



Summer community pep rally

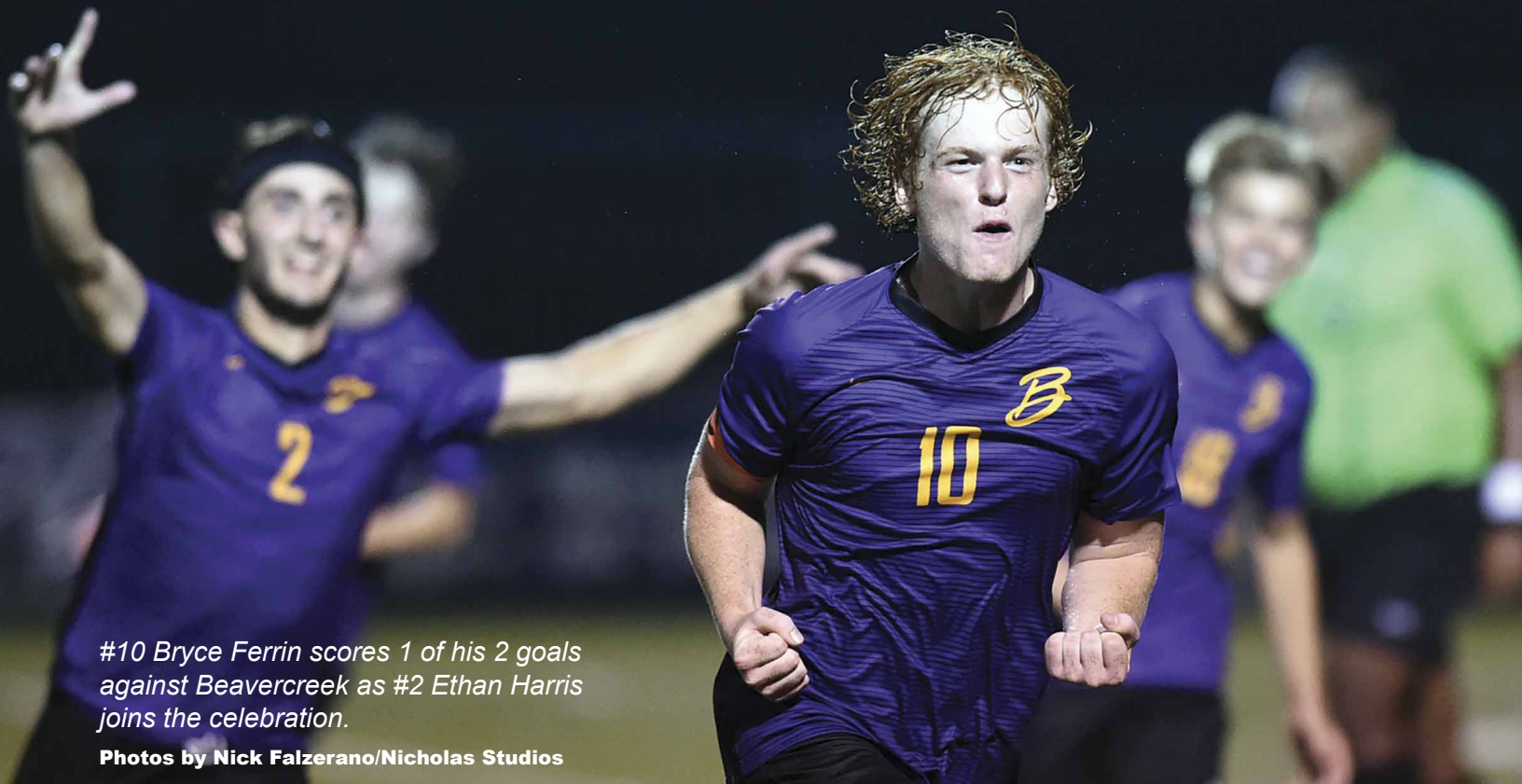
THE BRIDGE

Fall 2021

Volume 45

Issue 1

Serving the students of the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek community since 1976



#10 Bryce Ferrin scores 1 of his 2 goals against Beaver Creek as #2 Ethan Harris joins the celebration.

Photos by Nick Falzerano/Nicholas Studios

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Our Mission...Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools empowers our learning community to: be responsible decision-makers and effective problem-solvers; persevere in the achievement of life goals; contribute to communities locally and beyond; and embrace learning as a lifelong process.



