



Students arrive on the first day of school.

THE BRIDGE

Fall 2023

Volume 47

Issue 1

Serving the students of the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek community since 1976



School Spirit

The student section cheers on the varsity football team during the Eagles' 21-7 win over Tippecanoe in the season-opening football game at David L. Holmes Field.

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Better Today than Yesterday,
Better Tomorrow than Today



SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year. We have had a very busy and successful start. It was a pleasure seeing our district families at our open houses, orientations, meet and greets, “party at the playground,” and sporting events, just to name a few. It is definitely a team effort to have an outstanding opening. We thank our district families for doing your part in helping your students be ready for school!

What has made the start of the school year even sweeter, are the results of the District Report Card, as released by the Ohio Department of Education.

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools received an overall rating of 5 stars and earned 5 stars in each of the component areas (Achievement, Progress, Gap Closing, Graduation and Early Literacy).

In fact, we are just one of eight school districts in the entire state to earn 5 stars in the overall rating and each of the five overall components out of the more than 600 public schools rated ... and Bellbrook was the only district in the greater Dayton area to do so.

Even though we have had very strong results – just as we have in the past – we are always looking for areas to improve. Writing was one of those focus areas this past year. I am extremely happy to tell you that out of 32 possible scoring areas in the writing sections, we increased our scores in 20 of those areas. This is a testament to hard work and a focus on a specific area of improvement to help our students improve their writing. We know that writing for a test is not the only type of writing. But we must prepare our students to be successful in a variety of areas and writing in response to a prompt is one of those.

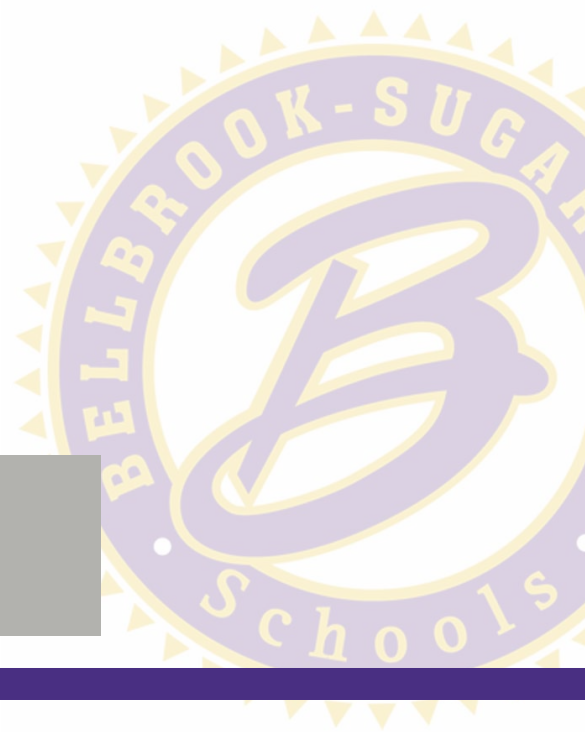
We also know there is more to our schools than test scores. Please check out our Quality Profile on pages 6 and 7, which highlights the accomplishments (such as the BHS Drone team winning a second consecutive National Championship) of our students and staff and all of the ways our schools give back to our community and beyond (such as 10,677 hours of community service by the National Honor Society).

Lastly, I’d be remiss if I didn’t highlight a particular item on the Quality Profile: the district’s cost per pupil. According to the Fiscal Year 2022 State of Ohio District Profile Report, our cost per pupil was \$12,480. We are about \$2,200 below the state average and about \$1,090 less than similar districts. We work hard to be fiscally responsible while at the same time providing a top-notch educational experience for our students.

Better Today than Yesterday; Better Tomorrow than Today.

Douglas A. Cozad, Ph.D.

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Local Schools Superintendent



Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools Welcomes New Staff for 2023-2024



