



Isaac Lefeld won the 110 hurdles, 300 hurdles and pole vault at the SWBL Eastern Division meet. He also won MaxPreps.com Ohio Athlete of the Week honors.

THE BRIDGE

Summer 2022

Volume 45

Issue 3

Serving the students of the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek community since 1976

Bellbrook High School Winter Guard, under the direction of Sheldon Apo with assistance from Barb Siler, performed their 2022 Production, To: You



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,

As the 2021-22 school year ends, we thank our students, parents, teachers, staff, administrators, board of education, and community for a great school year. It was not without its challenges, but our students and staff continue to go above and beyond to provide the best learning environment possible. In this edition of the Bridge, we celebrate the graduation of 230 of our students with five of those students named National Merit Scholarship finalists, 72 graduating with an Honors Diploma, and over \$3.7 million in scholarships awarded. We also highlight a few of our safety upgrades recently completed. Reading was celebrated at both Stephen Bell with a Read-A-Thon generating around \$32,000 to purchase new books and BCI digging into books that celebrate creativity, hard work, and individuality. BMS teachers were busy earning the Greene County Achievers Award while BHS was celebrating a national title for its drone team. Check out these stories and more in our summer edition of the Bridge!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas A. Cozad". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Superintendent

District Awarded Grants of Over \$950,000

The Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools has been awarded \$180,000 to purchase and replace four buses. This will fund approximately 50% of the full cost of the newly purchased buses. The Ohio Department of Education selected Bellbrook-Sugarcreek as a recipient of a School Bus Purchase award. House Bill 110 provided \$50 million for school districts to replace older school buses. As part of the department's School Bus Purchase Program for the 2021-2023 school years, any bus a district purchases with these funds must replace a bus that currently is used for regular route service.

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools was the recipient of the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 of \$773,290 to fund the purchase of new Chromebooks for all students and teachers. Since Bellbrook-Sugarcreek is a 1:1 district all students in grade K-12 will utilize these school-owned devices. The previous Chromebooks were around 6 years old and are at their end of life. These new devices are now being distributed and starting in 2022-23, Chromebook fees of \$55 per year will be eliminated due to this grant. We are excited that our students and staff will now have access to new Chromebooks at no cost to the school district or to its families.

Special Education Parent Information Sessions

Parent and guardian engagement in the Special Education decision-making process is essential. One of the most important things that parents of students with exceptionalities can do is take an active role as a member of the Individual Education Program (IEP) team.

It is the IEP team's responsibility to make educational decisions for students as well as addressing issues such as eligibility, evaluation, program development, and placement. Parents and guardians, among other professionals, are considered expert team members in knowing their children better and should be involved in the IEP process.

We know that when teachers and parents work together to support the learning and social and emotional needs of students, they are able to perform better in school. This vital collaboration not only helps students learn and achieve academically, it also helps students develop positive peer relationships as well. We have a shared responsibility in educating our students.

In order to build this bridge of communication and foster collaboration between the parents, community and the school district, the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Special Education Department and The Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) are excited to offer four Parent Information Sessions beginning in the fall of 2022 and will continue through the 2022-2023 academic year. Session times and dates are still TBD. The sessions will be recorded, and recordings will be available on the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Website under the Special Education page.

Student Safety Upgrades

Student safety is always a top priority for Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools. Our district administration meets regularly with the local police departments and fire departments to discuss our district safety plans and needs. As a result, we recently purchased new radios for all of our administrators to use as a communication tool during emergencies. The radios host a secure channel that cannot be accessed by outside parties while allowing administrators to communicate with one another readily. These radios were purchased with state safety grant money.



Another safety measure recently added is the application of 3M™ Safety & Security Window Films in the vestibules of all of the school buildings. 3M™ Safety & Security Window Films are designed to hold broken glass in place and help prevent flying shards of glass from harming people and damaging property. The films also provide precious time by helping to deter unwanted individuals from entering the buildings.

Lastly, the district has been working with the Greene County Engineering Department to improve the school zone signage on Feedwire Rd to improve the school zone speed limit visibility during school arrival and dismissal times. New LED solar-powered signs with speed radars will be installed this summer. During school zone times, drivers will be reminded if they are going faster than 20mph. Hopefully, this will slow traffic down so that students can safely cross Feedwire Road at the crosswalk.

The district will continue to look for ways to keep the safety and security of our students and staff as a top priority.

School Lunch Program Changes

For the past 2 years, the USDA has offered waivers to our Child Nutrition Program to provide meals at no cost to all children. Recently, the USDA announced that the Pandemic Free School Meal Programs will expire at the end of the 2021-22 school year.

