

BHS Bucks Principal's Update

APRIL 2022



DEAR BHS STUDENTS AND FAMILIES,

Spring is here and it's time to buckle down and prepare to finish this school year strong. I hope all students and families had a restful and relaxing spring break.

Returning from spring break is always tough, for both students and teachers. Although you might think that having a week vacation should make it easier to come back to school, in fact, it is just the opposite. Our routines have been disrupted, our sleep schedules have been disturbed, and the sun calls to us, making the last few months of school feel like it lasts a long time. Oddly enough, it also seems that time flies when our deadlines are fast approaching and missing work has piled up. Compiling to this, our state requires that we administer state assessments to our students in the spring and we need your help in ensuring that students are coming to school, and helping them to meet their deadlines, turn in work, and engage in their classes in order to show evidence of their mastery of the standards before the end of the year.

Together, we can finish this year #BUCKSTRONG!

Mrs. DeMaio

SCHEDULING

We are ready to begin scheduling for next year! Along with the Principal's Update, there are a couple of items to help you pre-plan your student's schedule choices for next year. Please review the grade-level appropriate worksheet for your student and the "2022-23 Course Descriptions & Academic Information" guide. When complete (6 course requests and 1 alternate), please send back with your student for **the week of April 18th** to be entered into the PowerSchool portal during an in-class scheduling event facilitated by your student's classroom teacher and our school counselor. The scheduling link will also become active on the Parent PowerSchool portal that week so that you can make sure your student entered the courses you selected together appropriately.

If you have questions about the scheduling worksheet or the course guide, please attend a virtual meeting with the school counselor on Thursday, April 14th at 6:00 pm. We will go over the worksheet and course guide with you to answer any questions you have about courses and how the schedule will be created for next year. We look forward to seeing you!

[8th grade Schedule PrePlanning Form](#)

[9th grade Schedule PrePlanning Form](#)

[10th grade Schedule PrePlanning Form](#)

[11th grade Schedule PrePlanning Form](#)

[12th grade Schedule PrePlanning Form](#)

[2022-2023 Course Descriptions & Academic Information](#)

ASSESSMENT UPDATE

Spring testing is here! Our state assessments will begin on Wednesday, April 13th. Eighth and ninth graders will be given the PSAT 8/9, tenth graders will be given the PSAT10. Seniors do not have any testing obligations and are not required to attend school on the 13th. However, they will be given an assignment to complete virtually that day.

Our juniors are fortunate enough to have the opportunity to participate in the MME (Michigan Merit Exam) that consists of three different tests on three different days. All juniors will take the SAT on Wednesday, April 13th, WorkKeys on the 14th, and M-Step (Science and Social Studies) on the 19th. Due to the rigors of the junior testing, they will be allowed to leave school once they have finished and given their best efforts on Wednesday and Thursday, April 13th & 14th.

8th grade students will test once again at the end of April (27 & 28) for the M-Step (Science and Social Studies), and again in May when they take the NWEA test for the last time this year.

- **APRIL 13** - SAT/PSAT 8/PSAT 9/PSAT 10 Testing: Juniors may go home after testing. Seniors do not report to school but will have some remote assignments that they will

have to complete.

- **APRIL 14** - Work Keys Testing: Juniors may go home after testing.
- **APRIL 19** - 11 th Grade M-STEP Testing (Science and Social Studies): Students will use Chromebooks in their classrooms during the first 3 hours of the day for testing. Juniors will stay and begin their day in 4 th hour, unless we finish early. Please make sure Chromebooks are charged.
- **APRIL 27 & 28**: 8th Grade M-STEP Testing (Science and Social Studies): Students will use Chromebooks in their classrooms. We will dismiss back into the schedule when finished. Please make sure Chromebooks are charged.
- **No CTE on 4/13 and 4/14**

On Wednesday April 13th all students in grades 8 through 11 will be taking the PSAT 8/9, PSAT 10 or SAT test. Students taking the PSAT 10 and the SAT will be asked to participate in an optional questionnaire as part of the pre-administration for the test. The questionnaire asks about them and their interests. The information is used to make sure that the exams are fair for all groups and to help connect the students with potential colleges and scholarship opportunities. If you do not want your student to fill out the questionnaire please contact Mr. Pruetz via email (bpruetz@buchananschools.com) before 4/7/22.