Leslie Albrecht
Custodian
High School



Amanda Ashley
Bus Driver
Transportation



Logan Ashley
Van Driver
Transportation



Nicholas Baker
Language Arts
Middle School



Emily Balazs
Special Needs
Stephen Bell



Patrick Barker
Fifth Grade
Bell Creek



Stephanie Caro
Kindergarten
Stephen Bell



Lindsay Caupp
Intervention Spec.
Middle School



Zack Cline
Assistant Principal
Bell Creek



Mia Cornett
Intervention Spec.
Bell Creek



Emily Curbow
LR & TR Assist.
Bell Creek



Raphael Daniels
Bus Driver/LR Ast.
Transportation/SB



Anna DeTorres
Third Grade
Bell Creek



Marie-Pier Edwards
Bus Driver
Transportation



Renee Finan
Psychologist Intern
Bell Creek/PS



Laura Fisher
Reading
Stephen Bell



Ronald Gudgell
Special Needs
High School



Cameron Halls
Music
MS & HS



Hannah Handley
LR Assist.
Bell Creek



James Horobin
Van Driver
Transportation



Madison Jansen
Kindergarten
Stephen Bell



John Kilbane
Bus Driver
Transportation



Daniel Kinser
Custodian
High School



Heather Kraszczyk
Special Needs
Middle School



Kristen Krumheuer
French
High School



Danielle Lange
Intervention Spec.
Bell Creek



Ashley Langford
Bus Driver
Transportation



Amber McDermott
Digital Lit.
Stephen Bell



Cynthia Pettit
Athletic/SS Sec.
High School



Donald Pierce
Bus Driver
Transportation



Danielle Schaaf
Intervention Spec.
Middle School



Molly Stanifer
Intervention Spec.
Bell Creek



Julie Steiner
Math
Middle School



Danielle Taylor
Counselor
Bell Creek



Mark Thomas
Bus Driver
Transportation



Bobbie Ward
Family/Life (GCCC)
Middle School



Andrea Weeks
First Grade
Stephen Bell



Jessica Wheeler
Library
Stephen Bell



Christian Williams
Special Needs
High School



Starla Williams
Bus Driver/LR Assist.
Trans./Middle School

Bean, Dunham and Sparks Inducted into the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools Hall of Fame

Two graduates and a member of the community were inducted into the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek School District Hall of Fame on October 6.

Tom Bean, Carrie Gainey Dunham and Gregg Sparks were this year's inductees. Each spoke in front of family, friends and the 2024 senior class. All three were honored at halftime of the Homecoming game.

Bean, a 1986 graduate and the former AD at Bellbrook High School spoke to those in attendance about how coaching in his sophomore year at the University of Dayton changed his entire future. He told students not to be blind to opportunities that might come their way and just because they are on a certain course, not to dismiss an opportunity just because it might not be the path they are on, currently.

Bean also said to the team of coaches he helped assemble during his time as AD, "You did amazing things for the kids, your teams, and the community."

Dunham, a member of the Class of 1987, said she was just as surprised as the rest of her family when she found out she was being inducted into the Hall of Fame, as she was not a notable athlete. The question "why" came up a few too many times, she joked.

But she came around – with the help of her sister-in-law – as to why, telling the crowd her company and the companies she's worked for have helped more than 140,000 people find jobs and provide for their families.

"Doing ordinary things in an extraordinary

way deserves to be celebrated," she said.

She closed her speech by sharing her principles for life with the Class of 2024, saying in part: "Find your people and treat them right, and you will be rewarded over and over again."

Sparks said he knew why he was chosen as a member of the Hall of Fame class, it's because he's the husband of Lori Sparks, drawing a laugh from the crowd.

The community stalwart was a part of the stadium project, has been a member of the Lions Club for the last 19 years, was the 2011 Citizen of the Year, and maintained the middle school ballfields on his own for a time.

For more on each of the honorees, see below:

Thomas E. Bean, Class of 1986

Athletic Director and Coach

As a high school athlete, Tom was a 4-year starter in varsity soccer, serving as the team captain in his junior and senior years. He also was a percussionist in the marching band. Tom lettered three years in tennis, too. After graduation, Tom earned his Bachelor's degree in Education from the University of Dayton in 1992. In 1996, he earned his M.S. degree in Education with a dual concentration in Athletic Administration and Exercise Science. Tom became PE/health teacher at Bellbrook High School in 1996. While a teacher, he also coached several sports including men's and women's tennis, men's soccer and women's soccer, winning multiple Southwestern Buckeye League championships in each of those sports. He became the district's athletic director

in 1998. As AD, Tom became a Nationally Certified Athletic Administrator in 2007, was inducted into the Southwest Ohio Athletic Directors Association Hall of Fame in 2018, and the Ohio OIAAA Hall of Fame in 2019. He was the Co-Manager in the stadium renovation project in 2007. In 2018, Tom decided to step out of the athletic director role after serving 20 years. Since then, he has been a PE teacher at Bellbrook Middle School. Tom has been married to his wife, Ann for 18 years.

