

# Bellaire Public Schools



Home of the Eagles

January • February 2017

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

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## Sounds of the Season

Bellaire Public School students of all ages wowed the community with their impressive talents and spirit during the annual holiday concerts.



## First Snow... Oh What Fun!



# It's That Time of Year...

- Jim Emery, Superintendent



## Snow Days

*It's that time of the year* when children do their "snow day dance." Students watch the television each morning, hoping to see their district's name flash across the bottom announcing that school is closed for the day. Parents receive the School Messenger phone call with my voice announcing the same. People often wonder why it seems that school districts stay open or close together. There is an easy explanation: school superintendents communicate with each other frequently during the evenings leading up to predicted storms and in the morning when there is inclement weather. The superintendents share what they are seeing across their own districts on questionable mornings. I typically head out by 4:30 a.m. to check the roads during those times, driving 25-30 miles on a normal winter morning because the conditions can vary greatly across our 75 square mile district.

## Basketball Season

*It's that time of year* when the community meets several times a week in the gymnasium for their annual entertainment: basketball season! Basketball has long been a staple for the people of Bellaire thanks to the success of both the boys' and girls' teams. Since 2007-08 when girls' basketball began playing in the winter, there has been the potential for up to four home games a week -- enough for even the most die-hard fans.

## Cold Weather Readiness

*It's that time of year* when it takes extra time at the elementary for students to get ready for school; ready for recess; and ready for their trek home thanks to the cold weather. They need to put on so many extra layers of clothing, boots, hats, and mittens. It's also time to find that roll-up sled for the fun times on John R. Rodger's sledding hill.

## Exams

*It's that time of year* when high school students are thinking about the end of the semester in late January and that means only one thing – exams!

Senioritis kicks in and the most veteran students are busy narrowing down their choices for college (if they haven't done so already), talking to military recruiters, or trying to decide what kind of job they can look forward to after graduation.

## Thankful

*It's that time of year* when we all need to take a minute, take a deep breath and be thankful for everything. It's that time of year when we wish everyone a safe holiday season and a happy new year.

## School Board Member Appreciation Month

The month of January marks the annual observance of School Board Recognition Month. It is a time to show our appreciation and better understand how local trustees work together to prepare today's students to be tomorrow's leaders.

School board members come from a variety of backgrounds, yet they share a common goal -- helping students achieve success in school and life. They are extremely dedicated individuals who face complex and demanding challenges in their position of public trust.

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 important work of school boards should be a year-round process, but we sometimes fail to recognize all of their hard work. January is also the board's organizational month with some board members leaving and others taking their place. Two members that will be missed are veterans Patti Savant and Tony Martinek. Taking their places are new members Christina Dennis and Melissa Dyste. If you happen to see one of the following board members, please take a moment and thank them: Rob Silk, Peter Wendling, Mike Robinson, Aimee George, Walt Mann, Christina Dennis and Melissa Dyste.

# Parent Teacher Conferences

## Wednesday, February 22

Elementary Conferences 4:00 - 7:15 p.m.  
MS/HS Conferences 4:30 - 7:45 p.m.

## Thursday, February 23

Elementary Conferences 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
MS/HS Conferences 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.

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Melissa Dyste    Robert Silk    Walt Mann    Aimee George  
Christina Dennis    Mike Robinson    Peter Wendling

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. Below are school administrators:  
James Emery, Superintendent/High School Principal, 533-8015  
Kristi Poel, Elementary/Middle School Principal, 533-8916  
Jessica Meyers, Food Services, 587-9764 ext. 214





*Fourth graders show off pen pal letters from their new friends in Peterborough, England.*



## Winter Workshops

Winter Workshop day is a seasonal favorite for elementary students. The students are divided into mixed grade level groups to create winter crafts. High school students and parent volunteers join the fun to assist teachers and the youngsters. It is a festive way to exercise creativity and get to know schoolmates of different ages.



