

# BUCK BULLETIN

WELCOME  
BACK  
TO  
School



2023-2024

 **Buchanan<sup>®</sup>**  
**Community Schools**

[www.buchananschools.com](http://www.buchananschools.com)

# DIRECTORY

[www.buchananschools.com](http://www.buchananschools.com)

## Superintendent of Schools

**Patricia Robinson**

[probinson@buchananschools.com](mailto:probinson@buchananschools.com)

401 W. Chicago Street  
Buchanan, MI 49107  
Phone: 695-8401

## Buchanan High School Grades: 8-12

**Brian Pruett, Principal**

[bpruett@buchananschools.com](mailto:bpruett@buchananschools.com)

## Mark Frey, Assistant Principal & CTE Director

[mfrey@buchananschools.com](mailto:mfrey@buchananschools.com)

## Reid McBeth, Athletic Coordinator

[rmcbeth@buchananschools.com](mailto:rmcbeth@buchananschools.com)

401 W. Chicago Street  
Buchanan, MI 49107  
Phone: 695-8403

## Buchanan Middle School Grades: 5-7

**Shelby Beasley, Principal**

[sbeasley@buchananschools.com](mailto:sbeasley@buchananschools.com)

## Ryan Frontczak, Behavior Interventionist & Assistant Athletic Coordinator

[rfrontczak@buchananschools.com](mailto:rfrontczak@buchananschools.com)

610 W. 4th Street  
Buchanan, MI 49107  
Phone: 695-8406

## Moccasin Elementary School Grades 2-4

**Michael Babcock, Principal**

[mbabcock@buchananschools.com](mailto:mbabcock@buchananschools.com)

410 Moccasin Street  
Buchanan, MI 49107  
Phone: 695-8408

## Ottawa Elementary School Grades Pre K-1

**Stacey Denison, Principal**

[sdenison@buchananschools.com](mailto:sdenison@buchananschools.com)

109 Ottawa Street  
Buchanan, MI 49107  
Phone: 695-8409

## Buchanan Virtual Academy Grades: 5-12

**Reid McBeth, Coordinator**

[rmcbeth@buchananschools.com](mailto:rmcbeth@buchananschools.com)

Step Up & Credit Recovery Programs and Adult Education

401 W. Chicago Street  
Buchanan, MI 49107  
Phone: 695-8400



## SCHOOL NORMAL HOURS

Buchanan High School	7:40 am - 2:40 pm
Buchanan Middle School	7:30 am - 2:25 pm
Moccasin Elementary School	8:45 am - 3:48 pm
Ottawa Elementary School	8:40 am - 3:43 pm

## SCHOOL CLOSING & DELAY INFORMATION

When it becomes necessary to close schools, school officials will contact local radio and television stations. Parents should not call their child's school. Parents will also be notified by our instant alert system. Please make sure your child's school has current phone numbers and e-mail addresses.

## 2-HOUR DELAY PROCEDURE

Students should be at bus stops two hours later than their regular time. Please allow 10 minutes on either side due to conditions. Walkers should not arrive at school more than 10 minutes before classes begin. No AM ECSE classes. Afternoon ECSE classes as usual. NO breakfast will be served. Lunch will be as usual. No high school AM shared-time programs.

## 2-HOUR DELAY START TIMES

Buchanan High School	9:40 am
Buchanan Middle School	9:30 am
Moccasin Elementary School	10:45 am
Ottawa Elementary School	10:40 am

*If the reasons for the delay do not improve, school may be canceled. Parents should monitor the local stations carefully for any change in delay status. Please do not call the schools.*

## WACKY WEDNESDAY - EARLY RELEASE HOURS

Buchanan High School	7:40 am - 2:07 pm
Buchanan Middle School	7:30 am - 1:55 pm
Moccasin Elementary School	8:45 am - 3:15 pm
Ottawa Elementary School	8:40 am - 3:10 pm

**WEDNESDAYS ARE ALWAYS AN EARLY RELEASE DAY!  
(UNLESS A HALF-DAY OR NO SCHOOL)**

## HALF DAY HOURS

Buchanan High School	7:40 am - 11:00 am
Buchanan Middle School	7:30 am - 10:50 am
Moccasin Elementary School	8:45 am - 12:10 pm
Ottawa Elementary School	8:40 am - 12:05 pm





# Welcome to the 2023-2024 School Year!

Dear Buck Families and Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Education and myself, I would like to welcome all, new and returning students, families, and staff to the 2023-2024 school year! As we venture into a new school year, we are eager to embrace the incredible opportunities that lie before us. With fresh minds, open hearts, and boundless determination, we will create a year filled with growth learning, and joy.

Each year, I have seen staff, families, and members of our community come together to support each other and that is the beauty of being part of Buchanan Community Schools. Our community members support student achievements in academics, sports, and other programming. For example, over 1.4 million dollars was given to our 2023 graduates which was funded through the Buchanan Promise and other local organizations and colleges. In addition, every year, our students and their families, participate in service activities such as food drives for RAM (Redbud Area Ministries), the Empty Bowls projects, Rake a Difference Day, and many other service projects. Our willingness to serve brings the school and the community together.

Families, your involvement, and your partnership in your child's education are invaluable. By fostering a nurturing environment at home, you create a strong foundation upon which their dreams can flourish. Thank you in advance for being present, listening attentively, and celebrating their victories, no matter how small. Together, we can build a community that empowers every child to thrive.

Our focus this year is to implement new curriculum materials, formalize a systemic tiered approach to support students, utilize available resources for facility maintenance, improve our safety and security measures, and enhance our communication methods. Throughout the school year, we will continue to highlight our students in action, staff & students in the district spotlight, and other points of pride.

As we navigate this year together, let us remember that we are a team, united by a common goal: to inspire and empower young minds by giving them the best we have to offer so they leave us prepared.

Here's to an amazing year ahead! Educationally yours,



Patricia L. Robinson  
Superintendent



BUCHANAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS EDUCATES  
STUDENTS FOR LIFE-LONG SUCCESS IN THEIR CIVIC,  
ACADEMIC, PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LIVES.



BUCHANAN  
**PROMISE**

EVERY STUDENT WHO GRADUATES FROM  
BUCHANAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS AND  
LIVES IN THE DISTRICT QUALIFIES FOR  
UP TO \$15,000 FOR  
POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION!

**WE ARE HIRING!**

Come join our *BUCK* team!


**APPLY ONLINE TODAY:**

[www.buchananschools.com/employment/](http://www.buchananschools.com/employment/)

**DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS**

BCS is one of a handful of districts in Michigan that owns and operates a school farm! Our elementary students participate in hands-on science activities throughout the year.

We offer a free Great Start Readiness Preschool Program to eligible preschool-aged students in a nurturing, caring, and supportive environment.

All kindergarten students participate in our "All Kids Bike" Program that teaches students to ride a bike in gym class! 

BCS operates a quality special education program in all four of our schools!

Buchanan High School offers a diverse array of Career Technical Education programs that provide students with the opportunity to learn real-world skills leading to certificates, licenses, and college credits in a variety of career pathways.

BHS offers approved College Board AP classes and access to the Berrien RESA Math and Science Center, Lake Michigan Early College, and Southwestern Michigan College Dual Enrollment Honors Academy.

Buchanan High School Athletics is committed to fostering a culture that provides the opportunity to pursue the total development of BHS student-athletes.

- Varsity Girls Softball 2023 Regional Champs
- Varsity Girls Basketball 2023 Regional Champs
- Varsity Baseball 2022 State Champs
- Varsity Girls Basketball 2022 Regional Champs
- Varsity Football 2022 Conference Champs
- Varsity Girls Cross Country 2022 Conference Champs
- Varsity Volleyball 2022 Conference Champs
- Varsity Softball 2022 District Champs
- Varsity Wrestling 2022 Conference Champs



**Make Buchanan Community Schools  
Your School of Choice!**

School of Choice will be opening this winter!  
Applications will be located on our website.



**Buchanan<sup>®</sup>  
Community Schools**  
**ENROLL TODAY!**

[www.buchananschools.com](http://www.buchananschools.com)  
**269-695-8400**

OUR VISION IS TO DEVELOP RESPONSIBLE, RESILIENT, CREATIVE CITIZENS CAPABLE OF SUCCEEDING IN A GLOBAL SOCIETY.