Carrie Gainey Dunham, Class of 1987

Business Leader and Community Volunteer

While attending BHS, Carrie was a very active student. Known for her organizational skills and enthusiastic leadership, Carrie served as the Student Council President, Hands Across America school leader, and School Improvement Committee chairperson. She also was in National Honor Society and a member of the Goldenette Drill Team. Carrie continued her education at the University of Cincinnati, earning a degree in Political Science in 1991. After working as an account manager for Career Expo in Cincinnati for eight years, Carrie started her own Career Fair business in 1999 with her business partner. Expo Experts proudly employed 10 other BHS graduates and was named the Small Business Commerce Association's Best in Small Business in 2012, and won the award every year through 2019. After 25 successful years, the company was acquired by Professional Diversity Network, Inc. headquartered in Chicago, Illinois. Carrie recently was promoted to Vice President of Event Sales and Operations for both business divisions at IPDN. Carrie has volunteered numerous hours to the Leukemia and Lymphoma

Homecoming 2023

Society, Wee Eagles cheer program, Chi Omega sorority, Operation Prom Dress and the Sugar Maple Festival. Carrie and her husband, Scott, have two daughters, Abby and Molly, who are both Bellbrook graduates.

Gregg A. Sparks

Dedicated Community Leader and Volunteer

Colonel Gregg Sparks (retired) had a distinguished career of over 35 years in the United States Air Force. He graduated from the Citadel and earned his MBA from the University of West Florida. Fortunately, he and his wife Lori decided to settle their family in Bellbrook and raise their two children, Molly and Collin, here. Gregg has eagerly volunteered his leadership, problem-solving, and planning expertise. The positive results of Gregg's talents are evident in many ways in our community and schools. Examples include service as a scout leader, science fair judge, and Washington D.C. chaperone. He led the crew that disassembled and reassembled the bleachers for the band and HS softball field as part of the stadium renovation project. He maintained the middle school ball fields using his own equipment. He managed a partnership between the Athletic Boosters and the Lions Club that netted the Boosters over \$45,000. He has served as an active Lions Club member for 19 years and Gregg was also named Citizen of the Year in 2011 for the City of Bellbrook. Gregg is currently leading the initiative to build an inclusive playground adjacent to the current BCI playground.



Student Experiences & District Accolades

315 Middle and high school students participated in an extracurricular sport



Supporting Military Families

100%

of all district schools recognized as Purple Star Schools (military friendly)

Bellbrook High School is included in the...



1 of 8 schools in Ohio to receive 5-star overall rating and five stars in each component

72% of 7th and 8th grade students participated in an extracurricular activity

24 VARSITY SPORTS



27

Consecutive years BMS has earned the Gov.'s Thomas Edison Awards for Excellence in STEM Education and Student Research

BMS named a National School To Watch and Ohio School To Watch



325

Students participated in band/choir in grades 6-12

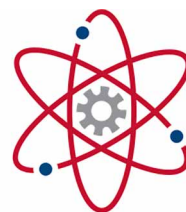
100% of third graders met the Third Grade Reading Guarantee

Four new school buses purchased and put into service for the 2023-24 school year

28

SWBL All-Sports titles Bellbrook has won, including eight straight

Bellbrook Winterguard advanced to the 2023 Winterguard International World Class semifinals & placed 16th overall in the country



PLTW High School Distinguished School

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

65% District teachers with 10+ Years Experience

19% District teachers with 4-10 Years Experience

Marching Band earned MSBA Class AAA champion and went undefeated in MSBA class during the 2022 competition season

BHS Drone team wins 2nd National Championship



30 Languages spoken in district homes



The Air Force Junior ROTC instructors and cadets of Bellbrook High School earned an overall unit assessment score of "Exceeds Standards"... the highest rating attainable

Indoor Percussion Ensemble finished in semifinals of the Scholastic Open World Competition

15.3% of students in the district are served in a special needs capacity

Academic Life

217 Graduates in 2023



82% of the Class of 2023 is attending college or joined the military

13 - AP Courses Offered **AP**

\$3.4+ Million Scholarships offered to the Class of 2023

986

College credits earned by BHS students

49

Students graduating with an Honors Diploma

2 National Merit Scholarship Finalists

16 Students committed to play college sports; Eight offered athletic scholarships/aid

21 Students earned a 12-pt Industry Credential in Law/Public Safety

72% of certified staff hold a Master's degree

5 College Credit Plus (CCP) courses offered at BHS, giving students the opportunity to earn college credit without leaving BHS

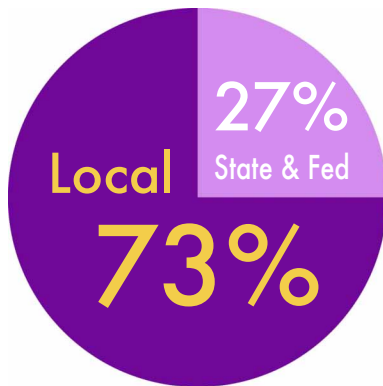
57 High school credits earned by middle school students

30

Students that participated in BMS Science Fair

Fiscal Responsibility

District Revenue



Expenditures

57% Employee salaries and wages
19% Employee Retirement and Insurance
15% Purchased Services
4% Other Objects (Debt services, due, etc.)
3% Supplies and materials
2% Capital Outlay

