

BHS Newsletter

Belvidere High School, 1500 East Avenue, Belvidere, IL 61008

815-547-6345

Mr. Todd Martens, Principal
Administration



Michael Yates-Associate Principal
Heidi Houy-Assistant Principal (A-L)
Joanne Johnson- Assistant Principal (M-Z & ELL)

Lisa Bergbreiter-Sp. Ed Supervisor
Nicolas Butenhoff-Activities Director

OCTOBER 1, 2010

“If you change the way you look at things, the things you look will change.” Wayne Dyer

Welcome to Belvidere High School.

As Principal, it is my goal that your sons and daughters reach their fullest potential in a safe and secure learning environment. In preparing for this year, my philosophy is to make decisions based on what we can do, not what we can't. Your children will be expected to come to school every day, put forth their best effort, and learn from their mistakes. At Belvidere High School, failure is simply not an option.

We have made many structural changes already, such as eliminating the typical school bells. In the real world these bells do not exist, and we need to prepare our students for reality. We have eliminated the Saturday detentions. We have changed the location of the student parking lot and bus loading areas. Most importantly, we will be giving all students weekly grade reports.

Grade reports – Every Thursday for the remainder of the year, your children will be given a printout of their current grades. It is very important that all students know where they stand from week to week. Now students can realize the fruits of their labor or see the impact of not completing their assignments and its effect on grades. As parents, you now have real time information that you can count on.

If your child is struggling in a class or needs a quiet location in which to study, the library will remain open from 3:00-5:00 p.m. every Tuesday through Friday, and bus transportation will be available. Students will have the opportunity to receive tutoring during this time and may be required to attend, based on their academic performance.

Your children's ability to reach their fullest potential is dependent on a collaborative effort with students, parents, teachers, support staff, and administration working together. I want you to know that my door is always open and I welcome any support and suggestions you can offer. At any time, if you feel that I fail to meet the expectation of excellence, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Finally, I'm honored and consider it a great privilege to serve the students at Belvidere High School. I look forward to this year's being one of the best years in the life of your child. I expect to see all of you at our parent / teacher conferences to show your support, regardless of your child's academic standing.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7
4:30 - 8:30 P.M.
BHS CAFETERIA

Parents will confer with teachers on a first come – first served basis, so scheduled appointments will not be necessary.

Parents should park in the student parking lot and enter through Exit 7.

Parents are encourage to bring their students' progress report on that day, however tables will be set-up in the hallways to the northeast of the Cafeteria where parents can pick up a copy of their child's progress report.

DAILY STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS NOW AVAILABLE ON-LINE

Parents are now able to view BHS building announcements. Go to

www.district100.com/bhs

Click here for BUILDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE OFFICE REMINDERS

**Please use the following number
when calling in for your student.**

1-815-547-3718

STUDENT ABSENCES

Attendance is essential to the success of students in their educational endeavors. Our attendance regulations were written to encourage attendance and an “on the job” attitude for students to follow and maintain throughout life. We encourage parents to make as many appointments as possible outside of school hours.

If a student is absent from school, a parent or legal guardian must call 815-547-3718. ONLY a parent or legal guardian can request a student's absence from school or request any early release. Verbal communication between the parent and the attendance office must take place before a student is permitted to leave.

If you need to leave a message, include the **student ID** number and the reason for the absence. A student **must** sign out in the Attendance office prior to leaving early.

BHS CHORAL DEPARTMENT PRESENTS



BHS-Performing Art Center
Wednesday and Thursday
October 13 & 14
Saturday, October 16
7:30 p.m.
Doors open at 6:15 p.m.

All Seats are reserved. Tickets are \$7:00 for Adults, \$5.00 for Sr.Citizens and \$5.00 for students. Ticket sales begin Oct. 1, 2010. Please call Karen Cantele at 815-547-6345 @ ext. #7861 for ticket purchase and seat reservation.

PSAT/NMSQT

The PSAT test will be given Saturday, October 16, 2010, at Belvidere North High School. Besides being an excellent practice for both the ACT and SAT, the PSAT is the qualifying exam for the National Merit Scholarship program.

