

Bellaire Public Schools



Home of the Eagles

September • October 2013

www.bellairepublicschools.com

Volume 34, No. 1

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Precious Cargo

Elementary Principal Mrs. Kristi Poel welcomed the class of 2026 on their first practice bus ride during the annual KinderClub Program this summer.

School bus safety is important for ALL. Please take time to review guidelines on page three to refresh students and family members on tips that help prevent accidents and ensure students begin and end the school day safe and smart.

Open Houses MI Department of Education "Reward School"

Please plan to attend school open houses on Wednesday, August 28:

**John R. Rodger
Elementary**
5 - 6:30 p.m.

Bellaire Middle/High
5:30 - 7 p.m.

MI Department of Education "Reward School"

For the third consecutive year, John R. Rodger Elementary has been identified by the Michigan Department of Education as a *Reward School*. This recognition is earned by only the top 5% of schools in the state for having the greatest academic progress over the past four years.



NEW Preschool Options at BPS!



BPS is excited to offer two new preschool programs for children ages 3 and 4 years. 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. Contact Tonya Dupuie at 533-8916 x285 for schedules and information about how to qualify.

Studying Fun

Students in second  Study Island[®] through fifth grades are encouraged to take advantage of Study Island, an online program that allows students to practice skills learned in the classroom, challenge themselves, and prepare for state assessments in October. Lessons are presented in a fun format, and progress can be tracked to encourage improvement. Incoming second graders will receive login and password in September. Go to www.studyisland.com from any computer and urge students to spend at least a few hours each week learning online.

First Day
of School
September 3



Welcome Back!

- Jim Emery, Superintendent

Kudos

The Michigan Department of Education announced that John R. Rodger Elementary was again selected as a **Reward School**, an accolade given to only the top 5% of schools (not districts) in the state for the greatest academic progress over the previous four years. This is the third consecutive year that the elementary has been recognized for outstanding student achievement.

Michigan also compiles a **Top-to-Bottom** ranking of schools based on student achievement, graduation rate, dropout rate, attendance, and more. Bellaire MS/HS and John R. Rodger Elementary both earned a very high score of 84%, placing them solidly in the top schools in the state. Congratulations to students, staff and parents!

Preschool

Families of preschool-aged children will be excited to learn that Bellaire preschool will offer several qualifying families FREE preschool. Contact the elementary office to find out if you qualify. An excellent part of our school, preschool ensures that our youngest students are well prepared for kindergarten.

Budget Approval

Despite the District's challenging financial situation for the past two years, our students continue to be offered the best educational opportunities. Due to declining enrollment, cuts by the State, and increased fixed-costs, the District was forced to approve a deficit budget during the 2011-12 school year. That required us to formulate a plan to work back into the black within two years. Since

that time, Michigan Department of Education has reviewed monthly reports detailing our progress toward the goal of getting out of deficit. At the June 2013 Bellaire Board of Education meeting, a deficit-free 2012-2013 budget was approved. A 2013-2014 budget was proposed at that same meeting indicating that the District would remain on the positive side. Accomplishing this budgetary goal was an enormous task and we sincerely thank the Board of Education, Bellaire staff, parents, students, and community for their hard work and dedication.

Education Quality and Open Enrollment

Bellaire Public Schools places high priority on quality education for our students. We stress the importance of maintaining a low student-to-teacher ratio. Although class size has crept upward in recent years due to school budget constraints on new staff hiring, the Board of Education decided at its July meeting to limit open enrollments/school of choice process. For the 2013-2014 school year, requests will only be considered for students entering kindergarten, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 12th grades.

Annual Education Report

Each summer, Bellaire Public Schools assembles the **Annual Education Report (AER)**, highlighting the accomplishments of the previous school year. To assure compliance with federal standards, we follow the suggested format and post the AER and individual school building reports on our website. The 2012-2013 AER can be found at www.bellairepublicschools.com. If you have questions about the reports, please contact the office.

First Day of School - Tuesday, September 3

While many sport teams have already competed in their first contests of the fall season, school officially begins on Tuesday, September 3 as a full day of classes. Looking forward to a great new school year!

Principal's Welcome

- Kristi Poel, Elementary & Middle School Principal

Welcome to the 2013-2014 school year! It is a privilege to be the principal and I am honored to work with our highly qualified and dedicated staff, outstanding students, and our team of supportive parents. Bellaire Public Schools is exceptional in many ways, some of which include academics, fine arts, athletics, PTO, and curriculum. We are committed to all children and provide many opportunities for them to reach their potential. The school buildings look amazing and are ready for students to arrive on Tuesday, September 3. I look forward to a successful school year. If you have questions or concerns please call me.