\$12,480

Cost per pupil in the district, which is about **\$2,200 below the state average**

Giving Back

\$15,000

Money raised and/or donated by the PTO to support classroom and school activities

\$23,000

SB students donated to Kids Heart Challenge (#3 in Ohio)

\$9,000

BCI students donated to Health Moves Minds Challenge

\$13,877

BSEF funded for classroom grants

\$20,733

Raised during Fun Run for school field trips and PBIS Program

10,677

Hours of community service by the National Honor Society

2,055

Hours logged in community service by JROTC

60%

of 7th grade students participated in service-learning projects

\$13,000

Raised at BCI Pumpkin Auction for A Special Wish Foundation

BHS Celebrates National Merit Scholarship Award Winners

Bellbrook High School proudly congratulates its 2023 National Merit Semifinalists: Maya Brink, Adam Beane, Lincoln Warren and Lorelai Wolverton.

These students earned top scores in the Practice SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), placing them in the top 1% of test-takers nationwide. Their accomplishment underscores their dedication to their education and pursuit of excellence.



Lincoln Warren

Their achievements are a source of pride for our school community and highlight the potential our students possess. We congratulate Maya, Adam, Lincoln and Lorelai and eagerly anticipate their future accomplishments.



Maya Brink

But there is more cause for congratulations. Seven other high school students earned the rank of "commended" in the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying test. Those students were: Daniel Betts, Rylan Carper, Mikuya Ford, Seth Gedeon, Alexander Pittman, Zachary Shore and Jared Warren.



Lorelai Wolverton

All of these students exemplify the academic talent within Bellbrook High School and reflect the quality education and support they have received in the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek School



Adam Beane

District from our talented and hard-working teachers and staff.

With pride, we offer our congratulations to our National Merit Semifinalists and Commended students and eagerly anticipate their future success.

Bellbrook High School Once Again on Big Stage

When it comes to high academic achievement, Bellbrook High School is no stranger to the national stage.

It's hard to miss the numerous plaques adorning the wall of the main entrance to the high school, showing off the high school's many awards from U.S. News and World Report. And this year, the high school gets to add another to the wall.

Bellbrook High School was ranked as the 53rd best public high school in the state out of the 741 that were ranked, finishing in the top 6 percent in the nation, ranking 1,463 out of nearly 25,000 high schools.



It's not like it's the first time the high school has made the prestigious rankings or the first time it has been ranked that high, either.

In 2019, the high school was 55th, in 2020 it was 66th, in 2021 it was 93rd and in 2022 it was 42nd in Ohio.

"Bellbrook High School has a rich history of academic, artistic, and athletic success, always striving for excellence and having faith in our students' potential," Principal Dave Hann said. "This year's report card clearly shows our staff and students' commitment to continuing that tradition of success. I'm grateful to our exceptional staff, our students, and the whole Bellbrook community for their efforts. I know that together, we can soar to even greater heights."

The high school had its highest ranking in 2013 when it was the 37th-ranked high school in the state and the 820th-best in the nation. Since 2012, the high school has been ranked in the top 100 11 times – nine of those times 72nd or better.

Scores are based on six factors including:

College readiness: proportion of 12th grade students who earned a qualifying score on at least one Advanced Placement exam (30% of ranking).

State assessment proficiency: aggregated scores on state

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The Transformative Impact of AI on K12 Education: What Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools are Doing to Prepare

Artificial Intelligence is poised to revolutionize K-12 education offering a range of possibilities that can enhance teaching and learning experiences. As we stand on the cusp of this technological transformation, public schools should be proactive in embracing AI's potential while addressing key considerations.

Teacher Support: AI can be a valuable assistant for teachers. Virtual tutors and chatbots, available outside of the school day, can answer student questions, provide additional resources, and offer feedback on student work. We will start seeing these features from vendors in the near future available within the core digital curriculum.

Early Intervention: AI algorithms can detect learning difficulties early by analyzing student data, and then suggesting instructional plans. Schools can leverage these tools to provide early intervention and efficient support to the students who need it most.

Accessibility: AI-powered tools can enhance accessibility for students with disabilities. Text-to-speech and speech-to-text technologies, for instance, can empower students with various needs. Public schools should ensure that AI-driven accessibility tools are readily available to all students.

Teacher Training: We are committed in Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools to remain forward-thinking about the future of AI in order to best prepare ourselves and our students for this rapidly changing technology. Some states, such as Georgia, have begun creating a middle-school curriculum for AI with accompanying teacher training to support the instruction.