Therefore, starting with the 2022-23 school year, we will offer paid, reduced, and free meals for those that qualify as we did before the pandemic assistance was offered. Lunches will be priced next year as follows: grades K-5 will cost \$2.75, grades 6-8 will cost \$3.25, and grades 9-12 will cost \$3.50.

If your family completed a Free/Reduced

meal application and qualified for free or reduced meals in the years 2019-20, 2020-21, or 2021-22, your student will start the 2022-2023 school year with the same benefit until September 28. This will give you time to get a new form for the 2022-23 school year processed.

The application for free or reduced lunches will be available after July 1. It can be found on our district website under Programs and then Food Services. We are committed to assisting our families during this time of transition. If you have any questions or concerns, please call our Sodexo office at 937-848-5001 ext. 6105 or 3112.

BELLBROOK HIGH SCHOOL

Congrats to the Class of 2022

Bellbrook High School held its 2022 graduation ceremonies at Miami Valley South Stadium on May 21. This year's class of 230 graduates earned over \$3.7 million in scholarships. Seventy-two students earned an Honors Diploma and fifty-six were National Honor Society members. Additional students were recognized for their academic achievement: 26 earned Cum Laude (3.25-3.49), 38 earned Magna Cum Laude (3.5-3.74), and 56 earned Summa Cum Laude (3.75-4). Future plans of BHS graduates include: 73% will be attending a 4-year school, 8% a 2-yr school, 12% workforce, and <1% military. Students will be attending 70 different colleges in 23 states. Congratulations to all of our graduates and good luck in the future!

Oschsner Named Valedictorian and Reed Salutatorian

Glenn Ochsner earned class Valedictorian. Glenn is the daughter of Marc Abel and Barbara Ochsner. She plans to attend Miami University in the fall where she will study Physics. Kaitlyn Reed is the class Salutatorian. Kaitlyn is the daughter of Laura and Chad Reed. Kaitlyn plans to double major in Political Science and Spanish and attend The Ohio State University. Congratulations and Good Luck!



**Glenn
Ochsner**



**Kaitlyn
Reed**

Conner Puckett
Lamees Qasem
Jacob Razics
Kylie Reagan
Kaitlyn Reed
Brianna Richter
Brittany Rivera
Mia Roberto
Kelsey Rommel
Gavyn Roop
Emma Roush
Elijah Rucker
Grace Ruiz
Natalie Ryan
Jack Sauer
Gracie Schindler
Dylan Schofield
Makayla Schram
Lindsey Schumacker
Kolton Schwartz
Grace Scott
Amanda Seger
Abigail Sheckler
Ysabella Shelton
Kevin Shepard
Morgan Shrewsbury
Harrison Shupe
Emily Skiles
Charlton Slader
Margarette Slauenwhite
Rhiannon Slaughter
Lucas Smallwood
Breonna Smith
Jacob Smith
Katharina Smith
Kennedy Smith
Lindsay Smith
Jacob Snyder
Sawyer Stewart
Abigail Stokes
Madeline Stone
Cameron Strong
Kevin Sutterlin
Jamari Taylor
Trace Terry
Alysha Theisen
Sydney Tieber
Evan Trickler
Brayden Turner
Noelle Valentie
Tyler Valley
Ayden Volmer
Chase Walkup
Trevor Ward
Colton Warren
Tristan Waybrant
Alex Welsh
Cooper Westwood
Reaghan White
Eva Whitlock
Kentrell Williams
Patrick Williams
Elliot Winkler
Emma Wise
Hannah Woeste
Anastacia Zartman-Robb

Luke Albery
Marisa Alfes
Jeremiah Andrews
Nitika Arora
Toby Ater
Ashton Ault
Savanna Baggott
Kira Baker
Emily Bamford
John Barlow
Adeeb Barri
Madeline Bartlett
Leanne Beane
Hannah Becker
Cambree Bernkopf
Zoya Bessler
Alicia Bevins
Sydney Blaine
Abigail Bodo
Seth Borondy
Samuel Borszcz
Valerie Boyd
Zane Bradley
Hailey Bridges
Hamilton Bridges
Seraphim Briley
Emily Brock
Madilyn Brown
Gabriel Bruckman
Cali Brust
Paige Buckle
Kylie Bunker
Avery Bunsold
Gavyn Bunsold
Theron Cable
Kierra Caito
Camden Caldwell
Nathan Carson
Abigail Clack
Rachael Cordonnier
Owen Countryman