SUPERINTENDENT

Dear District Residents,

The 2021-2022 school year held hopes for a “return to normal,” but we’ve found that while we’re on the road to normal, we’re not there yet. So, I ask for your continued patience and support during this challenging period that lies between uncharted and normal. We can, however, take this time to reflect upon what getting back to normal really means. While we hear this phrase expressed often these days, I believe that it is tradition and familiarity that we really crave in times of uncertainty such as these. As a district we are made of students, families, and educators who all desire a year of learning and discovery, social interaction, and predictability. We also want to ensure that going back to normal doesn’t mean going backward, but always moving forward—embracing new opportunities for growth.

As always, we honor our deep tradition of excellence. There is a quote that says, “Excellence is not a destination; it’s a continuous journey that never ends.” We want to take the lessons learned in the past 18 months to propel us toward new and exciting opportunities for learning that will take us into the future. In this issue of the Bridge, we would like to highlight some of the “normal” things that are currently going on in our schools, with our students and staff, and celebrate our latest inductees to the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Hall of Fame.

Douglas A. Cozad
Superintendent

District Will Hold Community Chat

The district will be holding a Community Chat on October 19 at Bellbrook High School from 6- 7:15 PM. The topic of the Chat will be District Communications: How to most effectively communicate with all of its stakeholders. Participants will be divided up in separate rooms by the building in which they have at least one child attending and non-parent community members will be in a separate session. Board members and district personnel will be divided among these different Chats and will focus on listening to the ideas and thoughts of participants. No pre-registration is required.



Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools Welcomes New Staff!



Joe Hamlin
Special Needs Assist.
Stephen Bell



Brooklyn Wampler
Intervention Specialist
Stephen Bell



Taite Ackley
Reading Specialist
Stephen Bell



JC Weber
2nd Grade Teacher
Stephen Bell



Michala Andrade
Reading Specialist
Bell Creek Intermediate



Samantha Hoang
4th Grade Teacher
Bell Creek Intermediate



Keaton Ott
5th Grade Teacher
Bell Creek Intermediate



Kay Crum
3rd Grade Teacher
Bell Creek Intermediate



Xavier Halder
Intervention Specialist
Bell Creek Intermediate



Jonele Terrell
Secretary
Bell Creek Intermediate



Erin Person
Lunch/Recess Aide
Bell Creek Intermediate



Jaime Krumal
Lunch/Recess Aide
Bell Creek Intermediate



Jennifer Caito
Special Needs Assist.
Bell Creek Intermediate



Jenna Jones
Special Needs Assist.
Bell Creek Intermediate



Carla Greene
Special Needs Assist.
Bell Creek Intermediate



Donnie Phelps
Principal
Bell Creek Intermediate



Kiki Kramer
Guidance Secretary
Bellbrook High School



Brian Kaufman
AFROTC Teacher
Bellbrook High School



Ghada Al Abbadi
English Teacher
Bellbrook High School



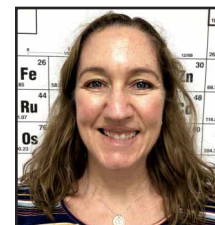
Stephanie Tomlin
Social Studies Teacher
Bellbrook High School



Nathaniel Charlesworth
Math Teacher
Bellbrook High School



Macy McMonigle
Math Teacher
Bellbrook High School



Amy Riggs
Science Teacher
Bellbrook High School



Nicole Colarusso
English Teacher
Bellbrook High School



Brandon Henderson
Custodian
Bellbrook High School



Gloria Gonzalez
Custodian
Bellbrook High School



Mandy Woll
Athletic Trainer
Bellbrook High School



Bridgett Pritchard
Special Ed Supervisor
District



David Woodward
Bus Driver
Transportation Dept.



Kimberly Flynn
Bus Driver
Transportation Dept.



Bianca Baker
Bus Driver
Transportation Dept.



Geoff Getter
Bus Driver
Transportation Dept.



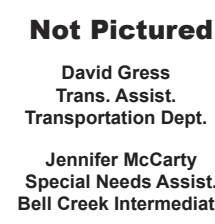
Johnny Holliday
Bus Driver
Transportation Dept.



Lori Smith
Secretary
Transportation Dept.



Jennifer Galiardi
Special Needs Assist.
Bellbrook Middle School



David Gress
Trans. Assist.
Transportation Dept.

Not Pictured

David Gress
Trans. Assist.
Transportation Dept.