SUMMER SCHOOL INFORMATION

Buchanan High School will once again offer summer school for students grades 8-12 who need to recover credits due to failed courses over the year. This is a great opportunity for students to keep on pace and earn credits to be able to graduate with their class. The district has applied grant funds to help pay for this cost. Courses will be online using the Edmentum platform. All courses will be made available free of charge. Please visit the website at www.buchananschools.com for information and registration.

BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL

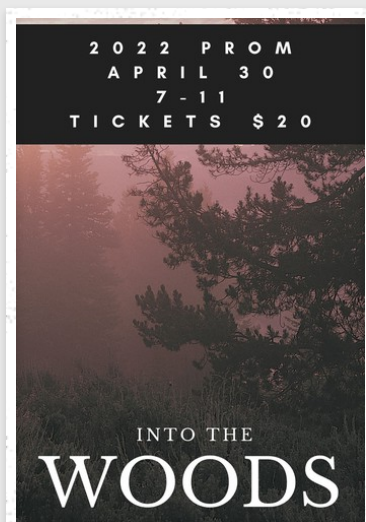


JUNE 13 - JULY 21

GRADES 8-12 WILL BE USING OUR ONLINE
VIRTUAL COURSES TO RECOVER CREDIT WITH
AN OPEN LAB FOR IN-PERSON WORKLOCATED
AT BUCHANAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

MONDAY - THURSDAY 8A-NOON

VISIT WWW.BUCHANANSCHOOLS.COM TO SIGN UP!



PROM

Our prom is scheduled for Saturday, April 30 from 7-11pm, for all BHS juniors and seniors only. Students who are bringing guests (other than a BHS student) need to pick up and complete a guest form and submit it to the office for approval. Tickets go on sale Monday, April 4th for \$20, and the theme is "Into the Woods". More detailed information will be shared with students in the coming weeks.

SPRINGFEST AND SPRINGFLING

Springfest is May 2 - 6. BHS will celebrate Spring and our various athletic teams and clubs all week and end with a pep assembly that will travel to all of our district schools. Dress-up days of the week will be announced in the coming weeks. We will also be hosting our first Springfling formal dance on Friday May 6th from 7 - 11. Students grades 9-12 are invited and **must be academically eligible to purchase a ticket (no more than one F)**. Students will be notified when tickets go on sale, they will be \$12.00. Any student who will be bringing a guest must pick up and complete a guest form and submit it to the office for approval.



TALENT SHOW

Buchanan High School is hosting a Talent Show. Auditions are open to any BHS student (8-12), and will be held on Friday, April 15th from 11 - 12:30, and on Monday, April 18th from 2:00 - 3:30 (with teacher permission during ICE). The Talent Show will be held on Friday, April 22 from 6:00 - 8:00pm. Doors are open to the public. Donations accepted will be given to Hannah Blumka.

SENIOR INFORMATION

ATTENTION SENIORS! Your time at BHS is rapidly coming to a close. Don't let procrastinating keep you from participating in all the graduation events coming up. A senior newsletter will be sent to you soon with more details about how to end your year successfully. As always, visit the senior website for information regarding senior activities at www.seniors.buchananschools.com



Important Dates and times to add to your calendar:

May 5 - Senior Dinner (7pm) \$20 due to Mrs. Hess or Mrs. Neal by April 30

May 18 - Senior last day / Field day

May 22 - Baccalaureate (2pm)

May 23 - Honors Night (7pm)

May 27 - Graduation (7pm)

STUDENTS AT WORK AND AT PLAY!

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD HEADS TO STATE!

Buchanan High School competed in Berrien County's 35th Annual Science Olympiad Regional competition on March 11, 2022.

Buchanan was well represented by 8th through 12th grade students on two teams. Our middle school team, consisting of 8th and 9th graders placed 3rd in the regional competition. Our high school team, consisting of 9th -12th grade students, also placed 3rd in the county. Our students left the event celebrating



their achievements and feeling proud of how they performed against schools in our neighboring communities. We thought that would be the end of the season for the Science Olympiad. However, we were pleasantly surprised to learn later that we were invited to compete in the state competition due to a scheduling conflict with the 2nd place team. We are busy preparing to represent Buchanan High school at the State Science Olympiad event to be held April 30th on the campus of Michigan State University. Wish us luck as we learn as much as we can about science in preparation for the competition.

Our first and second place medal winners for the 35th Annual Science Olympiad Regional competition appear in the table below.

