

Bellaire Public Schools



Home of the Eagles

September • October 2018

www.bellairepublicschools.com

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of School
September 4
FULL
DAY



Welcome Eaglets!

Bellaire Public School is proud to welcome it's youngest students to the new school year.



Teachers Support Classroom Libraries

High school English teachers Tiffany Sutter and Ashley Young spent parts of their summer breaks working for students! Once a week, they worked at Blue Vase Books Secondhand Bookstore in exchange for book credits. Their commitment resulted in many copies of classroom novels that are needed to replace used and worn copies. Mrs. Young who teaches English 9, 10, and 11 added 12 copies of *Kite Runner*, 14 copies of *Tuesdays with Morrie*, 10 copies of *The Great Gatsby*, and 9 copies of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. She also brought in 3 new copies of the *Romeo and Juliet* Side-by-Side text. Both Mrs. Young and Mrs. Sutter grabbed many newer novels for their classroom shelves for students to select from during Silent Sustained Reading.

Open Houses & Orientation

Please plan to attend the annual school open houses!

**John R. Rodger
Elementary**

Wednesday, August 29
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Picnic 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Middle/High School
Wednesday, August 29
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Orientation for incoming 6th and 9th graders and parents will also take place August 29 in the Performing Arts Center at 5:30 p.m. for incoming 9th graders, and 6:15 p.m. for incoming 6th graders.

Conference Dates

Mark your calendars for parent teacher conferences on November 13 and 20.

School News You Can Use

Please look over the school calendar in this newsletter and check the school's website at bellairepublicschools.com for updated school and district information. The school website is the only official place where school information is posted.



Welcome Back to School!

- Jim Emery,
Superintendent

Bellaire Public Schools received quite a bit of positive recognition during the 2017-18 school year. Bridge

Magazine started things off by naming Bellaire “Academic State Champions” for grades 3-8 based on a study of student achievement and student growth over time; in the spring, US News & World Reports selected Bellaire as a “2018 Top High School” and awarded the district a Bronze award for the second consecutive year thanks to high assessment scores and excellent graduation rates; GreatSchools.org named the high school a “College Success” award winner based on our district’s history of students graduating and success at the college level. In June, Munetrix named Bellaire Public Schools as one of 14 “Most Fiscally Improved Districts” in the State of Michigan.

New Bellaire Staff Members

The Class of 2031 starts their education at Bellaire Public Schools with a new kindergarten teacher, Ms. Mackenzie Feeley. She has been hired as Mrs. Crooks moves to second grade for 2018-19. Ms. Feeley looks forward to working with students and parents. Additional new employees include Elisabeth Mann as the Elementary Media Center Parapro; Jennifer Bailey as an additional ½ time Title I teacher; and Rebecca Molski as an instructional interventionist at the elementary level.

Bellaire Youth Initiative

In addition to our traditional curriculum, the district has been blessed with the Bellaire Youth Initiative (BYI) offering after school opportunities. Students have been able to ice skate, ski, cook, snowshoe, mountain bike, and learn about robotics. Last year, the robotics program expanded to the elementary grades so more students could get involved. One middle school team did so well that they qualified for the World VEX Robotics Tournament in Kentucky!

Online Classes Available

Students at the secondary level have many educational options. The School Aid Act allows students in grades 5-12 to take up to two (2) online courses per semester. Those courses can be selected from the statewide catalog available on the school’s website. We encourage parents to carefully consider whether a 100% online course is ideal for their child given that in online learning, students forfeit face-to-face teacher classroom instruction and support.

High School Options

High School students entering their junior year may take classes at the TBAISD Career-Tech Center (including the Manufacturing Technology Academy program), where hands-on learning is key. Taking college classes while in high school (dual enrollment) is another option that may be appealing to some students. All high school students must follow the Michigan Merit Curriculum to earn a diploma, but law allows some minor variations to this set of mandated courses. Under limited conditions a personal curriculum can be requested for a student. Contact K-12 counselor Peggy Stevens to learn more about this option.