# BUCHANAN GREAT START READINESS PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

## Applications Available!

Buchanan Community Schools offers a free preschool program for a limited number of income-eligible four-year-olds. GSRP is a Michigan state-funded preschool program. Our program provides preschoolers with the best educational opportunities through a hands-on curriculum in a rich learning environment created through our certified staff, families, and community.

All applications for public school preschool opportunities in Berrien County will continue to be monitored by Berrien RESA. The Buchanan preschool programs are licensed through Michigan Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), Bureau of Community and Health Systems, and Child Licensing Division.

### ELIGIBILITY

Preschoolers must be 4 years of age by September 1, 2023 to qualify.

### PRESCHOOL HOME VISITS

This is a mandatory State of Michigan requirement for our program. It is also a great opportunity for you and your child to meet your child's teacher and teacher assistant before school begins. Further guidance from the State will be provided upon completion of these visits.

### BUCHANAN GSRP PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

Our preschool program begins later than our K-12 students and will go through the end of the school year. Preschool classes begin on **Wednesday, September 13th**.

Sessions will meet Monday through Thursday, 8:40am - 3:43pm.

Preschool classes will not meet on Fridays.

## OPEN HOUSE

Monday

**September 11th**

5:00-7:00 pm

### QUESTIONS?

Please call Ottawa Elementary School at 695-8409 if you have questions regarding our GSRP preschool program.

If your phone number, mailing address, or child care provider has changed since you registered for preschool, please call the Ottawa office to update your information.



## Welcome to Ottawa Elementary and the 2023-24 school year!

The opportunity to serve the staff, students, and families in this amazing community is a pleasure. At Ottawa, students come first! The safety and academic growth of our Little Bucks is our top priority each and every day.

### OTTAWA SCHOOL HOURS

- **Regular School Day, Preschool - 1st Grade**  
Monday-Friday: 8:40 am - 3:43 pm  
(Preschool classes will not meet on Fridays)
- **AM ECSE Classes:** 8:40 am - 11:50 am  
(Monday-Thursday, some Fridays for ECSE)
- **PM ECSE Classes:** 12:25 pm - 3:43 pm  
(Monday-Thursday, some Fridays for ECSE)
- **Wacky Wednesdays:** 8:40 am - 3:10 pm
- **Half Days:** 8:40 am - 12:05 pm  
(No ECSE classes on these days)

### BACK-TO-SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE EVENTS

**ECSE, Kindergarten & First Grade Students:**  
Wednesday, August 23, 2023 from 5:30-6:30 pm

**GSRP Preschool Students:**  
Monday, September 11, 2023 from 5:00-7:00 pm

### ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

All Ottawa staff members will be able to assist your child with any problem if they know their full name. *Be sure your child's backpack always has the school-issued ID tag and they are able to communicate their first and last name.*

- Any adult picking up children must be listed by the parent on the child's emergency card.
- All doors lock when the tardy bell rings at 8:40 am and remain locked until the 3:43 pm dismissal. Please go to the front door and ring the doorbell to the right of the doors to enter after 8:40. **Students must be signed in by an adult after 8:40 am.**

Our safety procedures for adult to adult transfers of children at the beginning and end of day takes a little extra time, but keeping children safe is our number one priority. Please read carefully and adhere to these procedures for the safety of our staff, students and families.

### School hours are 8:40-3:43. First bell rings at 8:35 am.

- Adult staff will be available to supervise students beginning at 8:10 am.
- Adults will not be able to enter the building with children past the front office doors. You may walk your child to the front doors or drop off in the north parking lot through the car line.
- Kindergarten and first graders will line up inside the fenced playground area adjacent to the north parking lot with adult supervision. When the weather is inclement, they will wait inside.
- Be sure your child arrives at school by 8:35 to avoid being marked tardy after 8:40 am.
- Breakfast begins at 8:10 am. If you would like your child to eat breakfast at school, they should arrive no later than 8:20 am. Preschool students are served breakfast within their classrooms.

### CAR RIDERS

When dropping off or picking up your child in a vehicle you must use the north parking lot car line staffed by adults. There will be no drop-offs or pick-ups in front of the school on either side of Ottawa Street or in the south parking lot blocking the posted fire lane. To get in the car line drive down 3rd Street towards the school. We use hang tags. These will be available at the Open House. Sometimes the line may back up into Ottawa Court, **please do not block residents' driveways.**

### WALKERS

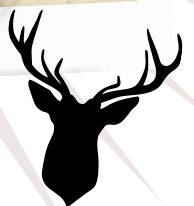
Walkers will use the front entrance of the school for arrival and dismissal. If an adult walks their child to the front door in the morning or pick-up after school, please park in the Church of the Nazarene lot. Our buses may block the entrances to the south parking lot and you will not be able to exit until the buses leave. We have permission to use this parking lot at 704 W. Front. Please walk your child to and from this lot. We encourage parents if dropping off or picking up to use the car line in the north parking lot.

### BUS RIDERS

Bus students enter through the front doors and report to the cafeteria to eat breakfast. Those not eating breakfast will join their before-school lines as detailed previously. After school, staff will walk students in their bus lines directly to the bus they ride home. **Please note, changes in your child's after-school plans for dismissal must be communicated adult to adult. Please call the office before 2:00 pm if there are transportation changes.** Teachers do not always have time to check their email or messages during the day and we want to ensure your child's safety after school. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!



**We look forward to  
welcoming your  
Little Buck!**





## Welcome to Moccasin Elementary!

A Safe Positive Learning Environment

### MOCCASIN SCHOOL HOURS

- **Regular School Day** Monday-Friday: 8:45 am - 3:48 pm
- **Wacky Wednesdays:** 8:45 am - 3:15 pm
- **Half Days:** 8:45 am - 12:10 pm

### BACK-TO-SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE EVENT

Please join us for our Back to School Night on  
**Wednesday, August 23, 2023 from 5:00-6:00 pm**

### ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

- Morning car riders will be dropped off at the 5th Street door between 8:10-8:40 am. The doors lock at 8:40 am. Car riders who arrive after 8:40 am will need to enter through the Main Office door #1.
- **Please drop off students on 5th Street.** Students who are dropped off in the morning are to wait in the fenced-in playground area at the back of the school.
- **Breakfast begins at 8:10 am.** Students eating breakfast should enter through the gym doors off of 5th Street. Students will then go to the playground area when done eating.

### BIKE RIDERS

Students may ride their bikes to school at Moccasin with parent permission. Bike helmets are encouraged. Bike racks are located in the back of the building near the south end off of 5th Street. Bikes must be placed in the rack. Students and parents are responsible for providing locks to ensure the safety of their bike. The school is not responsible for bikes.

### CAR RIDERS

Car riders will be picked up on 5th Street on the south end of the building. 5th Street is a one-way street that is accessed off of Main Street. Pick-up and drop-off will be one lane along the sidewalk by the gym entrance.

### WALKERS

Walkers will exit the middle front entrance on Moccasin Street. As Moccasin has older elementary students, they will be released to walk home at the dismissal bell. Parents do not need to come in and check them out. If your child is a walker, please ensure that they know their designated walking route to and from school (the route you expect them to walk every day).

### BUS RIDERS

The loading and unloading zone for buses is along the east side of Moccasin Street directly in front of the school from 5th Street to just past the north parking lot. This area is designated as a bus loading & unloading zone only. NO car pick-up or drop-off is allowed in this zone.

### P.M. SHUTTLE BUS TO MOCCASIN

Due to the age of Ottawa students coming to Moccasin via the shuttle, they **will not be released from the bus** until a parent or designated person comes to the bus door and accepts the child(ren). The person **must be listed on the student's emergency card** or approved by the school office prior to pick-up. Staff may ask the adult for an ID. If you are waiting for the shuttle, please park either before or after the bus pick-up zone on the east side of Moccasin Street (before 5th Street or after the exit for the north parking lot).



# BUCHANAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

610 W. 4th Street (269) 695-8406 Grades 5 -7

SHELBY BEASLEY  
PRINCIPAL  
sbeasley@buchananschools.com



"Committed to caring, striving for excellence."

## Welcome to the Home of the Jr. Herd!

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year! My name is Shelby Beasley, and I am honored to be the principal at Buchanan Middle School. As principal, I aim to work collaboratively with parents, teachers, and community members to enhance the lives of our students. Adolescent students, like those we serve at Buchanan Middle School, need a safe learning environment enriched by a relevant and rigorous curriculum. I am confident in saying your students will find that in the classrooms and hallways at Buchanan Middle School!