Jennifer McCarty
Special Needs Assist.
Bell Creek Intermediate

Amy Collins
Intervention Specialist
Bell Creek Intermediate

Fall Sports: Postseason Updates

Golf and Girls Tennis enter post-season play in late September. Volleyball and Soccer start their tournaments in mid-October. Football and Cross Country begin their postseasons in late October. Post-season tickets must be purchased in the HomeTown Ticketing Fan App or on the OHSAA ticketing website. For OHSAA events, there are no passes accepted and no ticket sales at the gate. Check out all of our sports schedules at <https://www.sugarcreek.k12.oh.us/Athletics.aspx> and click on the Schedule button. Lastly, the Athletic Boosters are raffling off a 2021 GMC Canyon Denali truck at halftime of the football game on October 22. Tickets sales on the booster website (bellbrookathleticboosters.com), at each home game and in the BHS athletic office. Good luck to all of our fall athletes and teams. Go Eagles!



The Lady Eagles Tennis Team won the Wilmington Doubles Tournament.

Bell Creek Has Been Busy!

Despite a somewhat challenging start to the school year, students and staff at Bell Creek have soared above making each day better than the day before. While focused on building routines and relationships with our R2P2 focus and teaching students to be Responsible, Respectful, Peaceful, and Problem Solvers, there has also been some great learning going on. For the month of September, Mrs. Moore's class is focusing on leaders around us in different settings. Since it is the beginning of the school year, they have been focusing more on school leaders. Since we all learn differently, they just started using sensory bins in the afternoon to incorporate some of what they are learning. Mrs. Otting's 5th grade ELA classes celebrated International Dot Day by creating their own mark on the world with their dots. The whole school helped them celebrate by wearing dots on September 15th. Ms. Tobin's 3rd grade class read a story



Laila Williams, Riley Weaver, Ava Via and Natalya Quick.

SNA Katie Simpson and Joaquin Lucca-Collao.



about Mr. Peabody's apples, which is themed around being kind. As a text-to-self connection and follow-up activity, they worked in pairs to literally try to put toothpaste back

into the tube. Just like unkind actions that can't be taken back, neither can toothpaste be returned to its original state back in the tube. Mrs. Main's 4th grade ELA classes host a mystery reader each Friday. She provides the class with some clues and they try to guess who it is. Whether they guess right or wrong, everyone wins a great story! The first mystery reader was BCI Principal, Mr. Phelps, and since then parent volunteers have also been readers. Mrs. Sargent's 3rd grade class has also been busy. They, too, read Mr. Peabody's Apples, and learned how our words are like toothpaste, once they get out, they are difficult to take back. They also practiced using the alphanumeric grid by locating US National Parks. As part of their reading and writing workshop, they enjoyed an enriching activity that helped them to learn more about visualizing as a reader and evoking imagery in the minds of readers through their own writing. Also, Everett was a recent "Star Student" and his mom was a guest speaker in the class where they learned how she uses math in the real world in her career as a Pharmacist.



Marching Eagles "Out of the Blue"

This year's marching band show is called "Out of the Blue" and features Rhapsody in Blue, Blue Shades, Blue Rondo a la Turk, and I'm Blue. The marching band is excited to return to competition this year, competing in two Bands of America regionals (Obetz, OH and Dayton, OH) as well as several local Mid-States competitions. The Marching Eagles hope to see you at a home football game this season!

BMS Engineering Club established

In partnership with the Greene County Career Center, BMS is excited to announce the start of a new club and competition team- BMS Engineering Club. This organization aligns with two of the new Project Lead the Way courses offered at the middle school, Automation and Robotics and Design and Modeling. Students are collaborating to build and program VEX robots to complete specific tasks. Once students have built their robots, they'll be able to compete against other schools. We're looking forward to seeing their success!



Kaiya Gifford, Bella Strong, and Alina Shroyer work in Automation and Robotics class.

Brust, Li, Martin, Ochsner and Ryan Qualify as National Merit Semifinalists for 2021-22

BHS is proud to announce our National Merit Semifinalists for 2021-2022. Congratulations to Cali Brust, Richard Li, Jonathan Martin, Glenn Ochsner, and Natalie Ryan for qualifying as National Merit Scholars for the 2021-22 school year. 1.6 million students participated in the competition, with only 16,000 being selected as semifinalists. About 1/2 of these students will qualify for a national merit scholarship. We wish these students good luck as they move forward in their college selection processes and again congratulate them on their awesome accomplishments!