Education Partnership

- Kristi Poel, Elementary & Middle School Principal

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! I hope you have enjoyed the summer and are ready to leap into September. Our dedicated teaching staff, support personnel and I look forward to a year of opportunities inside and outside of the classroom. With your support, we strive to provide an ideal educational setting for students. We are excited to introduce you to our new staff: **Elisabeth Mann, Media Center; Rebecca Molski, Academic Intervention; Jennifer Bailey, Title I Intervention; Mackenzie Feeley, Kindergarten.**

Our school relies on parents to partner in education by reviewing skills taught at school and ensuring that all children read at least 15 minutes each day. It is the home/school connection that makes Bellaire Public Schools the best place to be!

Preschool Choices

Bellaire Public Schools is pleased to continue the partnership with Kalkaska Memorial Healthcare offering three options for parents with preschool children: 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 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. Kids Club also offers services on snow days and school vacation days. Contact Tonya Dupuie at TDupuie1@mhc.net or call 533-8916 x285.

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.

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. LeCureux 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. Cars should line up at the side entrance and an adult will be present to supervise. If waiting in a car in the parking lot, please remain inside the vehicle until all cars have proceeded through the pick-up line.



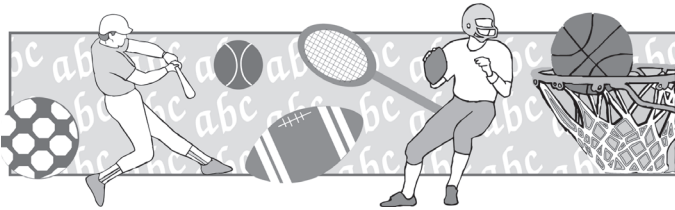
Free/Reduced Cost Meals

Important Note: The elementary school no longer qualifies to offer free breakfast for all students. Students will be charged full price for breakfast (\$1.50) unless families qualify for free/reduced (\$0.30) meals.

Free and reduced cost school breakfast and lunch is available to families meeting income eligibility requirements. **Families must apply for free/reduced school meals every year.** If you qualify, your children can receive food services at reduced or no cost. Families apply online at lunchapp.com or pick up an application 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.



Bellaire Public Schools Common Calendar 2018 - 2019



Homecoming 2018

Friday, September 28, 7:00 p.m.
Eagles vs Forest Area

Sponsor an Athlete

All middle and high school athletes must pay a fee to participate in school sports during the 2018-19 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 who 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 Jean Keiser or Brad Fischer in the high school office.

MHSAA Offers Concussion Insurance

The Michigan High School Athletic Association is providing eligible athletic participants at each MHSAA member junior high/middle school and high school with additional insurance that is intended to pay accident medical expense benefits resulting from a suspected concussion. The injury must be sustained while the athlete is participating in an MHSAA covered activity. Policy limit is \$25,000 for each accident. Covered students, sports and situations are identical to the catastrophic accident medical insurance which, if the \$25,000 threshold is reached, would require a separate claim to be made.

This program intends to assure that all eligible student-athletes in MHSAA member schools in grades 6 through 12, male and female, in all levels of all sports under the jurisdiction of the MHSAA, receive prompt and professional attention for head injury events even if the child is uninsured or under-insured. Accident medical deductibles and co-pays left unpaid by other policies are reimbursed under this program to the limits of the policy.

If you need to make a claim under this program, contact terri.bruner@kandkinsurance.com or phone 1-800-237-2917 toll-free.