### 2023-2024 ORIENTATIONS

Monday, August 21st

#### INCOMING 5TH GRADERS & NEW BMS STUDENTS

- **5:00-5:45pm** Self-Guided Tour, Locker Practice, and Meet & Greet

#### RETURNING BMS STUDENTS

- **5:45-6:30pm** Schedule Pick-Up, Self-Guided Tour, and Meet & Greet

Parents and students will be able to meet the Middle School staff and have an opportunity to explore the building to locate classrooms. Students will also have the opportunity to practice their locker combinations and receive their schedules. Schedules will not be sent via mail. If you are unable to make the orientation times, your child will receive their schedule on the first day of school when we meet by grade level to begin the day.

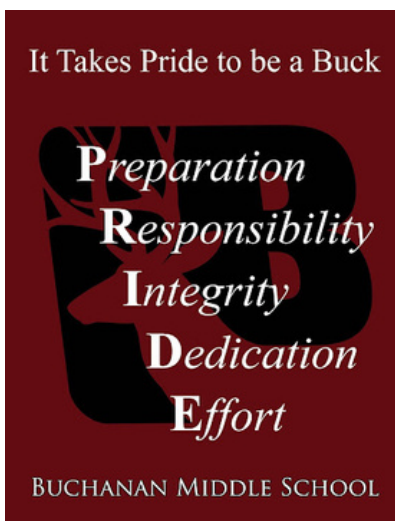
## JR. HERD INFORMATION

### SCHOOL DAY START & END TIMES

- **Full Day:** 7:30 am - 2:25 pm
- **Wacky Wednesday:** 7:30 am - 1:55 pm
- **Half-Day:** 7:30 am - 10:50 pm

### BUCK PRIDE

At BMS our students are encouraged to exhibit their school **PRIDE** on a daily basis. School **PRIDE** consists of being **P**repared for class, **R**esponsible and respectful, having **I**ntegrity, **D**edicated to learning, and putting forth their best **E**ffort. BMS has a school-wide **PRIDE** program that recognizes our students for doing a great job in creating a learning environment that is safe, caring, and develops successful and responsible citizens.



### FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

School begins this year on Monday, August 28, 2023, with a full day of classes. The front cafeteria door will be open at 6:50 am for breakfast. If your child is not eating breakfast, Door 1 will also open at 6:50 am. Students will be placed in grade-level locations to wait for teachers to escort them to class.

Classes will begin at 7:30 am and end at 2:25 pm. Students should be out of the building by 2:40 pm unless, of course, they are staying for an activity. Learning punctuality is imperative for adolescents as we prepare them for their future. Please assist us in teaching our students the importance of being on time for school and **all** of their classes.

This year, as in previous school years, BMS students will receive a packet containing our school's yearly calendar, conference dates, report card dates, and other information that will keep you aware of what, when, where, and how things proceed at BMS.

Parents who drop off and pick up students before and after school are asked to do so in designated areas in front of the school (flagpole side). Please use caution driving in this area. After 7:40 am each school day, the front doors (by the flagpole) will be locked.

### BMS DROP-OFF & PICK-UP PROCEDURES

Buses load and unload in front of the building. **Please do not park in the bus area located directly in front of the school OR IN THE TEACHER and VISITOR LOT from 6:50-7:20 am and 2:00-2:45 pm.**

During those times we ask you to stay in the inside lane and drop-off and pick-up along the sidewalk. PLEASE DO NOT PULL FORWARD ANY FURTHER THAN THE FIRE HYDRANT UNTIL DIRECTED BY THE POLICE OFFICER. Once you have dropped off or picked up you may merge into the outside or exit lane. In the morning, we are instituting a "STOP & GO" Policy. There will be no parking along the sidewalk. As buses begin to pull out, traffic will be stopped with the help of the Buchanan Police Department. As you exit the BMS Campus we ask that if you can, please only turn right as that will help with traffic flow.

Cars will be directed to pull forward in front of the building and allowed to drop-off and pick-up after all buses have arrived or departed. Please wait for the officer to direct you forward and remember to stay in the inside lane as you pull forward. The outside or exit lane is only for leaving campus.

**At dismissal, parking in the church parking lot and having students cross 4th Street is not a safe practice.** There is not a crossing guard there, and students should not cross the street at this point. While the car line may be long, it moves quickly. **Please be patient.**

## Fall Picture Day

Friday, September 15th

All students will have pictures taken for the yearbook and I.D.







## ATHLETICS

All students interested in participating in BMS Athletics will need to have a physical form on file with the office. New athletes can get a copy of this physical form from the main office or from the BCS Athletic website under the "Files & Links" section.

### Fall Sports:

- 7th Grade Football: Practice starts August 21, 2023
  - 5:30-6:00pm Equipment Handout @ BMS
  - 6:00-8:00pm Practice @ BMS
- 7th Grade Volleyball: Practice starts August 28, 2023
  - 3:00-4:30pm Practice @ BMS Gym
- 6th/7th Grade Cross Country: Practice starts August 14, 2023
  - 5:00pm at the High School Track

## CELL PHONE & HANDHELD DEVICE POLICY

Cell phones, MP3 players, iPods, handheld games, etc. are not allowed on a student's person during school hours. They must be turned off before the first bell and kept in the student's locker. If a student is found in possession of a device, it will be confiscated and a parent must come to the building to retrieve the item. Disciplinary action will be taken for students not complying with this expectation. Students needing to get in contact with parents during school hours may use a school phone with faculty/staff approval.

Thank you for your valuable partnership in your child's education. We look forward to another wonderful year at Buchanan Middle School!

Sincerely,

**Shelby Beasley**  
Principal

**Ryan Frontczak**  
Behavior Interventionist &  
Assistant Athletic Coordinator



## DRESS CODE

Students are expected to dress appropriately for school. The responsibility for student dress is that of the students and the parents. The following guidelines should be followed:

### Pants/Shorts/Dresses/Skirts:

- Jeans, Pants, Leggings, and Joggers with patch pockets. *No cargo pockets are allowed.*
- Shorts, Dresses, or Skirts should provide modest coverage of the backside.
- Leggings, spandex, and biker shorts without pockets may be worn only underneath a top that completely covers the backside.
- Pants/shorts with holes should not have any holes with skin showing above fingertip length.
- No pajamas of any kind.
- Pants and shorts are to be worn at the waist. Sagging is not acceptable.

### Shirts:

- Tank top straps must be 3 inches in width.
- No shirts showing midriff.
- No muscle shirts.
- Appropriate necklines should be observed.
- No shirts with inappropriate slogans or advertisements.
- Winter jackets should be kept in lockers at all times.

### Hair:

- Students may dye their hair whatever color parents allow as long as it does not cause a major disruption to the learning environment.
- No bandanas.
- No hats inside the building.

### Footwear:

- Shoes or sandals must be worn at all times.

**All school bags are to be kept in lockers and not carried to class.**

If a student is in violation of the dress code, they will be asked to change or call for a change of clothing. If no change of clothing is available, they may be placed in the learning center for the day.

**\*\*\*The administration reserves the right to make a final judgment concerning the appropriateness of a student's attire/appearance.**



# BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL

401 W. CHICAGO STREET (269) 695-8403 Grades 8 - 12

BRIAN PRUETT  
PRINCIPAL  
bpruett@buchananschools.com

MARK FREY  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL & CTE DIRECTOR  
mfrey@buchananschools.com



## HOME OF THE BUCKS!

**Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year!** When students return in the coming weeks, they will notice a few changes to staff and movement within the building. There has been staff movement in positions, some new staff added, and a few teachers have changed rooms. With all of that, we are diligently preparing and gearing up for another great year at BHS. BHS continues to offer a challenging curriculum, motivating and caring teachers, and an entire school community of people who care for our students. We will continue to check in with students and parents when an absence occurs as we believe student attendance and engagement is paramount to learning. Please read over our attendance policy as we at BHS feel it is vitally important for students to attend classes as we prepare our students for life. Communication between the school and the home is important to us and it is extremely important that we stay connected. BHS will continue to utilize the monthly Principal's Updates and will share them via email, Facebook, school website, Instagram, School Messenger, and Twitter. These updates contain important information for parents and students as well as showcase the amazing work of our students and teachers.