Cali Brust



Richard Li



Jonathan Martin



Glenn Ochsner



Natalie Ryan

BHS Band World Premieres "Some treasures are heavy with human tears"

The Bellbrook High School Wind Ensemble and Symphony Band will be world premiering a work they commissioned from concert band composer John Mackey. The piece was written to honor the memory of the individuals we lost in the Oregon District in August of 2019, as well as to honor all the individuals whose lives were touched by the shooting. The piece is entitled "Some treasures are heavy with human tears." On October 21 at 7pm, the concert bands will combine to perform the piece in the high school main gym at their annual fall concert, with Mr. Mackey present. Additional generous financial support was provided by members of the commissioning consortium as well, which includes WGI Sport of the Arts, Michael Gaines, Carroll High School, Centerville High School, Kettering Fairmont High School, Beavercreek High School, Wright State University School of Music, Miamisburg High School, Northmont High School, the Springboro Wind Symphony, and the University of Dayton Department of Music. The Bellbrook Music Department would like to thank the Bellbrook Sugarcreek Education Foundation for the initial grant that was the financial foundation of the project. The students would be honored if the community would come out to support them in their fall concert!

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Hall of Fame

Class of 2020 & Class of 2021

On October 8, seven graduates of Bellbrook High School were inducted into the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Hall of Fame. Due to last year's pandemic-related cancellation, four inductees were inducted into the class of 2020 Hall of Fame and three more were inducted in the the class of 2021 Hall of Fame. "We are going to do things differently this year," says Hall of Fame Committee President Cindy Wilson ('81). "The induction ceremony will be held in the morning at Bellbrook High School in a student assembly. Lunch will then be served to the inductees and their guests. The inductees will also be recognized at the Homecoming football game that evening."

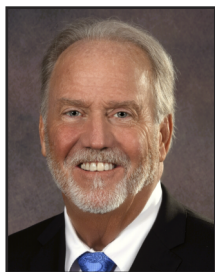
The 2020 inductees:

Casey Stevens Gill (1998) -- Casey was the valedictorian of her class and is now the Vice President for Student Development and Dean of Students at Wittenberg University. She provides executive leadership in Student Affairs administration in numerous areas such as residence life, diversity and inclusion, fraternity and sorority life, health and counseling, and leadership to name a few.



Casey
Stevens

Marty Prather (1976) -- Marty worked his way from being a Domino's Pizza driver in high school to now being the Franchisee of 33 stores in 4 states. He is very involved in many philanthropic endeavors. In addition, as an avid sports fan, his picture has been published in many national publications with him holding his humorous signs.



Marty
Prather

Christopher Stephens (1998) -- Chris is a pianist and vocalist that has a decade of experience performing and teaching in New York City. His performance credits include Broadway, Off-Broadway, regional and international theater. Many of his students have performed on Broadway as well.



Christopher
Stevens

Darcy Mascotti Whyte (2009) -- Darcy is a physician's assistant. She was a successful runner at Bellbrook qualifying for regionals in cross country and track all four years. She also qualified for the state meet in cross country 3 times and earned all-state honors her senior year. She held numerous school and course records in cross country and track.



Darcy
Mascotti Whyte

The 2021 inductees:

Jack Crain (1969) -- Jack was an all-around scholar-athlete who

excelled in three sports and was the salutatorian. He then continued his success at Miami University as a basketball player and scholar. He has retired after 40 years as an educator enriching the lives of hundreds of students as a teacher, counselor, and coach. He earned his school districts' Teacher of the Year award several times.



Jack
Crain

Scott Steele (1976) -- Scott was the co-vicepresident of his class and excelled as an athlete in football, wrestling, and track. He then went on to have a successful career in manufacturing and supply chain operations progressing to the Vice-President level. He started with the entrepreneurial company of Iams that grew from \$10MM to \$860MM in 19 years.



Scott
Steele

Maureen Ahern Stover (1993) -- Maureen was a state qualifier in swimming who went on to swim at the Air Force Academy where she was inducted into their athletic hall of fame. After a career as an Intelligence Officer in the Air Force, Maureen began a second career as a science teacher. She was recently named North Carolina Teacher of the Year and one of four finalists for National Teacher of the Year.



Maureen
Ahern Stover

Kindergarten Scavenger Hunt a big hit

Stephen Bell Elementary hosted a fun-filled family event on Tuesday, September 14. Approximately 98 Kindergarten students and their families arrived to retrieve a

“hunt” of many items that could be found inside the school or outside on the playground. Mrs. Caldwell, one of the Kindergarten teachers, created the Scavenger Hunt with the support of many staff members. Mrs. Keeton shared, “The items included locating our amazing courtyard in which the Bellbrook Garden Club maintains for us and finding the STEM

classroom to build the large blue blocks with Ms. VanBrackel. We were thankful for several staff family members (Mrs. Horvath, Mrs. Warner, Mrs. Caldwell, Ms. Beekman, Ms. VanBrackel, Mrs. Henderson, and Mrs. Huff) who graciously donated their evening time to make this covid19 friendly event possible. To date, it was our most successful Scavenger Hunt event. The Class of 2034 has 192 students. Therefore, it was an excellent turn-out to support our school and the community with a local food truck and cotton candy vendor.”