October MEAP Testing

MEAP tests will be administered in October to third through ninth grade students. Students in third through eighth grade will be tested in reading and math, with additional tests in science for fifth and eighth grade students, and writing for fourth and seventh grade students. Ninth graders will be tested in social studies. Go to www.michigan.gov/mde for detailed information.

School Bus Safety



Getting children to and from school safely each day is serious business.

Every year, thousands of children are injured in school bus-related accidents. Many of these accidents can be prevented if children know and follow these rules for bus safety:

- **Rushing** When children are late for the bus, they can lose sight of safety, resulting in accidents. Set your morning routine so that children arrive at the bus stop ten minutes before the bus is due.
- **Stay in the safe zone** Bus drivers have blind spots because of bus design and many children have been injured because the bus driver simply didn't see them. Tell children to stay in the "safe zone"—at least 10 feet in front of the bus.
- **Save the horseplay** Goofing around while waiting for the bus, especially if the play extends into the street, can be deadly. Make sure children understand the danger.
- **One at a time** Every child wants to get a good seat, but it's important for children to take their turn entering the bus, lining up in single file to board calmly.
- **No distractions** Bus rules—no shouting, no throwing things, no horseplay—are serious safety issues. Children should understand the importance of never distracting the bus driver.
- **Stay put** Children are eager to leave the bus and often start for the front before the bus has stopped. They should wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before leaving their seats.
- **Cut the ties** Clothing with drawstrings can be dangerous because loose strings can get caught on handrails. Remove drawstrings from children's jackets and look for backpacks that don't have drawstrings.
- **Heads up** A dropped book can turn into a serious accident if the bus driver doesn't see it. Tell your children to let the bus driver know immediately if they drop something while getting on or off the bus.
- **The inside story** As tempting as it might be to wave through an open window on a sunny day, children need to understand the importance of keeping their hands, arms, and heads inside the bus.
- **Getting there** Figure out the safest route to and from the bus stop and walk it with children a few times. Make sure they cross streets only at crosswalks or corners, never darting out between parked cars, and always look both ways before crossing.
- **Group bus stops** Parents/adults must wait with their K-3 students for safety reasons.
- **Reporting** Remind your children that they need to report any bus problems immediately to the driver so that it can be dealt with right away.

Please make the time to review these bus safety tips with your children. (Source: "Report to Parents" National Association of Elementary School Principals)

Elementary Drop-Off and Pick-Up Guidelines

Morning Drop-Off



If you drive your child to school, or if you need to enter the building in the morning, please use the athletic complex driveway, which is the first driveway **beyond** John R. Rodger Elementary School.

As you enter the athletic complex driveway, please have your student ready to exit the passenger side (backpack ready, hugs and kisses, etc...) by the time your car reaches the drop off location. This helps traffic move smoothly. For safety, there are orange cones in the driveway to remind you that there is only one lane of traffic at the drop-off location.

Parents or students who are dropped off in the morning must enter at the side door – no exceptions. Starting at 7:50 a.m. there is an adult at the side entrance to assist students who are dropped off.

The circle drive in front of the school is used exclusively for busses. The parking lot is for staff only. This system prevents traffic from backing up on the street in front of the school during morning rush.

Drop-off exception: If arriving after 8:15 a.m., please drop off at the circle drive if no busses are present. Students arriving late must check in with Mrs. Castle in the office to obtain a pass before going to class. *Thank you in advance for your cooperation.*

Afternoon Pick-Up

If you pick up students after school, please use the athletic complex driveway **beyond** John R. Rodger Elementary School. Cars should line up at the side entrance and an adult will be present to supervise.



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.



Homecoming 2013

Friday, October 4



Sponsor an Athlete

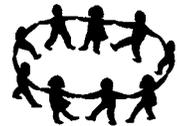
All middle and high school athletes must pay a fee to participate in school sports during the 2013-14 school year. Although the fee is nominal and offsets some athletic program costs, it may be difficult for some families to pay given other financial obligations. If you would like to sponsor athletes that struggle to pay the sports participation fee, send a donation to the athletic office where funds will be kept in an account strictly for those in need. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated.



Sports Volunteers Needed

Successful home athletic events need many volunteers to run scoreboards, take tickets, prepare fields, and more. If you would like to join the athletic department volunteer corps, contact Paula McCully or Brad Fischer in the high school office.

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 work 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 or call 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 or call 533-8916 x285.