Equity and Inclusion: AI-powered educational platforms can adapt content and teaching methods to individual student's needs. This personalized approach ensures

students receive the support they require regardless of background or learning pace. It can help bridge achievement gaps by addressing the unique challenges students from different backgrounds may face.

Data and Security: At Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools, safeguarding student privacy is paramount. As public schools integrate AI, increased expertise, strict privacy policies, and robust data security measures will be in place to protect sensitive information. We will continue to prioritize compliance with regulations like the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).



Ethical AI Use: The use of AI raises many ethical questions in the educational setting. Educators need to wrestle with these issues now. In Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools, board policy now addresses the use of AI by

staff and students. The policy makes it clear we must educate all stakeholder groups on proper, acceptable use to support educational goals. Policy 7540.03 states, "Teachers have the discretion to authorize students to use AI/NLP (natural language processing) tools for the following uses: Research assistance e.g., scientific experiments and marketing research. Language translation ... Writing assistance: grammar and spelling corrections, as well as suggesting alternative word choices and sentence structure, to help students improve their writing skills. Accessibility: to help students with disabilities access and understand written materials. For example, text-to-speech software can help students with specific learning disabilities or visual impairments to read texts and AI-powered translation tools can help students with hearing impairments understand spoken language."

In conclusion, AI holds tremendous potential to reshape K-12 education, but its successful implementation

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Middle School Students Getting Career Exposure

It's never too early to start looking at your future. That's the lesson 7th and 8th grade students are learning at Bellbrook Middle School.

In the past two years, students have begun to take a look at what life might be like after high school through a program with the Greene County Educational Service Center (ESC).

"The kids take a field trip to the career center when they are in eighth grade, but that's two years before they can go and take classes there," Middle School principal Jenna Hill said. "But it's never too early to start thinking about post-high school life."



The ESC received a grant to provide each district in the county with two grade levels of access to the website known as Pathful Explore.

With access to the website, students are able to find what are called career clusters, or careers that could be related to one another in some way. For example, law and safety, education and training or health and science.

For that, students take an 85-question survey to determine their interests. The survey suggests five career choices and students can choose several others if

the survey didn't quite give them something they liked.

From there, students can explore career paths by watching videos detailing those selections via job shadowing and watching question-and-answer videos also related to their interests.

According to Amy Baldridge with the Greene County ESC, the program has more than 650 videos in its robust offerings.

The opening process takes two days of social studies time for seventh graders.

It gets more intense for eighth graders. They take the time to go over their careers from the year prior and go more in-depth.

That plunge takes place during Family and Consumer Science classes when students will set their finances and simulate what financial planning would look like in that career field.

Baldridge also stated the program provides several different entry levels. If students want to check out HVAC for example, they can find out what it would look like for them if they have no college education, two years, or four. The same is true for other career fields.

She also said the website offered to go through this program, Pathful Explore, was picked by students because it was more focused on their age range than some others that seemed to be more adult-focused.

The program has done so well in the district in the early going, there are some opportunities to expand it to the high school for students who didn't have the opportunity to participate in 7th and 8th grade.

"Each district got to choose how to best use this program," Baldridge said. "It has worked well for Bellbrook and they are interested in filling some of the extra seats from districts that chose not to use the program. It has been well received."



PBIS Gets New Face at Bell Creek Intermediate

Cline Becomes BCI's First Assistant Principal

It was only a matter of time really.

When Zack Cline and his family moved across the street from Bellbrook High School, he had his sights set. But that doesn't mean leaving Miamisburg Schools after 25 years was easy.

Cline became the first-ever assistant principal of Bell Creek Intermediate and has a smile on his face every day he walks into the building.

A 1998 UD grad, Cline majored in Elementary Education and played football for the Flyers. After graduation, Cline started his career in Miamisburg as a teacher and took over as principal for the high school for two years before coming to the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek School District.

"I loved Miamisburg, and ran to work every day," he said. "I couldn't wait to get there and do all the things. It was a difficult decision, but it was the right decision. It was easy in the fact that I'm with my family and I get to be in my community. I get to give back to the people who are giving back to my kids and to be a part of all the great things my wife (Mrs. Emily Cline) has been a part of for the last few years."

That sense of community is what gets Cline up in the morning. For him it's inescapable.

"It's the best thing ever. Literally every

day when I wake up the first thing I see is Bellbrook High School," Cline said. "BCI is right here, my wife's school is across the street. It's awesome to be a part of this school system and to be able to walk to work and see all the great things the kids are doing in this district."

Cline gets to be a pioneer at BCI. As it's a first run at the position, he and principal Donnie Phelps have the opportunity to shape the role in the way that fits them.