GRADE 10 PLAN TESTING

Sophomores will take the PLAN test on Wednesday, October 13, 2010. This test will assess students' skills in English, reading, science, and math. The PLAN test also prepares students for taking the ACT component of the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE). Additionally, this test lets one know if students are building the skills needed in college, identifies academic strengths as well as areas that may need improving, and assists students in identifying career and college interests. Parents and students can learn more about using PLAN results and check out sample test questions at www.planstudent.org.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Fall Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled at BHS on **Thursday, October 7, 2010 from 4:30 - 8:30 p.m.** Second semester Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on **February 17, 2011 from 4:30 - 8:30 p.m.** Parents are highly encouraged to attend these conferences to meet with their student's teachers. Whether your student is enjoying success in class or struggling, it is important for you to communicate with teachers to let your student know you want to be actively involved in their education.

RUNNING START

Running Start is a program for qualified students from Belvidere High School and Belvidere North High School to attend Rock Valley College (RVC) for their junior and senior years of high school. Courses taken will be for Dual Credit, meeting the requirements for both a high school diploma and an Associate Degree simultaneously. There will be a Running Start informational meeting on **October 4, 2010** at Belvidere High School in the **Performing Art Center**. **For more information speak with Mr. Zimmerlee at Belvidere High School or Lisa Volkman at Belvidere North High School.**

NURSE'S HEALTH NOTES

THANK YOU parents/guardians!

You have done an excellent job with physicals and immunizations this year. Your support is very much appreciated.



Reminder: autumn also brings wellness challenges.

PRECAUTIONS FOR STAYING HEALTHY:

- Wash your hands often****
- Cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing.
- Stay home with flu-like symptoms – protect yourselves and others.
- Call your doctor with concerns re: flu-like illness including fever **AND** cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, etc.

Remember **ADEQUATE REST, NUTRITION, and EXERCISE** – Always positive actions to maintain good health!! Please don't hesitate to contact me for any reason. Darcie Chamberlain, BHS nurse, 815-547-4617.

ATHLETIC HAPPENINGS!



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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

October 20 – Winter Parent/Athlete Meeting, Belvidere High School -PAC.

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Athlete Registration

6:00 p.m. – Sport Specific Meeting

Winter sports begin:

Girls Basketball – 11/1/10

Boys Basketball – 11/8/10

Wrestling – 11/8/10

Boys Swimming & Diving – 11/22/10

Girls Bowling – 11/8/10

Boys Bowling – 10/25/10

Competitive Cheerleading – 11/1/10

Tryouts – 10/16 & 10/17

Dance (Competitive) 11/1/10

Tryouts – 10/23

If you are a fall athlete, all uniforms, equipment and fees must be paid to be allowed to try out for a winter sport.

November 17 @ 7:00 p.m. – Winter Sports Preview Night. Kick-off of winter sports with an introduction of all Winter athletes along with scrimmage games. Belvidere High School gyms. Times to be distributed by coaches.

November 17 – Winter Sports Pictures, Belvidere High School gym lobby. Picture schedules and picture envelopes will be distributed to athletes prior to picture day.

BUC BOOSTERS

The next meeting of the Bucs Booster Club is scheduled for Tuesday, October 12th, 6:00 p.m. in the Forum Room at Belvidere High School.

BHS IS HOSTING.....

NIC-10 Conference – Cross Country – October 16th @ Belvidere HS

Sectionals - Cross Country – October 30th @ Belvidere HS

Sectionals - Boys Soccer – October 26th, 27th & 29th, 2010 @ Funderburg Stadium

Sectionals – Volleyball – November 2nd & 4th, 2010 @ Melvin L. Brown Gymnasium

ATHLETIC AWARDS NIGHT

There will not be a fall sports award night. Instead there will be an **All-Sports** Award Night on Monday, May 9th, 2010 to recognize Captains and MVP's for all sports. Mark your calendar!!

Fall coaches will schedule an awards night at the end of their season to present individual awards.

SPORTS SCHEDULES:

To find the most updated and accurate information regarding Belvidere High School sports schedules, log onto HighSchoolSports.Net. Changes and updates are posted daily!

Seeking information....The latest sports information, dates and times will be posted on Boonecountysports.com (Boone County Sports), www.district100.com/bhs/Assets/Athletics (District/Belvidere HS website) and published in the Belvidere Republican.

Questions...Call the athletic office @ 815-547-7552.