Bellaire Public Schools Common Calendar 2013 - 2014

Aug	28	Open House Elementary 5:00-6:30 p.m. Middle/High School 5:30-7:00 p.m.
Sept	3	First Day of School - Full Day
Oct	7	Elem/MS/HS Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:45 p.m.
	16	Elem/MS/HS Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:30 p.m.
	18	Half Day for Students and Staff
Nov	1	End of First Marking Period
	4	No School for Students - Regional Staff Development Day
	27-29	No School - Thanksgiving Recess
Dec	2	School Resumes
	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.



School Pictures
for all students
Thursday, September 19

Important Notices:

Bellaire Public Schools is required to make several public notices at the beginning of the school year. Please carefully review the next few pages of the newsletter to ensure you have all the information you need for a successful year.

Immunization Requirements

Michigan law* prohibits a principal or teacher from admitting new entrants to school without a record of having received at least one dose of each: measles, mumps, rubella, polio, diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis.

Records for all entering kindergarten students and students enrolled from outside the district will be reviewed to ensure immunizations are up-to-date. Notice will be sent to parents or guardians if there is no immunization record upon school entry or if records are incomplete.

Students not in compliance with state immunization requirements will be excluded from school until documentation of immunization is presented. Parents may sign a waiver if they have a religious or other objection to immunizations, or they may provide a statement of objection for medical reasons which has been signed by a physician. Michigan law requires that all students be immunized against the diseases listed in the chart below. Immunizations can be obtained from your physician or health department.

Required Childhood Immunizations for Michigan School Settings

School communicable disease rules are the minimum standard for preventing disease outbreaks in school settings. To best protect patients from all diseases we have the power to prevent, healthcare providers in Michigan should follow the 2013 Recommended Immunization Schedule at www.cdc.gov/vaccines or www.michigan.gov/immunize.

Entry Requirements for All Public & Non-Public Schools		
Age → Vaccine**↓	4 years through 6 years	7 years through 18 years including all 6th grade students
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis	4 doses DTP or DTaP, one dose must be on or after 4 years of age	4 doses D and T OR 3 doses Td if #1 given on or after 7 years of age. 1 dose of Tdap*** for children 11 through 18 years IF 5 years since the last dose of tetanus/diphtheria containing vaccine.
Polio	4 doses, if dose 3 administered on or after 4 years of age, only 3 doses are required	3 doses
Measles,* Mumps,* Rubella*	2 doses on or after 12 months of age	
Hepatitis B*	3 doses	
Meningococcal****	None	1 dose for children 11 years of age or older upon entry into 6 th grade or higher
Varicella* (Chickenpox)	2 doses of varicella vaccine at or after 12 months of age OR current lab immunity OR reliable history of disease	

* Current laboratory evidence of immunity is acceptable instead of immunization with antigen.

** All doses of vaccines must be given with appropriate spacing between doses and at appropriate ages to be considered valid.

***Tdap is required at 11 years of age or older regardless of grade.

****Meningococcal is not assessed in MCIR/SIRS if the child is 11 years of age and in a grade lower than 6th grade.



Rev. March 31, 2013

Low-Cost Insurance Program

Two low-cost and/or free health care programs are available for many children, including those in working families. The program requires a monthly premium of \$10 per family with no co-pays or deductibles. To qualify, children must:

- Be citizens of the United States
- Live in Michigan
- Be under 19 years old
- Have no health insurance
- Meet income requirements

Even if families do not meet all of the above criteria, children may still qualify for MICHild health insurance based on other family circumstances. Call 1-888-988-6300 for an application or more information.

Attention New Students

Immunization/Vision/Hearing Tests Required

A child enrolling in public, private, parochial or denominational school in this state for the first time shall submit one of the following: 1.) A statement signed by a physician that they have been tested for and immunized or protected against diseases specified by the director of public health. 2.) A statement signed by a parent or guardian to the effect that the child has not been immunized because of religious convictions or other objections to immunization. 3.) A request signed by a parent or guardian that the local health department gives the needed protective immunization. In addition, a statement showing that a vision and hearing test has been passed is required unless a parent indicates in writing that the child cannot submit to the test because of religious convictions.



Rules for School Shots

The following shots are now required for sixth grade students, and all those starting a new school district:

- 1 dose Meningitis vaccine
 - 1 dose DTaP
 - 2 doses Chickenpox vaccine
- These are recommended for all students age 11-18. The Health Department of NW MI can answer questions at 1-800-432-4121.

Children who have not received the required immunizations WILL BE EXCLUDED from school UNTIL parents provide proof that ALL REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS have been GIVEN, or have a waiver on file.