"BCI is right here, my wife's school is across the street. It's awesome to be a part of this school system and to be able to walk to work and see all the great things the kids are doing in this district."
BCI Assist. Principal Zack Cline

"The neat part about this role never being done before is that Mr. Phelps and I, over the summer, got to know each other quite a bit and really figured out where our strengths are," Cline said. Cline mentioned he and Phelps knew each other previously, when Phelps was a student in the Miamisburg district.

Cline will take on the PBIS (Positive

Behavior Intervention and Supports) side of things while Phelps' concentration lies on the academic side. However, Cline is still a leader when it comes to academics, while Phelps is in front of the PBIS/culture aspects.

While it isn't a straight division, each are playing to strengths. And when it comes to PBIS, Cline brings receipts.

Schools measure the success of their PBIS program through a TFI (Tiered Fidelity Inventory), which measures how well the district implements the PBIS system. In his time at Miamisburg, it went from a seven to a 26 out of 30 for the high school in just two years, earning the Vikings the Bronze Award.

Cline praised Phelps as the "best academic leader I've ever been around in terms of understanding the curriculum, being able to go in-depth, the nuances, being able to understand the vernacular and being able to keep up with everything. Mr. Phelps is by far, without question, the best."

Cline said his job, when it comes to PBIS, is to remove barriers for the students and staff at BCI, but not to identify the barriers. He said that work needs to be done by the people in the building. Once the problems are identified, he can go about the business of making sure things run smoothly.

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Stephen Bell Focusing on Culture in the Classroom

Culture at Stephen Bell Elementary is a top-to-bottom approach. From the building administration to the teachers and staff; from the teachers and staff to the students; and from teacher to teacher.

It's all hands on deck at the district's K-2 building, as students learn their actions are just as much a part of their education as what they learn on their computers, papers and what's on their smartboards.

"It's a matter of positivity and how we come together as a school family," Principal Ginger Keeton said. "We are using the connection of 'it's your choice, make it a good one.' We are breaking down what the words on the banners mean in terms of our beliefs and behaviors. And we really try to model them for the students."

The last part is the most important in the minds of those at Stephen Bell. They know little eyes are watching them at all times and it is important to make sure the students see a positive influence they can emulate.

"I think the biggest reason that the culture and community are so cohesive at Stephen Bell is that

everyone has the best interest of the student in mind," Rachel Barker, who's been at Stephen Bell for 11 years and teaches second grade, said. "We have a student-centered focus."

It starts for new teachers when they enter the building. Barker said one of the things she does, as a veteran teacher, is offer any incoming teachers in her grade level a meeting once per week, giving them a one-on-one touchpoint to ask questions and get to know the building or grade level better.

But it's not just a veteran-teacher-to-newcomer kind of scenario. Even those who have been doing the job for a while can learn new things.

"It really is helpful to have that time to collaborate," Carrie Frantz, in year 23 of teaching first grade at Stephen Bell, said. "Being able to share ideas is crucial."

Of course, all people have their shortcomings and Frantz laughed about where she needs the most assistance. "No one comes to me

for technical support. There's always a faster and better way to use the technology I'm using and a lot of times the newer teachers help me find it."

All that forms a cohesive unit that moves the building forward together.

Rachel Pierce, a Kindergarten teacher in her fifth year, and her second at Stephen Bell, said "There are clear expectations with staff and students. Mrs. Keeton is amazing at setting expectations. And everyone is willing to jump in when you need help. I've needed more assistance this year in the classroom than I did last year and everyone is just a call away. There is really open communication."

"When you put all the feathers together – when we all work toward the same goal – look how much bigger our wings get. We get to soar together. That's the perspective they get to see."

First Grade Teacher Carrie Frantz

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Inclement Weather Policy

From time to time during the school year, Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools may be forced to close, have a delayed start or dismiss early due to inclement weather or other situation.

In an effort to disseminate announcements in a timely and cost-effective manner, the first step will be to send notifications via the Remind app. We highly encourage our district families to install the app and regularly check that notifications are setup to receive announcements in the way they prefer.

Our next step is to post the information on our social media sites (facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Threads) as well as our website. The next step will be to notify local media outlets.

CLINE Continued from Page 11

“It’s nothing more than data-based decision making and identifying the areas of need in the school as far as the culture/discipline/the way the school runs – and then using that data to make decisions and put those decisions into action,” Cline said. “We’ve had three meetings so far (with staff) and in each, we’ve come out with action items and putting things into place.”

The biggest of which is instituting a SOAR store. That is a system for students to buy things through their rewards for positive behaviors.

Each staff member has their own currency with their picture on it and for each positive action, students can earn a buck. From there, students can spend it on themselves or invest it for the whole grade level. If the students choose to invest it in their grade, Mr. Phelps and Mr. Cline will double the investment. At a certain point, the entire grade could earn a movie day, pizza party or other prize.