*Alayna Elandt gets an upclose look at the salmon "sac fry" the fourth grade class is raising.*



*Phase 1 Art Project*



*Phase 2 Art Project*

## Fine Art in Education

John R. Rodger Elementary School was the recipient of the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) Arts in Education Residency (AIER) grant, designed to introduce and enhance student knowledge and participation in the fine arts. To accomplish this, professional teaching artist, Glenn Wolff is working with Bellaire students. Wolff is a highly-skilled artist from Traverse City whose work is exhibited throughout the United States. He and the young artists are creating a 5' by 7' mural representing bioregionalism. Everyone at school looks forward to the finished product.

Amanda Kik, a founding member of Cross Hatch for Art and Ecology ([crosshatch.org](http://crosshatch.org)), was a tremendous help in securing the grant for the school. She also was instrumental in raising the remainder of funds not covered by the grant.



## Super Spellers

Congratulations to the Bellaire Public School Spelling Bee champs! These spellers will move on to the

Antrim County Spelling Bee on January 25, 6:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. Pictured, back row: Jared Holik (alt.), Cole Robinson (2nd), Danielle Grabruck (1st), Olivia Watrous (3rd) Front row: Kolton Nielsen (4th), Bobbie Paalman (6th), Ayanna Morgan (5th).



## Rotary Student of the Month

The Bellaire Rotary Student of the Month for November is senior Erin Emery, daughter of Jim and Denise Emery. Erin is an outstanding scholar and musician, serving as a great role model for students in the Bellaire community.



Excelling in academics, Erin maintains a 4.0 grade point average and has been recognized for her achievements with induction in the National Honors Society. Her favorite classes are math and music, and she is in her second year of the TBAISD Career-Tech Center's Teacher Academy program.

Erin is an accomplished musician as an instrumentalist and vocalist. She consistently earns top ratings on her French horn at solo festivals and has been selected to play in the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (MSBOA) District 2 Honors Band for the past three years. She was chosen by MSBOA as a Scholar Instrumentalist in 2015.

Community service is another area of focus, as Erin is involved in the Green Cord volunteer program. She also serves as a cantor at her church, as a helper at Meadowbrook, and as a tutor for other Bellaire Public School students.

## CTC Student of the Quarter



success, work ethic and achievement.

Congratulations to senior Gabe Meriwether for being selected as the TBAISD Career-Tech Center Student of the Quarter for the first marking period. Gabe is a second-year student in the Manufacturing Technology Program and was chosen because of his academic



## Honors Band Showcase

In early December, five musicians from the Bellaire High School band attended a workshop and performed in Petoskey with 89 other selected students, representing 19 schools across northern Michigan. Isaac Bigsby, Abigail Boyd, Sierra Butler, Erin Emery, Cassandra Miller, and the other MSBOA District 2 musicians were led by guest conductor Mr. Damien Crutcher, the Chief Executive Officer of Crescendo Detroit.



*Middle School Band Winter Concert*

## Middle School Band

Several members of the middle school band recently participated in the Middle School MSBOA District Solo and Ensemble festival at Boyne City. Four students earned a first Division rating, including Emily Falker (clarinet), and the trio of Jessica Duve (trumpet), Aleah Farmer (flute) and Bella Huffman (alto saxophone).

## Studying and Protecting Local Water

Sophomore Hailey Casillas spent the summer of 2016 working with the Three Lakes Association conducting experiments and gathering data to learn about and help keep area lakes clean. Hailey received a check for \$500 and received a half-credit of environmental science for her efforts.

The mission of the Three Lakes Association is to provide leadership to preserve, protect, and improve the environmental quality of the Elk River Chain of Lakes Watershed for all generations with emphasis on Lake Bellaire, Clam Lake, Torch Lake and their tributaries.





*Mrs. Graham's health class researched nutritious recipes and compiled healthy cookbooks.*

## 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 TV 7 & 4, TV 9 & 10, and Fox 3 will 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 533-8015 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. 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. Any unlabeled, unclaimed gear will be donated at the end of each marking period.