*Part 92, Act 368 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended
**All doses of vaccines must be given with appropriate spacing between doses and at appropriate ages to be considered valid.

***Current laboratory evidence of immunity is acceptable instead of immunization with that antigen.

Information provided by the Michigan Department of Community Health.

For more information, please refer to www.michigan.gov/immunize.

Pest Management Advisory

As a part of the Bellaire Public School District's pest management program, pesticides are occasionally applied. You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application made to school grounds and buildings. In certain emergencies, pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but you will be provided notice following any such application. If you need prior notification, and are not already on file, please send a letter of request to the superintendent at 204 W. Forest Home Ave., Bellaire MI 49615, (231) 533-8141.

New Student Registration

Welcome to Bellaire Public Schools! To register a new student with BPS, please contact the appropriate school secretary listed below for information and to verify registration times and procedures.

Elementary School (Grades K-5)
(231) 533-8916 x230

Middle/High School (Grades 6-12)
(231) 533-8015 x224

New registrations will be accepted starting the third week in August. Please call ahead to ensure a secretary will be available. You will be required to provide copy of your child's immunization record, an official copy of your child's birth certificate, and your child's social security card.

Bullying Policy

Bullying or other aggressive behavior toward a student whether by other students, staff, or third parties (parents, contractors, volunteers, etc.) is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated in the Bellaire schools. This prohibition includes written, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse which causes bodily harm, reasonable fear for personal safety or personal degradation. Bullying or other aggressive behavior is prohibited during all "at school" activities, including activities on school property, in school vehicles, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function (field trips, athletic events, etc.) The complete Board policy governing this type of behavior, "Bullying – 8260" can be found in the policy manual on the school's website.

Any student who believes he/she has been or is the victim of bullying or other aggressive behavior must immediately report the situation to the nearest adult (principal, teacher, counselor, volunteer, etc.). Consequences for violation of this policy are listed in the student handbook. Degree of consequences may vary based upon the severity of the violation. Any acts of bullying that involve fighting will be subject to those consequences as well.

Non-Retaliation/False Reports

Retaliation or false allegations against any person who reports an incident, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, participates in an investigation or inquiry into allegations of bullying or aggressive behavior, is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Suspected retaliation must be reported to the nearest adult. Making intentionally false reports about bullying/aggressive behavior will not be tolerated. Retaliation and intentional false reports may result in disciplinary action.

Complaint Procedure

Any person who believes that s/he has been discriminated against or denied equal opportunity or access to programs or services may file a complaint, which shall be referred to as a grievance, with the District's Civil Rights Coordinator, Superintendent, Bellaire Public Schools, 204 W. Forest Home Ave., Bellaire, MI 49615. The individual may also, at any time, contact the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, 600 Superior Avenue, Room 750, Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2611.



Title I - Right to Know

Your child currently attends a school that receives funds from the Title I, Part A program, a federal supplemental program designed to help children reach high academic standards. In receiving funds from this program the district has a requirement to inform you, as parents of children attending a Title I school, of information available regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher(s). Information will be provided to you upon request and in a timely manner of the following:

- Whether your child's teacher has met Michigan qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether your child's teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which Michigan qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- The baccalaureate degree major of your child's teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

You may request additional information on the level of achievement of your child in each of Michigan's assessments. Michigan uses the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) to determine levels of achievement.

You will also receive timely notice if your child is, for whatever reason, assigned or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks, by a teacher who is not highly qualified. A highly qualified teacher is defined as a teacher that meets Michigan's qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level of subject area in which the teacher is providing instruction.

Directory Information Release



The law permits that student information known as "directory information" be provided upon request unless parents or an 18 year old student specifically requests that their directory information be withheld from release. This information is used for athletic programs, newsletters, articles for local newspapers, communications with colleges and universities, along with other purposes. This is separate from the request for release of directory information to the military. Directory information shall be defined as:

1. Name, address, and telephone number
2. Date and place of birth
3. Major field of study
4. Participation in school activities
5. Dates of school attendance
6. Honors and awards
7. Photo and video use

Michigan's Attorney General recently included "photos and videos" as directory information as long as parents were informed that the school considered them as such.

Any requests for the non-release of student information must be sent in writing to the address below. Such requests must be renewed annually.