### SCHOOL STARTS AT 7:40 AM EVERY DAY.

*The cafeteria doors open at 7:00 am and breakfast will be available. The front doors will open after 7:25 am. Students will stay in the cafeteria until released by staff. No students are allowed in the main building until 7:25 am.*

	First Lunch		Second Lunch		Third Lunch		8th Sched.	
Monday / Tuesday / Thursday / Friday	1	7:40 AM 8:42 AM	1	7:40 AM 8:42 AM	1	7:40 AM 8:42 AM	1	7:40 AM 8:42 AM
	2	8:47 AM 9:49 AM	2	8:47 AM 9:49 AM	2	8:47 AM 9:49 AM	2	8:47 AM 9:49 AM
	3	9:54 AM 10:56 AM	3	9:54 AM 10:56 AM	3	9:54 AM 10:56 AM	3	9:54 AM 10:56 AM
	L	10:56 AM 11:21 AM	4	11:01 AM 11:31 AM			4	11:01 AM 12:02 PM
			L	11:31 AM 11:56 AM	4	11:01 AM 12:02 PM		
	4	11:26 AM 12:27 PM			L	12:02 PM 12:27 PM	5	12:07 PM 12:35 PM
		4	12:01 PM 12:27 PM			L	12:35 PM 1:00 PM	
5	12:32 PM 1:34 PM	5	12:32 PM 1:34 PM	5	12:32 PM 1:34 PM	5	1:05 PM 1:34 PM	
6	1:39 PM 2:40 PM	6	1:39 PM 2:40 PM	6	1:39 PM 2:40 PM	6	1:39 PM 2:40 PM	

### Wacky Wednesday Schedule

2023-2024

1st Lunch			2nd Lunch			3rd Lunch			4th Lunch		
Schedule	Time		Schedule	Time		Schedule	Time		Schedule	Time	
7:40 - 8:37	57	Block 1	7:40 - 8:37	57	Block 1	7:40 - 8:37	57	Block 1	7:40 - 8:37	57	Block 1
8:37-8:41	4	Passing	8:37 - 8:41	4	Passing	8:37 - 8:41	4	Passing	8:37 - 8:41	4	Passing
8:41 - 9:38	57	Block 2	8:41 - 9:38	57	Block 2	8:41 - 9:38	57	Block 2	8:41 - 9:38	57	Block 2
9:38 - 9:42	4	Passing	9:38 - 9:42	4	Passing	9:38 - 9:42	4	Passing	9:38 - 9:42	4	Passing
9:42 - 10:39	57	Block 3	9:42 - 10:39	57	Block 3	9:42 - 10:39	57	Block 3	9:42 - 10:39	57	Block 3
10:39 - 11:04	25	LUNCH	10:39 - 10:43	4	Passing	10:39 - 10:43	4	Passing	10:39 - 10:43	4	Passing
11:04 - 11:08	4	Passing	10:43 - 11:09	26	Block 4A	10:43 - 11:39	56	Block 4	10:43 - 11:40	57	Block 4
			11:09 - 11:34	25	LUNCH				11:40 - 11:44	4	Passing
			11:34 - 11:38	4	Passing				11:44 - 12:10	26	Block 5A
11:08 - 12:05	57	Block 4	11:38 - 12:05	27	Block 4B	11:39 - 12:05	26	LUNCH	12:10 - 12:35	25	LUNCH
12:05 - 12:09	4	Passing	12:05 - 12:09	4	Passing	12:05 - 12:09	4	Passing	12:35 - 12:39	4	Passing
12:09 - 1:06	57	Block 5	12:09 - 1:06	57	Block 5	12:09 - 1:06	57	Block 5	12:39 - 1:06	27	Block 5B
1:06 - 1:10	4	Passing	1:06 - 1:10	4	Passing	1:06 - 1:10	4	Passing	1:06 - 1:10	4	Passing
1:10 - 2:07	57	Block 6	1:10 - 2:07	57	Block 6	1:10 - 2:07	57	Block 6	1:10 - 2:07	57	Block 6

School Improvement is a continuous process and BHS works year-round to make our school a better place to learn. If you are interested in joining our conversations and helping with our initiatives, feel free to contact us for more information. The following are highlights of our current initiatives:

- **Chromebooks for every student grades 8 through 12.** Teachers continue to expand opportunities to use technology as a method to engage and promote student learning. Chromebooks are a required device during the school day. Device Protection Plans are available. Students are expected to have their assigned Chromebook along with their chargers with them in all classes.
- **Professional Development** opportunities for teachers that focus on making students the center of our conversations as we track academic growth and improve the culture and climate of our school. Teachers will also be trained in using technology platforms, specifically Google Suite applications.
- **Standards-Based Mindset Grading** continues to be a focus, as BHS strongly believes that grades should reflect actual learning and mastery of standards.
- **Virtual Learning** continues to improve with MyVirtual and our E-Lab. Credit recovery, as well as accelerations, are possible with the approval of the Principal. This platform will be used for all students who did not earn credit in their previous courses in order to keep them on track for graduation.
- **Wacky Wednesdays** will continue. Students are dismissed at 2:07 pm every Wednesday to allow weekly professional learning time for staff.
- **After-School Academic Learning Sessions** are once again offered Monday through Thursday.

The school year starts before Labor Day again this year. **Classes begin Monday, August 28th.** We are looking forward to another year of working with our Buck families to make this a safe and positive learning environment! The BHS staff hopes to see you at our first home football game on August 31st at 7:00 pm against Coloma. **GO BUCKS!!**

**COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS** are always needed and sought after. If you have a talent or skill that you would like to share with us, please reach out to the Principal's Office at 269-695-8403 ext. 1. No talents or skills are necessary however; sometimes we just need your time! All volunteers need to have a background check before working with students.

**THE STUDENT HANDBOOK** along with our Code of Conduct policies have been revised and may be found on our updated school website at [www.buchananschools.com](http://www.buchananschools.com) in September. Policies have been created with the goal of creating an environment that supports learning. Keep our dress code in mind when you are shopping for your child's school clothing. Students not adhering to the dress code will be sent home to change or will be given a change of clothes.

**THE ATTENDANCE POLICY** can be found in our student handbook. Please read it over carefully to make sure you understand it. Students are expected and required to complete assignments for each course even if absent. There is a *direct relationship* between school attendance and academic success. Students should make every effort to be in attendance daily. Please be sure that our attendance office (Ms. Smith) is notified of all absences within 24 hours, if not a detention may result.

**EIGHTH & NINTH GRADE CHROMEBOOKS**  
will be distributed at the BHS Back to School Night on August 21st from 6-7:30 pm. Communication to families with more details on this event will be in the Back to School edition of the BHS Bucks Principal's Update.

**Look for more detailed information in the Back To School edition of the BHS Bucks Principal's Update that will be provided to our Buchanan High School families in fall!**



Buchanan High School offers a diverse array of CTE programs that provide students with the opportunity to learn real-world skills leading to certificates, licenses, and college credits in a variety of career pathways. Our purpose is to create a more relevant, engaging high school experience by combining the rigorous core academics that students need for college with the career and technical education that makes them employable while doing it in an applied, hands-on way that includes real-life experience.

Buchanan CTE programs operating in 2023-2024 include Sports Medicine, Automotive Technology, CISCO, Business Systems Administration, Culinary Arts, Cosmetology, and Web Design. Buchanan partners with area schools to provide CTE classes in CAD, Machine Tool, Building Trades, EMT, Firefighting, and Health Services.

Our CTE programs also provide great opportunities to experience specialized field trips and work-based learning such as the Chicago Auto Show, Grand Rapids Food Show, and many other off-campus activities.

**CTE programs are a great way to begin your path to college and career success.**

If you have any questions about the programs above please feel free to contact our CTE Director, Mark Frey at 269-695-8400 ext. \*20013 or by email at [mfrey@buchananschools.com](mailto:mfrey@buchananschools.com).



# BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

401 W. Chicago Street (269) 695-8400 ext. \*20026 Grades 9 - 12

REID MCBETH  
ATHLETIC COORDINATOR  
rmcbeth@buchananschools.com



Buchanan High School Athletics is committed to fostering a culture that provides the opportunity to pursue the total development of BHS student-athletes. Buchanan Athletics creates meaningful academic, athletic, and social experiences that will allow BHS student-athletes to develop the essential skills needed to achieve excellence in the ultimate challenge: *Life*.

Our athletic programs also provide great opportunities to experience specialized training within the weight room as well as multiple community service opportunities throughout a student's athletic career.