## 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.

### Board of Education Meetings 2016-2017

#### 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. 23, 2017	Mon., May 22, 2017
Mon., Feb. 27, 2017	Mon., June 19, 2017
Mon., Mar. 20, 2017	Mon., July 24, 2017
Mon., April 24, 2017	

# Bellaire Public Schools Common Calendar 2016 - 2017

- Jan 1-2 No School - Christmas Recess
- 3 School Resumes
- 19 Half Day for Students (HS Exams)
- 20 Half Day for Students (HS Exams)
- End of First Semester
- Feb 22 Parent Teacher Conferences
- Elem 4:00-7:15 p.m./MS&HS 4:30-7:45 p.m.
- 23 Parent Teacher Conferences
- Elem 4:00-7:00 p.m./MS&HS 4:30-7:30 p.m.
- 24 Half Day for Students
- Mar 24 Half Day for Students
- End of Third Marking Period
- 27-31 No School - Spring Recess
- Apr 3 School Resumes
- 14 No School - Good Friday
- May 29 No School - Memorial Day
- June 2 Graduation 7:00 p.m.
- 6 Half Day for Students (HS Exams)
- 7 Half Day for Students - Last Day of School

#### 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.

**Six (6) snow days are allowed by the Michigan Department of Education; any additional snow days after those six will need to be made up as additional days to this calendar.**

## Preschool Choices

Kalkaska Memorial Healthcare is pleased to offer three preschool options: 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. Call Tonya Dupuie at 533-8916 x285 for more information.

## Before/After School Care

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

# January - February 2017

## Bellaire Public Schools

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>JANUARY</b> 2 No School Christmas Recess	3 School Resumes B BB @ Mancelona	4 G BB @ East Jordan	5 B BB v Forest Area	6 G BB @ JoBurg	7 Bowling @ Lucky Jacks
9	10 B BB @ Gaylord SM	11 G BB v Oneway	12 B BB @ JoBurg	13 G BB v Pellston	14 Bowling @ Lucky Jacks
16	17 B BB v Oneway	18 G BB @ Gaylord SM	19 Half Day of School HS Exams B BB v Pellston	20 Half Day of School HS Exams End of 1st Semester G BB @ Inland Lks	21 Bowling @ Lucky Jacks
23 Board of Education Meeting	24 G BB v Central Lk	25 Antrim Co. Spelling Bee	26 Antrim Co. Spelling Bee (make-up date)	27 B BB @ Inland Lks	28 Bowling @ Lucky Jacks
30	31 G BB v Mancelona	<b>FEBRUARY</b> 1 B BB v Central Lk	2 G BB @ Forest Area	3	4 Bowling @ Lucky Jacks
6	7 G BB v Gaylord SM	8 B BB v Mancelona	9 G BB v JoBurg	10 B BB @ Forest Area	11 Bowling @ Lucky Jacks
13	14 G BB @ Oneway	15 B BB v Gaylord SM	16 G BB @ Pellston	17 Bowling Conference Singles @ Lucky Jacks B BB v JoBurg	18 Bowling Conference Team @ Lucky Jacks
20	21 G BB v Inland Lks	22 Parent Teacher Conferences B BB @ Oneway	23 Parent Teacher Conferences	24 Half Day of School MHSAA Regional Bowling Team @ Gaylord B BB @ Pellston	25 MHSAA Regional Bowling Singles @ Gaylord
27 Board of Education Meeting	28 B BB v Inland Lks	<b>MARCH</b> 1	2 B BB @ Ellsworth	3 MHSAA Bowling State Finals @ Lansing	4 MHSAA Bowling State Finals @ Lansing
6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18

Dates and times subject to change

**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	\$2.40
MS/HS	\$2.60
Reduced	\$0.40
Adult (tax incl.)	\$3.55
Milk	\$0.50

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.

### 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.

### Newsletter Delivery

The Bellaire Public Schools newsletter is distributed electronically every two months. Printed copies are also available at school offices, public library, Senior Center, and Bellaire Chamber of Commerce. To request the newsletter delivery via email, contact Bellaire Public Schools at 533-8015.