Office of the Superintendent
204 W. Forest Home Ave.
Bellaire, MI 49615

September/October 2013

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
August 26 JV VB @ Gaylord SM Soccer v Burt Lake	27 Soccer @ TC Christian	28 Elementary/MS/HS Open Houses	29 V VB @ Mt Pleasant Sacred Heart Tourney Soccer @ Roscommon FB @ Merritt Academy	30	31
September 2 No School Labor Day	3 First Day of School Soccer @ Cheboygan	4 Soccer v Harbor Light VB @ Central Lake	5	6 FB v Superior Central	7
9 Board of Education Meeting	10 Soccer v TC Christian VB v Inland Lakes	11 MS VB @ Mancelona	12 Soccer v Forest Area VB @ Mancelona	13 Soccer @ Glen Lake	14 VB @ Grayling HS Tourney FB v Ewen-Trout Creek @ Engadine
16 MS VB v Jo'Burg	17 Soccer @ Burt Lake NMCA MS FB @ Forest Area VB @ Forest Area	18	19 Soccer v Roscommon VB v Northport School Pictures	20 FB @ Brethren	21
23 MS VB @ Forest Area	24 Soccer v Cheboygan VB @ Pellston	25 MS FB v Mancelona MS VB v Central Lake	26 VB v GT Academy	27 FB @ Posen	28 MS VB @ Mancelona Tourney
30 MS VB v Mancelona	October 1 MS FB @ Central Lake Soccer @ Harbor Light VB v Gaylord SM	2 MS VB @ Jo'Burg	3 Soccer @ Forest Area	4 Homecoming FB v Birmley	5 Soccer @ Suttons Bay
7 Board of Education Meeting	8 MS FB v Pellston Soccer NMSL Crossover Game College Night	9 MS VB v Forest Area	10 Soccer NMSL Crossover Game VB @ Manton v Manton & Kingsley	11 FB @ Engadine	12 V VB @ Mt Pleasant
14 MS VB @ Central Lake	15 MS FB v Gaylord SM VB v Onaway	16	17	18 Half Day of School VB @ GT Academy FB @ Cedarville	19
21 VB v Jo'Burg	22	23	24 VB @ Central Lake v Central Lake & Mancelona	25 FB v Rapid River	26 V VB @ Rudyard Tourney
28 MS G BB @ Forest Area	29	30 MS G BB v Jo'Burg VB @ Ellsworth	31	November 1 End of 1st Marking Period	2

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 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

Dining Services

Bellaire Public Schools offers FREE BREAKFAST for students enrolled in Grades K-5 at John R. Rodger Elementary. All other students may purchase breakfast for \$1.35 daily. Research shows a link between breakfast programs and learning ability. We know that breakfast improves the results of standardized test scores, attendance, behavior and emotional intelligence. School breakfast also provides at least a quarter of the daily nutrients needed by a growing child. These are all good reasons to offer a school breakfast program, so start the day off right!

If you need further information or serving times, please contact Eric Matusik, Director of Dining Services, at 533-8141 ext. 244



College Night

Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District (TBAISD) and Great Lakes Maritime Academy announce the 2012 Traverse Bay Area College Night. High school students throughout the region are invited to attend and meet with representatives from more than 50 colleges. The event is sanctioned by the Michigan Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.

Tuesday, October 8, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

**Great Lakes Maritime Academy
Hagerty Conference Center**

715 Front Street, Traverse City

For more information please contact Jason Jeffrey, 922-6280; or John Berck, Great Lakes Maritime Academy Admissions Office, 995-1200.



Email Newsletter Delivery

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

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., September 9, 2013.....Regular Business Meeting
Mon., October 14, 2013.....Regular Business Meeting
Mon., November 11, 2013.....Regular Business Meeting
Mon., December 9, 2013.....Regular Business Meeting
Mon., January 13, 2014.....Regular Business Meeting
Mon., February 10, 2014.....Regular 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, 2014.....Regular Business Meeting*

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

Students in Transition Empowerment Program (STEP)

The McKinney-Vento Act states that school districts must ensure the right to a free, appropriate public education for all children, ages 3-17, who are living in transition due to loss of housing. More and more families and youth not living with a parent/guardian find themselves in this situation. Students who do not have a fixed, regular, and adequate overnight residence need assistance. Students who find themselves living in any of the following situations are encouraged to contact the school office as soon as possible:

- In a shelter, motel, vehicle, camper or campground.
- Temporarily sharing housing with friends or relatives due to economic hardship.
- Unaccompanied youth who are living on their own without parent or guardian.
- Inadequate accommodations – lack of electricity, heat, plumbing, or overcrowding.
- Abandoned buildings or on the street.

Bellaire Public Schools' STEP Coordinator can be reached at 533-8015 x223.

Bellaire Public Schools Newsletter, Vol. 34, No.1, September/October 2013. 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	Trish Fox
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