Athletics are a great way to develop the entire student and give the student the best opportunity to reach their maximum potential. If you have any questions about our athletic programs, please feel free to contact our Athletic Coordinator, Reid McBeth at 269-695-8400 ext. \*20026 or by email at [rmcbeth@buchananschools.com](mailto:rmcbeth@buchananschools.com).

## 2023-2024 BUCHANAN ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

### HS FALL

Boys Tennis  
Coed Cross Country  
Football  
Girls Swimming \*Co-op  
through Bridgman  
Sideline Cheer  
Boys Soccer  
Volleyball

### HS WINTER

Boys Basketball  
Competitive Cheer  
Girls Basketball  
Wrestling

### HS SPRING

Baseball  
Boys Golf  
Girls Soccer  
Girls Tennis  
Softball  
Coed Track & Field

### MS FALL

Coed Cross Country  
Football  
Sideline Cheer  
Volleyball

### MS WINTER

Boys Basketball  
Girls Basketball  
Wrestling

### MS SPRING

Coed Track & Field

Scan for Buchanan Athletics Website







## *Buchanan Community Schools operates quality special education programs in all four of our schools!*

Providing programs and services in Buchanan to eligible students are eight specially trained and certified special education teachers, eight para-professionals, and three speech and language pathologists. Support also comes from the following staff members from Berrien RESA (Regional Education Service Agency): school psychologist, school social worker, academic teacher consultant, mobility specialist, assistive technology specialist, teacher consultants of the visually impaired and the hearing impaired, occupational and physical therapists. Students are placed in programs through an Individual Educational Program Planning Committee meeting composed of local district and Berrien RESA diagnostic and educational staff once appropriate assessments have been administered and the student qualifies under Michigan special education rules and regulations. Nearly 200 PK-12 students receive some kind of special education services including speech and language during the school day in Buchanan.

Our special education programs serve a wide variety of eligible students with special educational needs in the following areas:

- Early Childhood Developmental Delay (ages 3-8)
- Specific Learning Disability, determined by a process of analyzing the student's pattern of learning strengths and weaknesses.
- Speech and Language Impaired for Language, Articulation/Phonology, Voice, and Fluency (stuttering) concerns
- Emotionally Impaired
- Cognitive Impairment
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- Traumatic Spectrum Disorder
- Otherwise Health Impaired
- Physically Impaired
- Hearing Impaired
- Visually Impaired

Some students need programs that are not offered within the district. The IEP process is used to make this determination and to place these students in programs that offer the services necessary to meet their goals and objectives. Transportation is provided for these students.

Almost 50 students receive services in center-based programs operated by Berrien RESA throughout the county including a cooperative inter-agency program for 0 - 2.5 year-olds in the Early On programs (269-471-7725) for infants and toddlers involving both parent and child.

### **Other center-based programs funded by Berrien RESA include:**

- Berrien Springs Hearing Impaired Program provides services for students in the tri-county area. This program is operated by the Berrien Springs Public Schools. Students may attend a classroom program for the hearing impaired in Berrien Springs or may get teacher consultant services in their Buchanan classes. This program also provides on-site hearing diagnostic assessments with trained audiologists as well as follow-up with students who have suspected or verified hearing losses.
- Low-incidence special education programs for the cognitively impaired children who need full-time placements are available at Berrien Springs MS and HS, as well as Howard School in Niles and the Southside School Pre-vocational studies program for ages 16-25 in Niles. These students have below-average abilities and graduate with a certificate of completion. The curriculum focuses on independent living and employability skills.
- Blossomland Learning Center programs in Berrien Springs serve our moderate to severe cognitively impaired and severely multiply impaired students ages 3-26. The school assists students in preparing for entry into their respective communities as adults.
- Lighthouse Education Center in St. Joseph as well as Ballard and Southside Schools in Niles offer support to students with severe emotional impairments. These students exhibit a severity of emotional difficulties, which prohibits them from attendance in regular classrooms. Additionally, students may attend Lighthouse if they have severe autistic impairments.

**All special education programs and services follow the rules and regulations for eligibility set forth by the State of Michigan's Department of Education. For further information about student eligibility policies and procedures, existing programs, or speech and language services, contact your building principal or Karin Falkenstein, District Special Education Supervisor at 269-695-8442.**



*Personalize your learning experience with our Virtual Academy!*

## **BUCHANAN VIRTUAL ACADEMY**

### **GRADES 5-12**

Buchanan Virtual Academy offers full-time online opportunities for students in grades 5-12. Coursework is done from home and the curriculum is available 24/7 with certified teachers available six days a week. The engaging curriculum offers flexibility and covers all Michigan requirements. Students may accelerate at their own individual pace.

High School courses meet the Michigan Merit Curriculum requirements and 18 credits are required for graduation. Students enrolling with previous high school credits will have their credits examined and credited in the Michigan Merit requirements where possible.

Buchanan Virtual Academy focuses on student mastery of content and all courses are attached to Michigan-certified teachers offering students academic assistance along the way. Progress reports are available for parents as well as communication with students by phone, email, instant and text messaging, and video conferencing. If needed, students are provided a computer and internet access free of charge.

Students who live in the Buchanan school district are eligible for enrollment as well as all Berrien County students and students in adjacent counties.

Online learning is a fit for many students unable to take classes in a traditional setting. More information about the virtual academy as well as the application process can be found at Buchanan Virtual Academy | Buchanan Community Schools ([www.buchananschools.com](http://www.buchananschools.com)). You may also contact our Buchanan Virtual Academy Coordinator, Reid McBeth at 695-8400 ext. \*20026 or by email at [rmcbeth@buchananschools.com](mailto:rmcbeth@buchananschools.com).

## **BUCHANAN STEP UP**

### **AGES 16-19**

Buchanan Step Up enrolls students from all over the State of Michigan. Step Up is an online solution for students who have dropped out of school and operates year-round. Every student receives a computer and internet connectivity, allowing them to access their coursework anytime. Students are assigned an Advocate who works with the student to create an aggressive high school completion plan. Course work and instruction is supported by Michigan Certified Teachers. Students must complete one class per month to stay in the program. More information and application for Buchanan Step Up can be found at Buchanan Step Up | Buchanan Community Schools ([www.buchananschools.com](http://www.buchananschools.com)) or by calling 800-297-2119.

## **BUCHANAN ADULT EDUCATION**

### **ADULTS OVER AGE 20**

Buchanan Adult Education is accepting students nationally! The success of our Virtual Academy has prompted Buchanan to create a similar program for adult learners. Online classes are available for adults 20 years and older who would like to earn their high school diploma. No matter how many credits you have earned, our academic coaches will help you achieve your graduation goal. In order to put an academic plan together and arrange pricing, all we need is a copy of your high school transcript. For more information please contact 586-649-2323.

## **BUCHANAN CREDIT RECOVERY**

### **GRADES 9-12**

Buchanan Credit Recovery allows students from any high school across the country to take a high school course. Students may make up coursework or repeat failed classes. Approval from the student's home high school is needed to ensure credit will be accepted. Students can enroll in this tuition-based program at any time during the year to take advantage of classes delivered online with 24/7 access. For more information please contact 586-649-2323.

# Welcome New Staff!

## **Candyce Peppers**

Moccasin Elementary Special Education Teacher

## **Katie Deitrich**

4th Grade Teacher

## **Shane Farley**

3rd Grade Teacher

## **Abigail Yohe**

3rd Grade Teacher

## **Marc Hartman**

BMS/BHS Band Director

## **McKenna Carter**

BMS Special Education Teacher

## **Brandy Lowrance**

2nd Grade Teacher

## **Katie Persak**

BMS/BHS Choir Director

## **Ali Kyles**

Elementary Behavioral Specialist

## **Brian Bennett**

BHS Science Teacher

## BUCHANAN LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES

**Take a book, leave a book, share a book!**

Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization that promotes neighborhood book exchanges, usually in the form of a public bookcase. There are more than 150,000 public book exchanges registered with the organization and branded as Little Free Libraries!



Little Free Library located at Kathryn Park.

**Little Free Libraries in Buchanan are located in Clark Park (aka the Duck Pond), Kathryn Park, Harger Park (on Front and Oak) and Ravish Park.**



## BUCHANAN LITTLE FREE PANTRIES

Take what you need, give what you can!

These mini pantries are an easy way for neighbors to help neighbors who need food, hygiene, or paper items.