BHS ATHLETICS HAS GONE PAPERLESS!

Looking for athletic forms....All necessary forms for athlete registration, fee waivers, alternate travel, etc. are available on line at www.district100.com/bhs/Assets/Athletics.

COUNSELING CORNER

The counseling staff has been busy meeting with students and organizing programs for the new school year. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like additional information regarding any issue your student may be experiencing, please feel free to contact your student's counselor as listed below.

During parent/teacher conferences on **October 7**, the counselors will have a presentation regarding college applications and financial aid. Presentations will be at **5:30** and **7:00 p.m.** in a room near the cafeteria. Information regarding students with special education needs who would like to attend college will also be available, as will other pertinent information for all students.

Schedule changes for 1st semester are now completed. We will distribute 2nd semester schedules to students on **November 15** and change request forms will be available until **December 1**. Changes requested after that date may not be honored. Schedule changes are based on course availability and are not guaranteed.

Mr. Scott Zimmerlee, (A thru G)

szimmerlee@district100.com

815/547-4614

Mrs. Evie Zuroske, (H thru P)

ezuroske@district100.com

815/547-4570

Mrs. Jessica Telander, (Q thru Z & ELL)

jtlander@district100.com

815/547-4552

TUTORING

Tutoring is now available in the library after school from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday thru Friday. There is an activity bus that leaves the school at 5:00 p.m., if transportation is needed. Even if your student does not ride a bus, they may still take advantage of the activity bus services. Students who are failing three (3) or more classes will be mandated to attend at least two (2) tutoring sessions. However, any student may take advantage of the service. If your student would be interested in becoming a peer tutor, please have them contact Mr. Yates, Assoc. Principal.

BHS's COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER

Opposite of the Student Services Office and starting the week of October 4 we will be reorganizing the center to become a more user friendly environment. Students will be able to access information regarding colleges, scholarships, career choices, and financial aid. The Career Center also hosts representatives from many colleges and vocational schools that come to the school to talk to students. College representative visits are available to juniors and seniors. To attend one of these visits students need to talk to Mrs. Lodl in the Student Services office to sign up prior to the visit. College visits are announced daily and will be announced on the BHS website.

We are very excited to announce that Belvidere High School has obtained Career Cruising again which is an excellent resource for career information. Interested students and parents can access Career Cruising online at www.careercruising.com Username: Belvidere Password: BUCS. Once logged in, students can create their own profile and will be able to save information and searches as desired. If you would like additional information, please contact your student's counselor.

BELVIDERE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECOGNIZED



Individuals
Dedicated to
Excellence in
Academics

The I.D.E.A., Individuals Dedicated to Excellence in Academics, program will recognize students for their outstanding performance in academics and school attendance during **1st hour on November 4th**.

To be involved in the program, all members must have maintained a minimum 3.0 G.P.A., may not have any unexcused absences, and have no more than three excused absences first quarter. Students who meet these program standards have the chance to earn a variety of benefits that have been donated to the program by local businesses.

The following businesses have made generous donations to IDEA: 97 ZOK, Ashley's Salon, *Belvidere Daily Republican*, BHS Booster Club, BHS Journalism, BHS Prom Committee, BHS Video Club, Burger King, Coco Keys Water Resort, The Cove, El Molcajete, Fast Lane Threads, Hot Heads Salon, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Laser Maze, McDonalds, Ms. Effie Schaver, Q98.5, Quiznos Subs, Road Ranger, Rockford IceHogs, Shopko, Sonic, Starbucks Coffee, State Street Subs, The Sweetery, Wal-Mart, Y.M.C.A

DECA

On September 23rd, one hundred students from Belvidere High School and Belvidere North High School attended the West Suburban DECA Leadership Conference. This conference, held at Elgin Community College, introduced area students to the DECA program and offered them the opportunity to hear from affluent business leaders in the community. Throughout the day, students participated in three break-out sessions. They learned about careers in business, branding, leadership, competition, and marketing relationships. Carolyn Reece said, "I learned a lot about taking risks and leadership from the keynote speaker."