8th - 9th Grade Middle School Team		
Students	Place	Event
Avery Scanlon & Makenna Chadderdon	2nd	Crave the Wave
Brooke Strefling & Sarah Brackett	2nd	Experimental Design
Grant Waggoner & Kayleigh Kraynak	2nd	Road Scholar
Brooke Strefling & Anja Tabor	2nd	Sounds of Music
Sarah Brackett & Anja Tabor	2nd	Storm the Castle
Avery Scanlon & Makenna Chadderdon	2nd	Write it / Do it
9th - 12 Grade High School Team		
Cam Carlson & Keegan May	2nd	Detector Building
Seth Bromley & Siara Stoddard	2nd	Dynamic Planet
Lauren Strefling	1st	Gravity Vehicle
Cam Carlson & Keegan May	1st	Ping Pong Parachute
Lauren Strefling	2nd	Trajectory

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The Buchanan National Honor Society helped our little Bucks celebrate March is Reading Month by volunteering their time to visit elementary classrooms to read to them. It's a wonderful gesture to promote literacy and give back to our little ones.

Our NHS chapter also welcomed 16 new inductees into our Margaret W. Snyder chapter of NHS at the Induction and Academic Letter ceremony. Congratulations to those new members!



BUCKS SAVING LIVES

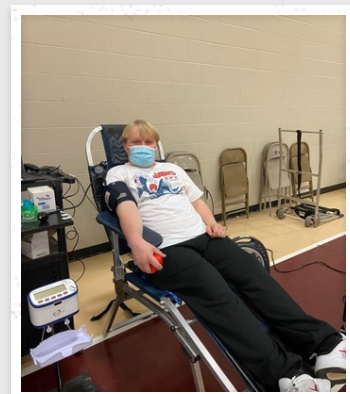
BHS hosted a blood drive early in March. Our Bucks are always generous in donating their time and their blood. We wouldn't be able to hold these events without the support from our student council coordinators and leaders. The blood donations collected at our drives are crucial to maintaining a stable supply of blood for life-threatening emergencies and illnesses.

The following are the results of our Blood Drive:

Total Number of Successful Drive Units: **45**

Total Number of Deferrals: **9**

One unit of blood can save the lives of up to 3 people; a total of **129** people could potentially benefit from our drive. What an amazing impact our drive will have on patients in our community. The blood collected will go to help recipients suffering from cancer, trauma, blood disorders, surgery, pregnancy complications, or several other medical emergencies.



LUNCHTIME KARAOKE

Our choir students hosted a couple lunchtime karaoke sessions this month. All students were invited to sing along during their lunch time.

MEGAHURTZ ROBOTICS



Our Robotics team took second place at the St. Joseph district event earlier this month. Taking home 2nd place is the highest our team has ever achieved at this event. The St. Joseph District event is an extremely competitive event and a go-to destination for the top teams of the state. The popularity of this event is such that ESPN has featured the playoffs live for the last few years!

The following week, MegaHurtz made it to the Quarter-Finals at the Muskegon event, taking double elimination to three matches before being knocked out by the #2 alliance. Sadly, this ends the 2022 competition season, but they have a lot to be proud of. Congrats team!!

Our team is looking forward to the next phase of moving to a new workshop! Be sure to checkout all the photos and the season video (coming soon) on the blog page at <https://www.megahurtzrobotics.org/blog>



SAVE THE DATE!!!

- April 6 - Half Day (Hours 1-6) Dismissal at 11:00am
- April 15 - Half Day (Hours 1-6) Dismissal at 11:00am
- May 4 - Half Day (Hours 1-6) Dismissal at 11:00am

- May 30 - NO SCHOOL (Memorial Day)
- June 7 - Half Day Exams 1-3, Dismissal at 11:00am
- June 8 - Half Day Exams 4-6 Dismissal at 11:00am, Last Day of School

[5 YEAR CALENDAR LINK](#)



BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL

 Facebook  @BHS_Bucks

High School: 695-8403

(option #2) Stacey DeMaio, Principal

Abby Cantu, Administrative Assistant

(option #1) Brian Pruett, Assistant Principal

Anna Smith, Administrative Assistant

Miranda Capron, Attendance & At-Risk Interventionist

Donna Southwell, Academic Interventionist

(option #4) Student Services

Brandon Flowers, Counselor

Jennifer Fiero, Administrative Assistant

(option #3) Mark Frey, CTE Director

(option #5) Karin Falkenstein, Special Education Director

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