**Little Free Pantries in Buchanan are located at 122 Oak Street, 15235 Main Street, and 704 W. Front Street.**



**Helping Buchanan graduates achieve their dreams by supporting post-secondary success!**



*"With the help of Buchanan Promise, I will be able to extend my knowledge in Psychology at Southwestern Michigan College."*

**Larissa Perkins, BHS CLASS OF 2023**







# BUCHANAN PROMISE

## OPENING THE DOOR TO A BRIGHTER BUCHANAN

Since 2017, the Buchanan Promise has been helping students of Buchanan Community Schools continue their education, and fulfill their dreams.

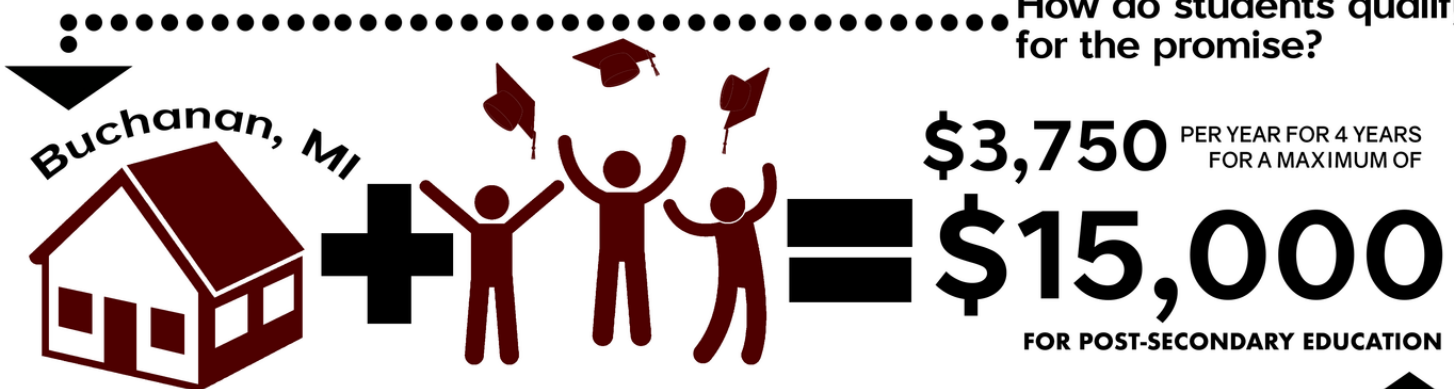
We are happy to announce that, beginning with the graduating class of 2022, eligible students can now qualify for up to \$15,000 over the life of the scholarship!



EZRA PRUETT  
CLASS OF 2031

### Does my student qualify?

How do students qualify for the promise?



All students who live in the BCS district AND attend AND graduate from Buchanan Community Schools qualify for the Promise! (\*at least grades 9 - 12)

To learn more or find out if YOUR student could qualify, call us or visit our website!

Michigan Gateway Community Foundation - Home of the Buchanan Promise 269.695.3521

[www.buchananpromise.org](http://www.buchananpromise.org)



## ALL STUDENT MEALS WILL BE



## FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR!

### ELEMENTARY

breakfast service begins at  
**8:10 am**

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

breakfast service begins at  
**6:50 am**

### HIGH SCHOOL

breakfast service begins at  
**7:00 am**

### SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

All Buchanan schools offer a before school breakfast program beginning on August 28, 2023.



### SCHOOL LUNCH AND MILK PROGRAM

All Buchanan Schools will begin lunch and milk service on Monday, August 28, 2023. One milk is included with each breakfast and lunch.

A variety of fruits and vegetables will be available on all menu lines for students to add to their plate (at no extra charge) before they check-out at the register.

**Milk:** \$.50 if purchased without a meal or if the student wants an additional carton.

**Monthly breakfast and lunch menus are available online at:**

**[www.buchananschools.com/food-services-program-information](http://www.buchananschools.com/food-services-program-information)**

Paper copies are sent home with elementary students and are also available at each school office.

Disruptions in our food supply chain are still a possibility and we may occasionally have to substitute menued items. We thank you for your patience and cooperation and look forward to serving your children this year.

### STUDENT MEAL ACCOUNTS

If your student has money in their account, please note that those funds stay with your student until they graduate. That money can be used to purchase ala carte items or will be available to them in future years if meals do not remain free.

Parents may also view the activity in their child's meal account via the internet through the District's Food Service Web Portal.

### ALA CARTE SALES

At the Middle School and High School, additional drinks and food will be available for purchase. There must be available funds in your child's account or cash payment in order to purchase ala carte food and beverages. Adults must also maintain a positive balance (or pay with cash).



**Please contact Becky Kaltenbach at 269-695-8415 for information about adding funds to your child's lunch account.**



## Safely transporting students to a foundation of lifelong learning and working together as a team to provide safe and successful transportation services

### GENERAL RULES FOR TRANSPORTATION

- Be on time at your designated bus stop. Drivers have a schedule to meet and cannot wait for tardy pupils. If the bus cancels its lights or pulls away, **DO NOT CHASE THE BUS**. This is how accidents happen.
- Cheerfully obey the bus driver's instructions. Friendly, respectful people get along better.
- Students are expected to display good behavior while on the bus. Quiet conversation is fine. When approaching a railroad crossing, students are to be silent until the bus is safe across the tracks.
- Always remain seated while a bus is moving. It may be necessary to sit three to a seat. The driver may also assign seats.
- Wait until the bus has come to a complete stop before attempting to enter or leave the bus.
- Eating or drinking is not permitted on the buses except for special occasions approved by the driver.
- Students are expected to help keep the buses clean. Dispose of paper and other unwanted items properly.
- Musical instruments, books, projects, or other personal items must be held by the owner or placed in a special seat designated by the driver if the room is available. We encourage parents to transport on days large items must be taken to school.
- Stay off the roadways at all times while waiting for a bus. Form a single line and board the bus one at a time. Remember to respect the property of others while waiting for the bus.
- Hands and heads are to be kept inside the bus at all times. There will be no unnecessary disturbing noises or vulgar/profane language.
- Students are expected to get on and off the bus at their designated stops **ONLY**. A parent/guardian must contact the school office directly, either by phone or by sending a note with their student. Please include the date, name, and address of where your child needs to be dropped off. The drivers will **NOT ACCEPT** notes, text messages, or phone calls from a parent on the student's cell phone while loading at the school. **A bus pass must be issued through the office. NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- When crossing, students must be 10 ft. in front of the bus, stop and look at the driver. When the driver gives a sweeping motion of their hand, students may then cross only in front of the bus. **NEVER** should a student cross the road behind the bus.
- Animals, glass containers, and helium balloons are not allowed on the buses.
- Students are asked to report any damage they see to the driver. Vandalism is a serious issue and will be addressed as soon as possible.
- Riders are expected to be considerate to all other passengers and to the driver at all times.
- Misconduct on the bus will not be tolerated. Drivers are in charge at all times and are required to report this behavior to the building principals. Riding privileges may be suspended.
- Per Michigan State Law, adults are not allowed to board school buses unless invited.
- Remember...school bus transportation is a privilege, not a right. Misconduct may result in the loss of this privilege.



### RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS

- Review bus riding rules with your child.
- Be sure your child arrives at their stop 5-10 minutes prior to bus arrival.
- Provide necessary protection for your child at the stop.
- Accept the responsibility for your child's conduct at the bus stop and on the school bus. *Remember: "Adults set the example and mood for their children."*

## Transportation TEAM

Jennifer S.	Heather B.
Ann	Jane
Deanna	Jeremy
Michael	Craig
Mr. Percy	Dave
Lacey	Steve
Valerie	Jennifer T.
Rose	Nate

# 2023-24 BACK TO SCHOOL BUCHANAN BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNUAL NOTICES

## NOTIFICATION OF ASBESTOS REINSPECTIONS

To: Parents & Staff of Buchanan Community Schools  
From: Mark Kurland, Director of Operations & Instructional Systems Coordinator  
Date: July 2023

In compliance with the 1989 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), we have performed inspections of each of our school buildings for asbestos-containing building materials. The inspection findings and asbestos management plans are on file in each school administrative office and in the office at Central Maintenance.

The EPA requires us to perform reinspections of the asbestos materials every three years. The three-year reinspections were performed by an accredited asbestos inspector in July 2023. We perform the six-month periodic surveillance as required by the AHERA regulations.

The results of the reinspections and management plans are on file in each school's administrative office and Business Office. Everyone is welcome to view these at any time during normal hours (M-F 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). I will be available at 695-8400 to answer any questions you may have about asbestos in our buildings.

## NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Buchanan Community Schools complies with all federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination and with all requirements and regulations of the U.S. Department of Education. It is the policy of the Board of Education that Buchanan Community Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, (including sexual orientation or transgender identity), disability, age, religion, height, weight, marital or family status, military status, ancestry, genetic information, or any other legally protected category, (collectively, "Protected Classes"), in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities. Compliance Officers for Affirmative Action and review of Federal requirements are as follows: Section 504, ADA, Title IX, and Title VI; Brian Pruett (Buchanan High School Principal, 695-8404) and Shelby Beasley (Buchanan Middle School Principal, 695-8406).

Inquiries concerning the nondiscriminatory policy may be directed to Director, Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education, Washington D. C. 20201. The District Coordinator, on request, will provide a copy of the District's grievance procedure and investigate all complaints in accordance with this procedure. A copy of each of the Acts and the regulations on which this notice is based may be found in the District's Superintendent's Office. In accordance with Federal law, any person employed by this District must provide evidence that they are eligible to work in the United States.

## DIRECTORY INFORMATION ON STUDENT

In compliance with Federal regulations, the Buchanan School District has established the following guidance concerning student records:

- The building principal is the Records Control Officer for the building and is responsible for the processing and maintenance of all student records.
- Each student's records will be kept in a confidential file. The information in a student's record file will be available for review only by the parents or legal guardian of a student, adult student (18 yrs. of age or older), and those designated by Federal law of District regulations.
- A parent, guardian, or adult student has the right to request a change or addition to a student's records and to either obtain a hearing with District officials or file a complaint with the U.S. Office of Education if not satisfied with the accuracy of the records, or with the District's compliance with the Federal Education Rights Privacy Act (FERPA).
- The District has established the following information about each student as "directory information" and will make it available upon a legitimate request unless a parent, guardian, or adult student notifies the Records Control Officer in writing within ten (10) days from the date of this notification that they will not permit distribution of any or all such information: name, address, date, and place of birth, photograph, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, height and weight, if a member of an athletic team, dates of attendance, date of graduation and awards received, and any other information the District considers would not be harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed.
- A copy of the policy and the accompanying guidelines are available at the Board office. There will also be a person available to answer any questions concerning the policy or guidelines.

## PARENT NOTIFICATION REGARDING SEX EDUCATION AND AIDS CLASSES

The Board of Education has adopted a comprehensive Health Education Program which includes education on human sexuality and venereal and non-casual-contact communicable diseases such as AIDS. It is designed to provide an appropriate means for students to acquire the knowledge, skill, and attitudes necessary to maintain good health.

In compliance with State law and with its desire to maintain effective communication with parents and the community, the Board has made arrangements for the programs and instructional materials to be available for review by any parents or interested members of the community. If you wish to review any or all of the programs, please contact the principal of your child's school. After reviewing the programs, if you wish to discuss them, please contact the principal or the school office.

Your child is required to participate in these courses, but the law allows you the right to have your child excused from participating in classes that include instruction in sex education, reproductive health, family planning, and AIDS education. The Board's policy is to honor parents' written requests that their child be excused from certain classes in any course. We encourage you to personally review the program lessons and materials.

## PROTECT YOUR CHILD FROM MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE AND OTHER SERIOUS ILLNESSES THAT CAN AFFECT PRE-TEENS

Pre-teens and adolescents need vaccines to protect them from serious illnesses. Immunizations begin at birth and continue throughout life. These shots are an important step to maintain your child's health.

Meningococcal disease is a serious illness caused by bacteria that infects the blood or tissues around the brain and spinal cord.

- This germ can be spread from person to person by close contact.
- Common symptoms include a fever, rash, headache, or stiff neck.
- It can lead to brain damage, disability, and death.
- Meningococcal vaccine (MCV4) can protect children and adolescents from this disease.
- This vaccine is usually given to 11-12-year-olds (6th graders).
- Because it is a newer vaccine, older adolescents may not have received it. Teens that have not had Meningococcal vaccine should be given a dose.
- Ask your child's health care provider if they need the Meningococcal vaccine.

To obtain the Meningococcal vaccine and other immunizations for your child, see your child's health care provider or your local health department.

For more information about the Meningococcal vaccine or other immunizations, talk to your child's health care provider or call your local health department. Information is also available at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website: [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines).

There are vaccines that can protect pre-teens and adolescents from other serious diseases. Sixth graders and teens need the following shots if they have not received them:

- 1 dose of meningococcal vaccine (MCV4)
- 1 dose of diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis vaccine (DTP, DTaP, Tdap)
- 3 doses of human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV4 - for girls only)
- 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine (HepB)
- 2 doses of measles, mumps, rubella vaccine (MMR)
- 2 doses of chicken pox vaccine (var), if they did not have the disease
- At least 3 doses of polio vaccine (IPV or OPV)
- Some children & teens may need hepatitis A and flu vaccine

The Michigan Department of Education in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Community Health is required by law (2005 PA240, MCL380.1177a) to develop and make available to schools information on Meningococcal Meningitis.

## CONCUSSION AWARENESS

A student cannot participate in a school-sponsored or operated athletic activity until the student and their parent have each received and read the concussion fact sheet for students and the concussion fact sheet for parents, respectively. Both the student and parent must sign and return a form acknowledging receipt of the fact sheet or other concussion awareness educational material. At a minimum, schools must keep these acknowledgment forms in a permanent file as long as the student participates in a school-sponsored athletic activity.

## MEMORANDUM TO PARENTS REGARDING SCHOOL BOARD POLICY ON DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS

In accordance with Federal Law, the Board of Education prohibits the use, possession, concealment, or distribution of drugs by students on school grounds, in school or school-approved vehicles, or at any school-related event. Drugs include any alcoholic beverage, anabolic steroid, dangerous controlled substance as defined by State statute or substance that could be considered a "look-alike" controlled substance. Compliance with this policy is mandatory for all students. Any student who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, in accordance with due process and as specified in the student handbook, up to and including expulsion from school. When required by State laws, the District will also notify law enforcement officials. The District is concerned about any student who is a victim of alcohol or drug abuse and will facilitate the process by which they receive help through programs and services available in the community. Students and their parents should contact the school principal or counseling office whenever such help is needed.

## PARENT NOTIFICATION OF PESTICIDE SPRAY ON SCHOOL PREMISES

State of Michigan law requires schools that may apply pesticides on school property to provide an annual advisory to parents or guardians or students attending the facility.

Please be advised that Buchanan Community 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 reducing 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 grounds or buildings during this school year. 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.

Application of pesticides will be performed only by certified or registered applicators where and when required. If a pesticide is applied in a building, students will not occupy the room for a minimum of four hours. At the time of application, a sign will be posted for 48 hours near the building's primary point of entry. When a pesticide is applied to school district grounds, the application will not be made within 100 feet of occupied classrooms, and flags will be inserted in the ground to mark the application area.

Advance notification of pesticide applications, other than a bait or gel formulation, will be given by 2 methods. The first method will be by posting at the main entrance of the school to which the pesticide application is being made. The second method will be by posting on the school's website at [www.buchananschools.com](http://www.buchananschools.com).

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school are entitled to receive the advance notice of a pesticide application, other than a bait or gel formulation, by first-class United States mail postmarked at least 3 days before the pesticide application, if they so request. If you prefer to receive the notification by first-class mail, please contact Mark Kurland, Director of Operations & Instructional Systems Coordinator at 269-695-8400 ext. \*20005 or [mkurland@buchananschools.com](mailto:mkurland@buchananschools.com).

Please be advised that parents or guardians of children attending the school may review the school's Integrated Pest Management program and records of any pesticide application upon request. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at 269-695-8400 ext. \*20005 or [mkurland@buchananschools.com](mailto:mkurland@buchananschools.com).

## PARENT NOTIFICATION REGARDING BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

Buchanan Community Schools is subject to regulations from OSHA to restrict the spread of hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in the workplace. These regulations are designed to protect employees of the District who are, or could be exposed, to blood or other contaminated bodily fluids while performing their job duties.

Because of the very serious consequences of contracting HBV or HIV, the District requests the person who was bleeding consent to be tested for HBV and HIV. This information would then be provided both to the exposed employee and the treating physician to determine proper medical treatment.

