



JR. HERD JOURNAL

WHERE JR. HERD IS OUR NAME AND PRIDE IS OUR
FAME!



BEASLEY BULLETIN

Dear BMS Families,

Just like that - we are in October already! Our September flew right by thanks to our engaging classroom instruction from teachers and hard work from students. Teachers and students started forming valuable working relationships that will carry them throughout the year. We got reacquainted with school routines quickly and look forward to continuing the momentum as we strive for academic excellence.

Students recently finished up our first round of NWEA testing. The NWEA test is an assessment tool we use to ensure students are receiving the individualized instruction necessary to meet their specific academic needs. Not only does it show teachers a student's strengths and weaknesses in reading and math, but it also gives us an idea of how much academic growth a student should make during this school year.

Your child's NWEA results will come home to you as soon as the window closes and we completely finish with make-up testing. The NWEA website has a page completely dedicated to helping families understand what the test does and what the data means. Please visit <https://www.nwea.org/parent-toolkit/> to access this information.

If you have not already, please sign up for the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Having access to PowerSchool's Parent Portal can help you keep track of your student's grades to prevent any surprises when report cards come out later in the month. If you need help setting up your PowerSchool, we would be glad to help you with that. Please email tyoung@buchananschools.com for assistance.

Please always feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns. We appreciate your partnerships in your child's education. It truly takes a village, and we are lucky to have such a strong Buchanan Middle School community. Thank you for your continued support.

Go Bucks!

DATE:

CLASSROOM NEWS

7TH SOCIAL STUDIES

On Wednesday, October 5, the 7th grade students will meet with Christina Arseneau, director of the Niles History Center, and Western Michigan University's Field Director for the archaeological dig at Fort St. Joseph (Niles, MI), Erika Hartley. They will spend their time explaining what an archaeologist does and what has been discovered through the team's efforts at Fort St. Joseph on the St. Joseph River.

5TH GRADE MATH

It's time for Pumpkin Math! The 5th grade teachers will have Pumpkin Math on October 31st. Students will be working in teams or with their teacher to weigh their pumpkin, measure their pumpkin, and estimate the number of seeds contained in the pumpkin. We are looking forward to some fall math fun!



CLUBBING AT BMS!

BMS Clubs are in full swing. Student Council members and the Jr. Herd committee have both been chosen and meeting dates have been set. But, BMS has two new great clubs to offer! Please remember that most clubs are over at 3:30. Students must be picked up no later than 3:45

Bookworm Club

The Bookworm Club will be exploring different genres and checking out cool authors. Students will have the opportunity to share their love of reading with new friends.

Starts - Oct. 6

Time - 2:30 - 3:30



Middle School Choir

Middle School Choir is open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students who are interested in using their voices to make music, as well as learn rhythm, movement, and possibly even play some percussion instruments! This club will

meet on Mondays from 3:00 - 4:30 .



MEET BMS NEWBIES

Mrs. Tucek

Paula Tucek attended Buchanan Middle School in the 1990s before the walls went up and graduated from BMS in 1999. She graduated from Indiana University South Bend with a Bachelors in English Education. After IUSB, Mrs. Tucek taught seventh and eighth grade ELA for four years at Ring Lardner Middle School in Niles. She then stayed home for about ten years with her kids and was drawn back to BMS after enrolling her kids (Harris and Stella) in Buchanan Community Schools. The 2022/23 school year is Mrs. Tucek's 6th year teaching middle school English/Language Arts. Mrs. Tucek enjoys teaching the art of English spelling as a way to explore language and new vocabulary words.



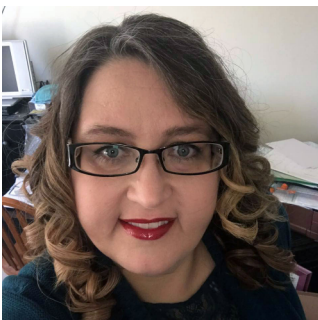
Mrs. Groves

I have been in education for 21 years. I have taught every grade level between 6th grade and college. I graduated from Purdue University. Of course, my favorite subject all through school was math, but I also enjoyed music! Mr. Groves is my husband!



Mrs. Taylor

I was born and raised in Buchanan and am a graduate of Buchanan Community Schools. After high school, I attended and earned my Associates degree from Holy Cross College, Bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University, Master's degree from Aquinas College, and my ESL endorsement from Western Michigan University. I worked in education for about 15 years on and off since 2002. Prior to working in Buchanan I worked at Berrien Springs where I found my passion of working with English Language Learners. This is my fourth year working at BMS but my first year as the seventh grade English Language Arts teacher. I am a HUGE Notre Dame fan even when they have a horrible season and love photography. I have been married to my husband, Chris, for 17 years.



Mrs. Kratky

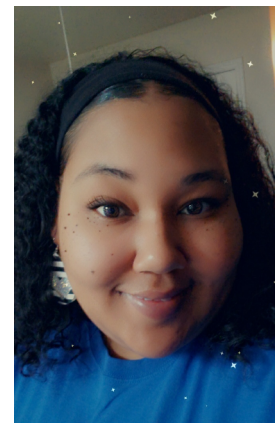
Heya! I'm Mrs. Kratky. I have been teaching in the district since 2010. I started as a third-grade teacher, then spent almost a decade at the high school teaching 8th-grade technology and coaching the varsity tennis teams. When the pandemic hit my position was cut and I did a couple of years in elementary as a 4th-grade teacher and then a 2nd-grade teacher. Now I am here teaching Technology to the 6th and 7th graders! I strive to provide students with skills to help them in their future. I have two littles at home and love to share stories about them, especially "baby Henry", my 2.5-year-old who provides lots of content to share with students.