Cline has a goal for BCI down the road and that is for it to be the flagship of Bellbrook Schools.

“People are going to talk about this school as ‘Oh my gosh, I work at BCI.’ ‘My kid just finished BCI.’ ‘Oh, we get to go to BCI next year!’” Cline said. “It’s going to be spoken about as it should be, because this is an incredible building.”

BIG STAGE Continued from Page 8

assessments (20%).

State assessment performance: performance on state assessments exceeded expectations given the school's proportion of underserved students (20%).

Underserved student performance: based on how Black, Hispanic and low-income students performed on state assessments compared with those who are not underserved in the state (10%).

College curriculum breadth: proportions of 12th-grade students who earned a qualifying score on AP exams in multiple content areas (10%).

Graduation rate: proportion of students who entered ninth grade in 2017-2018 and graduated four years later (10%).

This year’s report card corroborates the fact the high school deserves recognition.

The High School received five stars in Achievement and Graduation Rate and four stars in Progress and Gap Closing.

“We are pleased with the notoriety that comes with this award, but it’s really not a surprise to us,” Superintendent Dr. Doug Cozad said. “The job Mr. Hann and his staff do at the high school on a regular basis is top notch. There is no denying that. This just further proves what we already know.”

AI Continued from Page 9

requires careful planning and consideration. Schools should embrace AI’s capabilities for teacher support, early intervention, and accessibility while prioritizing teacher training, data security, equity, and ethical use.

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools’ staff participated in AI professional development on August 14 and September 15. Additionally, a group of 12 teachers and administrators will attend the first National Conference on AI for K-12 Educators, on Nov. 7 at Fairfield High School, sponsored by the Butler County Educational Service Center.

*Some content in this document was generated with the assistance of ChatGPT, a language model developed by OpenAI.



Bellbrook Athletes Shine in Competition

The fall sports season has been extremely successful as the Eagles are well on their way to a ninth consecutive Southwestern Buckeye League all-sports title. Four Bellbrook athletes - junior CJ Scohy (golf), junior Jordan Frantz (soccer), senior Maya Brink (tennis) and senior Alayna Meyer (golf) - have been named SWBL Athletes of the Week this school year. Below is a brief look at how the fall season has gone for each varsity team.

Volleyball - The Eagles won their third consecutive SWBL divisional title and their eighth in nine years. They were also awarded the No. 2 seed in the Division I sectional tournament. Junior Sophie Davis has set school records for kills in a game (26) and season (329) this year.

Football - Through nine weeks, the Eagles were 6-3 and 3-0 in the SWBL Southwestern Division. Bellbrook has cinched a share of its fourth straight SWBL title.

Girls Soccer - The Eagles finished the regular season undefeated (11-0-6) and earned the No. 2 seed in the D-II sectional tournament. Bellbrook had seven shutouts and allowed one goal in eight other games. Junior goalkeeper Jordan Frantz surpassed 500 career saves and senior forward Lily Schindler surpassed 100 career points.

Boys Soccer - The Eagles finished the regular season 8-6-3 overall and won their first SWBL title since 2017 with a 6-0-2 league record. Bellbrook earned the No. 4 seed in the D-II sectional tournament.

Boys Golf - The Eagles shot a 299 to win the SWBL Southwestern Division title by 65 strokes. All six Bellbrook golfers finished in the top nine. The Eagles followed that by

winning the D-I sectional tournament at Reid Park. Junior CJ Scohy tied for medalist honors with a 75. The Eagles finished fourth at the D-I district tourney.

Girls Golf - The Eagles went undefeated in league play and won their second consecutive SWBL title. Senior Alayna Meyer was the SWBL POY and won league medalist honors by 11 strokes. She was also the D-I sectional champion. Bellbrook finished runner-up at the D-I sectional as a team.

Girls Tennis - The Eagles won their third straight SWBL divisional title. Senior Maya Brink won her second straight first singles title. She was first singles runner-up as a sophomore and is a four-time first team all-league selection. Brink was named the division's Player of the Year. She also finished runner-up at the D-I sectional.

Cross Country - Led by four top eight finishes, Bellbrook won its first SWBL girls cross country title since 2018 by capturing the Southwestern Division championship. The boys were runner-up.

OHSAA Tournament Tickets - Tickets are required for all OHSAA tournament events. For the sectional, district and state tournaments tickets can be purchased on the OHSAA website or in the HTT Fan App. Bellbrook passes are NOT valid at OHSAA tournament games, even when the game is at Bellbrook.