The law does not require parents or guardians to grant permission for the examination of their child's blood, but it does require the District to request that consent. Although we expect that incidents of exposure will be few, we wanted to notify parents of these requirements ahead of time. That way, if the situation does develop you will understand the reason for our request and will have had an opportunity to consider it in advance. These are serious diseases, and we sincerely hope that through proper precautions and cooperation we can prevent them from spreading. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact 269-695-8401.

## STUDENT PRIVACY AND PARENTAL ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The Board of Education respects the privacy right of parents and their children. No student shall be required as a part of the school program or the District's curriculum without the prior written consent of the student, (if an adult or an emancipated minor) or, if an unemancipated minor, their parents, to submit to or participate in any survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

- political affiliations or beliefs of the student or their parents;
- mental or physical problems of the student or their family;
- sex behavior or attitudes;
- illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
- critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close, family relationships;
- legally-recognized privileged and analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
- religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or their parents;
- or income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

The Superintendent shall ensure that procedures are established whereby parents may inspect any material used in conjunction with any such survey, analysis, or evaluation.

Further, parents have the right to inspect, upon request, a survey or evaluation created by a third party before the survey/evaluation is administered or distributed by the school to the student. The parent will have access to the survey/evaluation within a reasonable period of time after the request is received by the building principal.

## PA 158, WEAPON-FREE SCHOOL ZONE LEGISLATION

Under PA 158, any person who assaults another person with less than the intent to commit murder or to inflict bodily harm, with a gun, revolver, pistol, knife, iron bar, club, brass knuckles, or other dangerous weapons in a weapon-free school zone, is guilty of a felony punishable by one or more of the following:

- Imprisonment for not more than four years
- Community service for not more than 150 hours
- A fine of not more than \$6,000

A parent of a minor is guilty of a misdemeanor if they have custody of the minor, the minor has a weapons violation in a weapon-free school zone, and the parent knows that the minor would violate the firearms act or acts to further the violation. The misdemeanor is punishable by one or more of the following:

- Fine of not more than \$2,000
- Community service for not more than 100 hours
- Probation

The law also provides that anyone in possession of a weapon in a weapon-free school zone is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by one or more of the following:

- Imprisonment for not more than 93 days
- Community service for not more than 100 hours
- Fine of not more than \$2,000

## COORDINATORS FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND REVIEW OF FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

Section 504, American Disabilities Act (ADA), Title IX, Title VI - Brian Pruett (695-8404 ext. \*20012) and Shelby Beasley (695-8406 ext. \*32107)

School Lunch - Becky Kaltenbach (695-8415 ext. \*20009)

## PERMISSION TO UTILIZE

As a part of a media presentation produced by this District via computerized, audio-visual, or other types of electronic communication, students and/or their schoolwork products may be photographed, video or digitized. These photographs, videos, digitized works, or other items may be made available to other educational institutions, broadcast mediums, or through the internet. As a result, a student's image, name, work product, school, or grade may be revealed in the presentation unless a parent, guardian, or adult student notifies the building principal in writing within ten (10) calendar days from the date of this notification that they will not permit the use of such material.

## PARENTS RIGHT TO REVIEW TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

As a parent of a student at Buchanan Community Schools, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct your child. Federal law allows you to ask for certain information about your child's classroom teachers and requires us to give you this information in a timely manner if you ask for it. Specifically, you have the right to ask for the following information about each of your child's classroom teachers:

- Whether the Michigan Department of Education has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects they teach.
- Whether the Michigan Department of Education has decided that the teacher can teach in a classroom without being licensed or qualified under state regulations because of special circumstances.
- The teacher's college major; whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
- Whether any teachers' aides or similar paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please call Buchanan Community Schools at 269-695-8401.

## NOTICE OF RIGHT TO INSPECT INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

It is the policy of the Board of Education that complaints and concerns of parents and other members of the community are to be dealt with as efficiently as possible but in accordance with school policy. If your concern or complaint relates to instructional materials such as textbooks, library books, reference works, and the like, please complete the form 9130 f2 - REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF MATERIALS OR COURSE CONTENT which is available at the school office or the Superintendent's Office.

The complete form should be submitted to the principal who will respond to your request in accordance with the steps outlined in Board policy 9130, a copy of which is available upon request.

## CTE PARENT NOTIFICATION

Additional support services are available to special population students enrolled in Career and Technical Education classes through the Perkins III initiative. For additional information, please contact Mark Frey at 269-695-8400 ext. \*20013.

# 2023 BOARD OF EDUCATION CALENDAR

Pursuant to Public Acts No. 451, Article I, Part 3, Section 115, Paragraph (1), the calendar for the Buchanan Board of Education is hereby published.

*Meetings will be called for 6:00 pm, unless advertised differently.*

## THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND ALL MEETINGS OF THE BUCHANAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

<b>Monday, August 21</b>	Regular Meeting	High School
<b>Monday, September 18</b>	Regular Meeting	High School
<b>Monday, October 16</b>	Regular Meeting	High School
<b>Monday, November 20</b>	Regular Meeting	High School
<b>Monday, December 11</b>	Regular Meeting	High School
<b>January - July</b>	TBD	TBD

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Harvey Burnett**  
President

**Ruth Writer**  
Vice President

**Kelly Laesch**  
Secretary

**Chris Carlson**  
Treasurer

**Katie Berry**  
Trustee

**Scott Carlin**  
Trustee

**Jennie Brackett**  
Trustee

Upon request to Michelle Munyon, the District shall make reasonable accommodation for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in this meeting.



As part of the **BUCHANAN PROMISE**, provided and managed by the Michigan Gateway Community Foundation, every Kindergartener will be given a FREE \$50 College Savings Account at Honor Credit Union.

### Michigan Gateway Community Foundation

To learn more, call us or visit the website!

269-695-3521

[www.buchananpromise.com](http://www.buchananpromise.com)

**July 2023**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**July**

4 Independence Day

**August 2023**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**August**

14-18 Berrien County Youth Fair

21 Welcome Back Staff!

22-23 District PD

28 First Day of School - Welcome Back Students!

**September 2023**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**September**

1 No School - Students & Staff

4 No School - Students & Staff - Labor Day

**October 2023**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**October**

6 End of 1st Quarter

18 Full Day - Evening Conferences

19 1/2 Day - Students - Afternoon & Evening Conferences

20 1/2 Day - Students & Staff

31 Halloween

**November 2023**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

**November**

10 No School - Students - District PD - Veterans Day

22-24 No School - Students & Staff - Thanksgiving Break

23 Thanksgiving

**December 2023**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**December**

21 1/2 Day - Students / Teacher Records Day

22 1/2 Day - Students / Teacher Records Day

24 Christmas Eve

25-29 No School - Students & Staff - Winter Recess

25 Christmas Day

31 New Year's Eve

**January 2024**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**January**

1 New Year's Day

1-5 No School - Students & Staff - Winter Recess

15 No School - Students & Staff - MLK Day

26 No School - Students - District PD

**February 2024**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

**February**

14 Valentines Day

16 No School - Students & Staff

19 No School - Students & Staff - President's Day

**March 2024**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**March**

6 End of 3rd Quarter

10 Daylight Saving

28 1/2 Day - Students - Afternoon & Evening Conferences

29 No School - Students & Staff - Good Friday

31 Easter

**April 2024**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

**April**

1 April Fool's Day

1-5 No School - Students & Staff - Spring Break

26 No School - Students - District PD

**May 2024**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**May**

12 Mother's Day

24 No School - Students & Staff

27 No School - Students & Staff - Memorial Day

**June 2024**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

**June**

5 1/2 Day - Students / Teacher Records Day

6 1/2 Day - Students/Teacher Records Day/Last Day of School

14 Flag Day

16 Father's Day

19 Juneteenth



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**Opening the door to a brighter Buchanan!**

*"I will be able to work to become a Cosmetologist at the Twin City Beauty School. This is all possible with the help of Buchanan Promise to help me further my vocational education."*

**Jacklynn Leshman, BHS CLASS OF 2023**



**BUCHANAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW**

Buchanan Community Schools complies with all federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination and with all requirements and regulations of the U.S. Department of Education. It is the policy of the Board of Education that no person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, gender/sex, height, weight, marital status, or disability shall be subjected to discrimination in any program, service, or activity for which it is responsible or for which it receives financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Education. Compliance Officers for Affirmative Action and review of Federal requirements are as follows: Section 504, ADA, Title IX and Title VI; Brian Pruett (Buchanan High School Principal, 695-8404) and Shelby Beasley (Buchanan Middle School Principal, 695-8406).