Belvidere High School's DECA chapter has several other events planned for the school year. Next month, a select number of students will be attending the State Executive Conference at Oakton Community College where one of our BHS students will run for state office. Also in October we will hold our annual 3 day DECA week event. In November, DECA members will have the privilege to meet with executives from the Chicago Bulls organization prior to attending the game. Belvidere's DECA president, Hannah Gustafson ('12) is looking forward to an exhilarating year.



ELECTRONIC DEVICE REGISTRATION PROGRAM

Officer Ellingson, School Resource Officer and Belvidere High School, is excited to present a new program available to all students at B.H.S.

Many of our students choose to bring IPODS and cell phones to high school. These items have become important to our lives and it is frustrating when these items are lost or stolen. As parents it is upsetting if we have to replace a lost or stolen phone, or disappointing to students if they have to go a few weeks without an IPOD.

I cannot stress enough that students need to be responsible for their property. However it is nice to have an extra level of security. For this I, Officer Ellingson, am introducing an Electronic Device Registration Program. This will allow any student at Belvidere High School to register their cell phone, IPOD, Mp3 player, etc.. with me at the office. In registering your device you will be given a sticker indicating that your item is registered. It is your choice to place the sticker on your device.

Similar programs are being introduced at high schools and universities around the nation, and I want our students to enjoy these same benefits.

Registration forms will be available in the Main office. Once completed they can be returned to the Main office where I, Officer Ellingson will keep a record of these devices.

Hopefully this program will deter the idea of theft from our fellow students and aid in the recovery of lost or stolen property. Any questions about the program may be directed to Officer David Ellingson at 815-547-1812.

TEACHER E-MAIL

If you have questions or concerns that you wish to discuss with your student's teacher(s), we encourage you to contact them via their e-mail account.

Each teacher's e-mail address is the initial of their first name followed by their last name then @district100.com, all with no spaces. For example: Principal Todd Martens e-mail address would be tmartens@district100.com. Teachers are encouraged to check their e-mail numerous times a day.

PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

In an effort to increase parent notification and student attendance, Belvidere School District will continue making automated attendance calls home twice a day. These calls notify you of your child's unexcused absence. Parents/guardians may check the reason or hours of reported absence on Parent Grade Access located under Parent Resources on the District's website (www.district100.com) or may call the school at 815-547-3718. Attendance calls will be made beginning at 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. daily.

The district will also again notify parents via telephone of a school cancellation due to inclement weather. A school cancellation call will be made to the student's home number beginning at 5:45 a.m. In the event you do not receive a call, please notify us at 815-547-6345 the next day. Always check with local TV and radio stations to verify that school will be in session.

If you have any questions you may contact BHS (815-547-6345).



Belvidere High School
 1500 East Avenue
 Belvidere, IL 61008

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

October/November Events

Date	Event	Time	Location
Oct 04	Running Start Informational Meeting	6:00 PM	PAC
Oct 07	Parent/Teacher Conference	4:30 PM-8:30 PM	BHS-Cafeteria
Oct 11	Columbus Day –No School		
Oct 11	Buc Booster Meeting	6:00 PM	Forum Room
Oct 13	Testing-EXPLORE (Freshman); PLAN (Sophomores); Practice ACT (Juniors)	7:55 AM	BHS
Oct 13	Musical Performance- "Little Shop of Horrors"	7:30 PM	PAC
Oct 14	Underclassmen Retakes	8:00 AM	Learning Center
Oct 14	Musical Performance- "Little Shop of Horrors"	7:30 PM	PAC
Oct 16	9th Annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer (followed by Victory Lap Brunch @ Cliffbreakers)	9:00 AM	Martin Park, Loves Park, IL
Oct 16	Musical Performance- "Little Shop of Horrors"	7:30 PM	PAC
Oct 18	Board of Education Meeting	6:00 PM	Central Office
Oct 18 & 19	DECA Week Event	6:00 PM	Melvin Brown Gym
Oct 20	End 1st Quarter		
Oct 20	Winter Parent/Athlete Meeting- Sports Specific Mtg.	6:00 PM	BHS
Oct 22	Jostens Graduation Announcement and Cap & Gown Orders	11:30-1:05 PM	Cafeteria
Oct 25	Trick or Treat for Canned Goods	3:00 PM	Community
Oct 29	StuCo Blood Drive	8:00 AM	PAC
Nov 01	Report Cards Distributed to Students		2 nd Hour Classes