Stadium Naming Rights - If your family or your business is interested in the naming rights for the stadium, please contact the superintendent, Dr. Doug Cozad (doug.cozad@bss.k12.oh.us) or the Athletic Director, Charlie O'Dell (charlie.odell@bss.k12.oh.us).

CULTURE Continued from Page 12

But, just because the building continues to head in the right direction, doesn't mean the staff is resting on its laurels.

When it comes to K-2, lessons taught through words just aren't as impactful as seeing the reward in person. So, last year, Stephen Bell instituted a Golden Ticket reward system. At their monthly SOAR assemblies, students are rewarded in front of their building classmates for their good deeds. It's not just doing well in the classroom. It's doing well for others and being a good leader. Doing the right thing earns the rewards.

"We have our extrinsic support systems and the Golden Tickets reinforce that," Keeton said. "Later in life they'll learn about intrinsic rewards and in life they'll get those to be the motivator. We are teaching them to save for

their SOAR shop in November because those golden tickets are currency.

"All of that is helping the children understand that behavior is a form of communication."

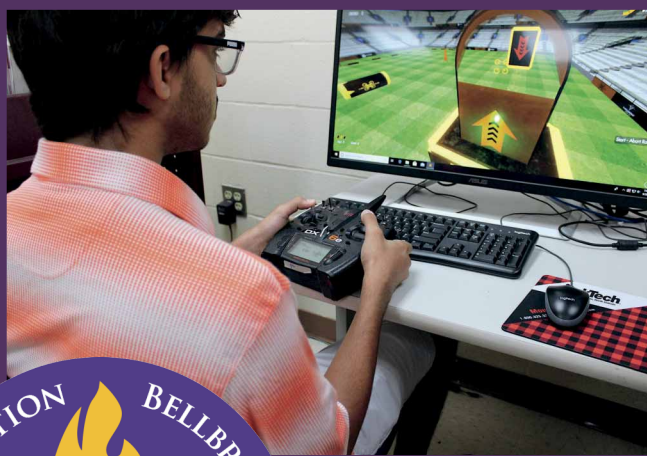
And for Stephen Bell Elementary and the rest of the district, positive behavior and good communication is the culture they are building.

A first-grade project is a microcosm of what the staff is trying to accomplish. Each student in each classroom colors a feather. Across all the classes it's roughly 200 feathers.

"When you put all the feathers together – when we all work toward the same goal – look how much bigger our wings get," Frantz said. "We get to soar together. That's the perspective they get to see."

"A great way to open a world of knowledge for our students, and help the youth of our community – now and in the future."

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Education Foundation



Visit
www.BSEF4kids.org to
learn more about the
organization and to
make a contribution

Did you know?

The Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Education Foundation was started nearly 25 years ago to fund classroom projects in our school system that are not affordable through public funds?

Did you know that through community donations, BSEF has paid out over \$400K in grants to fund hundreds of special academic programs?

Recent grants were used to purchase controllers for our national champion drone teams, a sensory path at BCI, art display panels and more!

All contributions are strictly used to enrich learning opportunities for students in our schools.

How can you help?

- Support the foundation with a tax-deductable donation at www.BSEF4kids.org
- Remember special people and events by making a gift through wills and trusts
- Promote the foundation through friends, relatives and co-workers
- Join the governing board

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UPCOMING DATES

Nov. 4 Holiday Craft Show at the High School
Nov. 7 Election Day
Nov. 9 Veterans Day Celebration at BCI
Nov. 9 Board of Education Meeting
Nov. 9-11 Middle School Musical
Nov. 10 No School, Professional Development
Nov. 11 Veterans Day
Nov. 13 Music Boosters Meeting
Nov. 14 PTO Meeting
Nov. 15 Athletic Boosters Meeting
Nov. 16-18 High School Fall Play
Nov. 20-24 Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 4 Music Boosters Meeting
Dec. 6 Winter HS/MS Choir Concert
Dec. 7 6th Grade Choir Concert
Dec. 9 Supportive Peers Winter Event

Child Find Policy

The Bellbrook-Sugarcreek School District is participating in an effort to identify and locate all children ages 3-21 years of age who may have disabilities. For more information, contact Bridgett Pritchard, Special Education Supervisor, at 937-848-5001 extension 6013 or bridgett.pritchard@bss.k12.oh.us

 Premier Health



Find Your New Doctor Fast

Choose your new doctor –
in as little as three minutes.
An easy search, customized
to you. Go directly to our
Find a Doctor tool by visiting
PremierHealth.com/NewDoctor.



BREAKING GROUND THIS SPRING

**Be a part of something
great for our Community!**

Call Ernie Havens at 937-776-3784 to find
out about Sponsorship Opportunities.

Bellbrook Lions Club
"We Serve"

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A Playground that INCLUDES ALL