylord SM	10 V/JV B BB @ Forest Area	11 V/JV G BB v Jo'Burg	12 V/JV B BB v Inland Lakes	13
15 No School Mid-Winter Recess	16 Antrim Co. Spelling Bee	17 V/JV B BB @ Gaylord SM PTO Meeting	18 V/JV G BB @ Central Lk	19 V/JV B BB v Jo'Burg	20
22 Board of Education Meeting V/JV G BB @ Boyne City	23 V/JV G BB @ Forest Area	24	25	26	27
29	MARCH 1 V/JV B BB v Ellsworth	2	3 V/JV B BB @ Onaway	4	5

Dates and times subject to change

## Bellaire Public Schools

### Free Breakfast

Students in grades K-5 may have free school breakfast. Start the day in a healthy way!

### Meal Prices

#### Breakfast

Grades K-5	Free
All other grades	\$1.35
Reduced	\$0.30

#### Lunch

Elementary	\$2.30
MS/HS	\$2.50
Reduced	\$0.40
Adult (tax incl.)	\$3.55

#### Milk

Elementary	\$0.35
MS/HS	\$0.50

### Meal Accounts

Student meal accounts are accessible at [sendmoneytoschool.com](http://sendmoneytoschool.com). Balances can be checked and money added electronically. To set up a new account, follow the instructions online.

### Meal Program

Free and reduced cost school breakfast and lunch program is available to families meeting income eligibility requirements. **Families must apply for free/reduced school meals every year.** 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](http://www.lunchapp.com). You may also find applications in the school office.

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.