• Aug	29	Open House & Orientation
• Sept	4	First Day of School - Full Day
• Nov	2	Half Day for Students
•		End of First Marking Period
•	5	No School for Students - Regional Staff Development Day
•	13	Parent Teacher Conferences Elem 4:00-7:15 p.m./MS&HS 4:30-7:45 p.m.
•	20	Parent Teacher Conferences Elem 4:00-7:00 p.m./MS&HS 4:30-7:30 p.m.
•	21	Half Day for Students
•	22-23	No School - Thanksgiving Recess
•	26	School Resumes
• Dec	22-31	No School - Christmas Recess
• Jan	1-6	No School - Christmas Recess
•	7	School Resumes
•	17	Half Day for Students (HS Exams)
•	18	Half Day for Students
•		End of First Semester
• Feb	19	Parent Teacher Conferences Elem 4:00-7:15 p.m./MS&HS 4:30-7:45 p.m.
•	21	Parent Teacher Conferences Elem 4:00-7:00 p.m./MS&HS 4:30-7:30 p.m.
•	22	Half Day for Students
• Mar	21	End of Third Marking Period
•	22-29	No School - Spring Recess
• Apr	1	School Resumes
•	18	Half Day for Students
•	19	No School - Good Friday
• May	27	No School - Memorial Day
•	31	Graduation 7:00 p.m.
• June	10	Half Day for Students (HS Exams)
•	11	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.

MI Immunization Requirements + Hearing/Vision Screenings

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

Michigan law prohibits a principal or teacher from admitting new students without record of having 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/guardians if there is no immunization record upon school entry or if records are incomplete. Students not in compliance with immunization requirements will be excluded from school until documentation of immunization is presented. Michigan law requires that all students be immunized against the diseases listed in the chart below. Immunizations can be obtained from a physician or health department.

2018 Entry Immunization Requirements for Michigan Child Care, Preschool, and School Settings								
Age → Vaccine** ↓	2 to 3 mo	4 to 5 mo	6 to 15 mo	16 to 18 mo	19 mo to 4 yr	5 yr	All kindergarteners and 4 to 6 yr old transfer students	All 7th graders and 7 to 18 yr old transfer students
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTP, DTaP, Tdap)	1 dose DTaP	2 doses DTaP	3 doses DTaP		4 doses DTaP		4 doses DTP or DTaP. One dose must be at or after 4 years of age	4 doses D and T OR 3 doses Td if 1st dose given at or after 1 year of age. 1 dose Tdap at 11 years of age or older upon entry into 7th grade or higher.
Pneumococcal Conjugate (PCV13)	1 dose	2 doses	3 doses OR age-appropriate complete series	4 doses OR age-appropriate complete series		None	None	None
H. influenzae type b (Hib)	1 dose	2 doses		1 dose at or after 15 months OR age-appropriate complete series		None	None	None
Polio	1 dose	2 doses			3 doses		4 doses. 3 doses if dose 3 was given at or after 4 years of age.	
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)*	None	None	None	1 dose at or after 12 months			2 doses at or after 12 months of age	
Hepatitis B*	1 dose	2 doses		2 doses	3 doses		3 doses	
Meningococcal Conjugate (MenACWY)	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	1 dose at 11 years of age or older upon entry into 7th grade or higher.
Varicella (Chickenpox)*	None	None	None	1 dose at or after 12 months OR current lab immunity OR history of varicella disease			2 doses at or after 12 months of age OR current lab immunity OR history of varicella disease	

For child care or preschool, these rules apply to children who are the above ages upon entry. During disease outbreaks, incompletely vaccinated children may be excluded from school, child care and preschool. Parents and guardians choosing to decline vaccines must obtain a certified non-medical waiver from a local health department. Read more about waivers at www.michigan.gov/immunize.
 *If the child has not received these vaccines, documented immunity is required.
 All doses of vaccines must be valid (correct spacing and ages) for school, child care and preschool entry purposes.
 Rev. March 1, 2017

Out of Formula School District

Bellaire Public Schools is an “out-of-formula” school district as it does not receive per pupil funding from the State of Michigan. When a district collects more revenue from their 18-mill non-homestead properties (vacation homes, secondary properties) than they receive from the State using the per pupil formula, they are considered out-of-formula. In-formula districts encourage families to open enrollment to receive more funding - usually over \$7800 per additional pupil, helping a school’s budget. By not qualifying for this per pupil funding, Bellaire limits open enrollment as additional students from neighboring districts add to the class size. Without the additional revenue, the district cannot add more teachers to accommodate the increased number of students.