Ms. Thomas

Hello Buck family. My name is Britney Thomas, one of the new para pros here at BMS. With joy of working with kids, especially middle schoolers I came from South Bend Community Schools where I worked for 4 1/2 years at Jefferson Traditional Middle School as a para. I have a 11 year old son named Kamari who attends Lasalle Academy in South Bend, IN. He's an amazing, bright young man who loves to help others in any way he possibly can. I am a family type of girl, one thing I love to do is hang out with my family any chance I get. We love playing volleyball together as well as having family game nights with a yummy dinner (loooooove to cook) to enjoy with each other. Of course I am a September baby. My birthday just passed on the 11th. Let me tell you that everyone here at BMS made me feel so special and showered me with love, hugs, shout-outs, gifts and yummy treats! I couldn't ask for a better family to be a part of. One of my favorite subjects in middle school is MATH! Yes, I love math and the way we do different activities to help kids learn as well as help them understand how math works in our everyday lives. I know it can be a challenging subject but that's what I'm here for to help make it fun and

easy to understand. I am very excited and honored to be a part of the BMS family and look forward to working with your child/ren in any way possible! GO BUCKS!!!



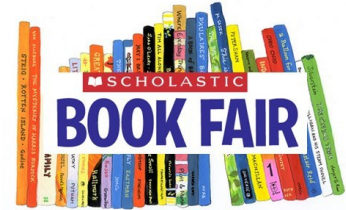
Mr. Brooks

I'm a retired teacher from Dowagiac Union High School, where I taught mostly Biology. I coach varsity football at Edwardsburg High School. I'm a former softball coach and still give pitching and hitting lessons outside of football season. I'm also a realtor for Cressy & Everett. I love helping and mentoring young people and I'm excited to join the staff here at Buchanan Middle School as a math intervention facilitator.



IT'S BOOK FAIR TIME!

The BMS Annual Scholastic Book Fair is back! Please join us in promoting reading by stopping in to buy some great books for your Bucks! This year, the eWallet will be returning to help parents who can't come in to shop. The eWallet allows you to create an online account for your student. Instead of sending cash, create an eWallet account for your student.



The fall book fair will run from Oct. 31-Nov. 4. We hope to see you!

HOMECOMING

Please join us in a fun week of Homecoming Theme Days. Please remember that dressing up is NOT mandatory. All outfits must be school appropriate.

Mon. - Pajama Day

Tues. - Hat/Wig Day

Wed. - Wacky Wednesday

Thurs. - Marvel vs. DC/Superhero Day

Fri. - Spirit Day! Break out your maroon and white!



Keep these important dates in mind as we "fall" into October!

Oct. 3 - Fundraiser begins

Oct. 4 - Honor Credit Union Student Bank

Oct. 10 -14 - Homecoming!

Oct. 10 - PAK Meeting 6-7pm

Oct. 21 - End of Quarter 1

Oct. 27 - Reports Cards Sent Home

Oct. 31 - Nov. 4 - Scholastic Book Fair

Nov. 2 - Half Day, 10:50 Dismissal

Nov. 2 - 3 - Parent/Teacher Conferences

Nov. 4 - Half Day, 10:50 Dismissal

Save
the
Date



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

We are excited to offer mental health services through our Berrien Resa Mental Health Consultant who will be working with students who express concerns of anxiety. This seven week program will be held during the school day using the Trails to Wellness curriculum developed by the University of Michigan. Please contact Kathy McLaughlin, School Counselor, if you would like to have more information and/or to sign up your young person.

Is your student grieving the loss of someone special? Lori's Place will be coming to the Middle School to offer a Grief Group for our students who may be struggling with a death in their families. If you are interested in having your student participate in this group, please call Kathy McLaughlin at 695-8406

STOP!!!

DID YOU KNOW...

Any Student who misses 3 to 4 days of school in the month of September is at a greater risk of failing classes than a student who misses less than 3 days?? How is your student's attendance?



BUCKS EARNING BUCKS WITH HONOR CU!



BMS is teaming up with Honor Credit Union once again! For only \$1, students can open a student credit union account. Applications are available in the Media Center and Main Office at BMS. These applications need to be completed with student's information with at least one adult included on the application. New student members will receive a \$15 bonus after making an opening deposit. Existing student members will receive a \$5 bonus after making a deposit. And to make banking fun, each deposit enters the student into monthly \$25 gift card and Honor swag drawings! Each deposit is also entered in an end of the year drawing. The end of the year drawing prize is an iPad Mini or \$250 in your account! Now that's worth making some deposits!

So, encourage your Buck to join Honor Credit Union and get their own account. Take this time and opportunity to talk with your Buck about saving and spending money wisely. Please see Christy Layman, at the Buchanan Honor Credit Union branch if you have any questions.

Please keep track of what your Buck is doing at BMS by reading the monthly newsletters, visiting the BMS Homepage, and by signing into PowerSchool. If you are having trouble with your PowerSchool account, please contact Ms. Young at 695-8406 ext. 1132.