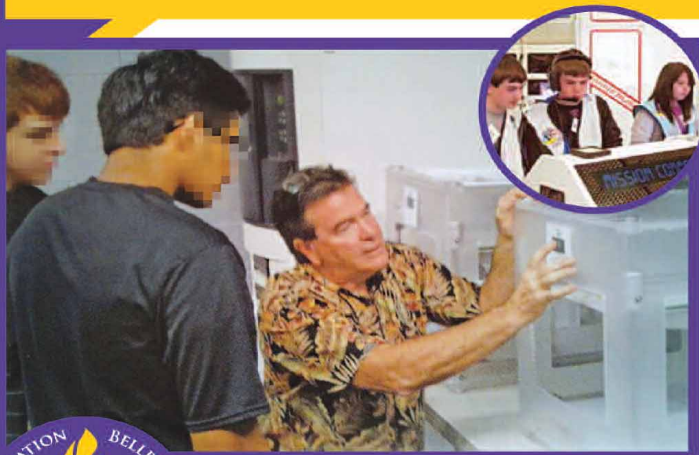
Reese Ralston, Rowan Nichols and a futre Eagle enjoy cotton candy.

Inclement Weather: What do we do?

From time to time during the school year, Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools may close, experience delays or early dismissals or make changes in school schedules and activities due to inclement weather or other calamity. In an effort to disseminate announcements in a timely and cost-effective manner, the first step in our notification process will be electronic. We will post the notification on our FACEBOOK page (@BellbrookSchools), our TWITTER feed (@BellbrookSchool) and on our WEBSITE. We will EMAIL and TEXT all parents and staff using the call-out system. Channels 7 and 2 will carry announcements and updates as well.

“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 our organization and to make a contribution.

Did You Know?

...that the Bellbrook - Sugarcreek Education Foundation was started nearly 20 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 \$340,000 in teacher classroom grants to fund hundreds of special academic programs?

Recent grants were used to purchase a laser engraving machine for Mr. Barnes classes and to fund Ms. St Pierre's Challenger Learning Center field trip for all 7th graders. Grants are used for Music, Art and Technology equipment and more

Did you know that BSEF received private donations to equip over 50 of our classrooms with voice enhancement systems so that every student in the class gets a chance to hear the teacher, not just students in the front row?

And, that ALL contributions are strictly used to enrich learning opportunities for students in the Bellbrook - Sugarcreek Schools?

How Can You Help?

- Support the foundation with a tax deductible 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
- Volunteer or support fund raising events like the Spirited Affair and BSEF Derby Day
- Join the governing board

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UPCOMING DATES

- Oct. 15** End of the 1st quarter
Oct 18 No School P-T Conferences K-12
Oct 28 Board Meeting - 7 PM @ BMS
Nov 2 Election Day
Nov 11 No School- teacher in-service;
Board Meeting - 7 PM @ BHS
Nov 22-26 No School
Dec 9 Board Meeting - 7 PM @ BCI
Dec 17 End of 2nd quarter
Dec 20 No school/Winter break begins
Jan 3 School resumes
Jan 12 Two-hour delay K-12
Jan 17 No school - MLK Jr. Day

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Education Foundation Seeks Fundraising Coordinator

The Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Education Foundation is hiring a Fundraising Coordinator.

Purpose: To raise funds from donors to support BSEF activities and raise community awareness

Working Hours: 30 hours per month (this role may require flexibility to work a few evenings and weekends) This position would be perfect for a community member or alumnus looking to get involved with the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Education Foundation.

For more information contact Jenness Sigman at 937-848-5001 ext. 6101 or at jenness.sigman@bss.k12.oh.us

Substitute Staff Opportunities

We need your help! We have a critical shortage of daily substitute staff in all areas of our district such as teachers, nurses, bus drivers, special need assistants, secretaries, custodians, transportation assistants (aides), and library specialists for the 2021-22 school year. These positions are on an as needed basis and provide a lot of flexibility for days available to work. No experience is necessary! Download an application from <https://www.sugarcreek.k12.oh.us/Applications.aspx> and submit the following to Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools, attn: Human Resources, 3757 Upper Bellbrook Rd., Bellbrook, OH 45305: district application, resume, cover letter. If you have questions call 937-848-5001, option 5 and then option 2.





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