3rd Grade Reading Law

Strong literacy skills are the foundation for success. With that in mind, the MI Legislature passed Public Act 306 (“3rd Grade Reading Law”) in 2016 which will take effect beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. Districts are required to assess all K-3 students 3 times a year and inform parents if their son/daughter isn’t meeting grade level standards. Parents will be involved in developing a “Student Success Plan” which will include a home component and be updated at least twice during the school year. PA 306 states that any student who is not reading at the 3rd grade level at the end of 3rd grade as demonstrated by the MSTEP will not be promoted to 4th grade. We will work closely together to help all students be successful on the 3rd grade MSTEP.

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 (K-5) **Middle/High School (6-12)**
(231) 533-8916 x230 **(231) 533-8015 x224**

You will be required to provide copy of your child's immunization record and an official copy of your child's birth certificate.

Integrated Pest Management

Bellaire Public Schools utilizes an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to control pests. IPM is a pest management system that utilizes all suitable techniques in a total pest management system with the intent of preventing pests from reaching unacceptable levels or to reduce an existing population to an acceptable level. Pest management techniques emphasize sanitation, pest exclusion, and biological controls. One of the objectives of using an IPM approach is to reduce or eliminate the need for chemical applications of pesticides. However, certain situations may require the need for pesticides to be utilized.

As required by State of Michigan law, you will receive advance notice regarding the non-emergency application of a pesticide such as an insecticide, fungicide or herbicide, other than a bait or gel formulation, that is made to the school or grounds or buildings during this school year. Please note that notification is not given for the use of sanitizers, germicides, disinfectants or anti-microbial cleaners. In certain emergencies, such as an infestation of stinging insects, pesticides may be applied without prior notice to prevent injury to students, but you will be notified following any such application.

Advance notification of pesticide applications, other than a bait or gel formulation, will be given by at least 2 methods. Notification will always be made by posting at the main entrance of each school building. Additional methods of notification will include: posting information on the school's website, as well as an email to all parent/guardian email addresses that are known to the district office. Additional information will be included in a school mailing.

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, OH 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 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 on Michigan's MSTEP assessment.

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 is defined as:

1. Name, address, telephone number, and email address
2. Date and place of birth
3. Grade level
4. Enrollment status
5. Participation in district activities and sports
6. Weight and/or height of athletic team members
7. Dates of attendance
8. Types of awards received
9. Photos, video, electronic images of student
10. Names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of parents/guardians

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**

August - October 2018

Bellaire Public Schools

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
AUGUST 27 Board of Education Meeting	28 VB v Central Lk	29 OPEN HOUSES Elem 5:00-6:30p MS/HS 5:30-7:00p 9th Gr Orientation 5:30-6:00p 6th Gr Orientation 6:15-6:45p CC @ E Jordan	30 FB @ Suttons Bay	31	SEPTEMBER 1
3 No School Labor Day	4 First Day of School - full day VB @ Inland Lks	5 CC @ Roscommon MS VB v Mancelona	6 VB v Mancelona	7 FB @ Onekama	8 JV VB @ JoBurg CC @ Charlevoix Mud Run
10 MS VB @ JoBurg	11 VB v Forest Area	12 MS FB v Central Lk	13 VB @ E Jordan	14	15 V VB @ Grayling CC @ Elisworth FB @ Caseville
17 Board of Education Meeting MS VB v Forest Area	18 School Pictures CC @ Kalkaska VB v Pellston	19 MS VB @ Central Lk MS FB @ Forest Area	20	21 FB v Central Lk	22 VB @ St Ignace LaSalle MS VB Bellaire Invite CC @ Central Lk
24 JV VB @ TC Central MS VB @ Mancelona	25 VB @ Gaylord SM	26 MS VB v JoBurg MS FB v Onekama	27 CC @ Mackinaw City	28 FB v Forest Area Homecoming	29 CC @ Lk Leelanau
OCTOBER 1 VB Dig Pink Tourney	2	3 MS VB @ Forest Area MS FB v GTA	4 CC @ Charlevoix	5	6 V VB @ Suttons Bay FB @ Bear Lk
8 MS VB v Central Lk	9 VB @ Onaway	10 CC @ Ski Valley Meet MS FB @ Suttons Bay	11 VB v GTA College & Career Night	12	13 CC @ W Branch-Ogemaw Hts FB v Wyoming TriUnity
15 Board of Education Meeting	16 VB @ JoBurg	17 MS FB @ Pellston	18	19 FB @ Onaway	20 CC State Meet @ Shepherd JV VB @ Pellston
22 MS G BB @ Inland Lks	23	24 VB @ Kalkaska	25	26	27 CC Regional @ Gaylord
29 MS G BB @ Pellston VB Districts @ Central Lk	30	31 VB Districts @ Central Lk	NOVEMBER 1 School Picture Retakes VB Districts @ Central Lk	2 Half Day of School End of First Quarter	3
5 No School Prof. Development	6	7	8	9	10

Dates and times subject to change

Meal Prices

Important Note: The elementary school no longer qualifies to offer free breakfast for all students. Students will be charged full price for breakfast as listed below unless families qualify for free/reduced meals.

Breakfast

All grades	\$1.50
Reduced	\$0.30

Lunch

Elementary	\$2.60
MS/HS	\$2.80
Reduced	\$0.40
Adult (tax incl.)	\$3.80
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. 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.

Board of Education Meetings 2018-2019

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., Sept. 17, 2018	Mon., Mar. 18, 2019
Mon., Oct. 15, 2018	Mon., April 15, 2019
Mon., Nov. 19, 2018	Mon., May 20, 2019
Mon., Dec. 17, 2018	Mon., June 17, 2019
Mon., Jan. 21, 2019	Mon., July 15, 2019
Mon., Feb. 18, 2019	

College & Career Night

Mark your calendars for the Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District 2018 College & Career Night. High school students are invited to meet representatives from more than 50 colleges and military institutions. For more information contact Mary Smith at TBAISD at (231) 922-6354 or msmith@tbaisd.org.

Thursday, October 11, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
NMC Hagerty Conference Center
715 Front Street, Traverse City

School Pictures

All Grades

Tuesday, September 18



STEP (Students in Transition Empowerment Program)

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, as well as youth who are not living with their parent or guardian, are among those who 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 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 231-533-8015 extension 223.

Personal Curriculum

The law requires that all students pass a very stringent set of courses to receive a diploma from any public school in the state. The law now allows a parent/legal guardian/adult student/emancipated minor student, or a student's teacher or counselor to request modifications to these high school graduation requirements under limited conditions. Those modifications are made through a "personal curriculum" developed for the student. All students are entitled to a personal curriculum, and if an appropriate request is made, the District will develop a personal curriculum for a student.

When developing a personal curriculum for a student, the District will need to include as much of the original Michigan Merit Curriculum content expectations as are practicable for the student. The personal curriculum must be consistent with the student's educational development plan and it must contain student-specific measurable goals that the student must meet to graduate. The law does limit what courses can be modified or substituted. The District has some additional flexibility to make modifications for students with disabilities and certain transfer students. Before a personal curriculum becomes effective, it must be approved by the parent/legal guardian/adult student or emancipated minor student and the Superintendent or his/her designee. A personal curriculum is not transferrable to another district.

If a parent/legal guardian/adult student or emancipated minor student believes that they would benefit from a personal curriculum, they may request one be developed. To do so, the following steps need to be completed:

1. Make a request in writing for a personal curriculum for your student.
2. The District will review the request and develop a personal curriculum that best fits the needs of that student consistent with limitations and requirements contained in the law.
3. A meeting with the student/parent/guardian and school district designee will take place to review the personal curriculum.
4. Once agreed upon by all parties, the personal curriculum will be set in place.

For more information on personal curricula, including what may and may not be modified, please visit the Michigan Department of Education's Personal Curriculum page at: http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530_30334_49879--,00.html

If you have additional questions, please contact the school counselor's office at (231) 533-8015 ext. 226.

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