Logan Cresswell
Casey Cross
William Culbertson
Reis Daniels
Matthew Davidson
William Davis
Jonathon Day
Lily DeWitt
Alyanna Diaz
Joseph Dickman
Andrew Diorio
Abigail DiSalvo
Jared Duckro
Ella Dudley
Reagan Ebel
Alaina Eicher
Kane Ely
Jack Engler
Nicholas Etienne
Ian Evans
Ava Falzerano
Victoria Ferraro
Bryce Ferrin
Kasie Fisher
Corinne Fleck
Ethan Fontana
Brady Fortman
Elizabeth Franks
Caroline Froehlich
Sarah Fronista
Caleb Fugate
Ryan Galle
Mallory Gedeon
Olivia Geloff
Hannah Glaze
Rachel Glaze
Sydney Goodwin
Meredith Greathouse
Samuel Grey
Kailey Hamilton
Ethan Harris

Justin Harris
Kayla Harris
Ay'vionna Hart
Rachel Hartman
Jarya Hassell
Sierra Hayslip
Savannah Higley
Miranda Hodson
Emma Holdaway
Brock Hood
Abigail Howard
Travis Howard
Aidan Howell
Isabella Howell
Megan Hyer
Ethan Jenkins
Matthew Jenkins
Anthony Jiovani
Lily Jones
Finn Judd
Yuki Kawabe
Madeleine Keyes
Joshua Kiefer
Brooklynn Kienzle
Grace Kiger
Jenna King
Lillian Knisley
Austin Kolb
Ashton Kookan
Logan Kraus
Patrick Krebs
Seth Kreitzer
Serena LaBello
Mary Landry
Abigail Larson
Isaac Lefeld
Mayne Lemon
Alyssa Lemos
Allison Lewis
Cindy Li
Richard Li

Tyler Lilley
Gellisa Lin
Tyson Lockwood
Taylor Lopez
Zachary Lopez
Connor Luby
Braylen Lusardi
Grayson Martin
Jonathan Martin
Hunter Martin-Puterbaugh
Jordan McClurg
Madison McConnell
Audrey Meixner
Carsten Mescher
Morgan Moore
Riley Moore
Tyler Morgan
Luke Motil
James Mazingo
Elisabeth Mumper
Joshua Neu
Hayden Nock
Kaylee Nugent
Reece O'Brien
Alexander Ocampo
Glenn Ochsner
Jace Okolowitz
Sophie Palcic
Gabriel Pavlak
Connor Peh
Matthew Perraut
Michelle Peterman
Amira Peters
Yuna Pham
Alicia Ping
Kendall Polen
Ella Powell
Morgan Powell
Kevin Pray
Gretchen Prenat
Dreann Pryce

Bellbrook High School Athletic Department



Highlights from the 2021-2022 School Year

- Football, Volleyball, Girls Soccer, Girls Tennis, Golf, Girls Basketball, Girls Swimming and Baseball were all SWBL East Champions
- Boys Soccer won the district championship and advanced to the regional semifinal
- Football finished as regional runner-up
- Maya Brink advanced to the girls state tennis tournament
- Andrew Magill won the district boys golf tournament and advanced to the state tournament.
- Competition Cheerleading qualified for the OASSA State Championships
- Jada Weiss placed in the OHSWCA girls State Wrestling Tournament
- Girls Basketball were sectional champions
- Boys Basketball finished as sectional runner-ups
- Baseball finished as sectional runner-ups
- Isaac LeFeld and Tony Jiovani both qualified for the state track meet in the pole vault

Ticket & Sports Passes for the 2022-2023 School Year (MS & HS)

- Tickets & Passes will again only be available [online](#), or in the HTT Fan App ([Android](#) or [iPhone](#))
- Tickets at the gate can only be purchased with a credit card....NO CASH
- Tickets and passes will be the same price as last school year
- Passes will go on sale in the first week of August
- There will be several pass options available on the [athletic department website](#)
- Student All-Sports Pass = \$150 per student (all MS & HS sporting events for the **whole** school year)
- Family All-Sports Pass = \$400 per household (all MS & HS sporting events for the **whole** school year)
- No student or senior discounts for individual game tickets. Senior residents (60 & older) of Bellbrook & Sugarcreek can already get a free pass that gets them into all school events, which is obtained from the Athletic Department. Contact Tamara Cary (tamara.cary@bss.k12.oh.us) 937-848-5001 ext. 2904. Senior passes are available starting August 2.
- Reserved seats for varsity football games will be \$30 per seat for the season. Reserved seats can be purchased on the same [ticketing website](#) as passes and tickets.

Home Varsity Football	Opponent	Theme
Friday, September 2	Tecumseh	Wee Eagles Night
Friday, September 9	Eaton	Middle School Sports Night
Friday, September 23	Waynesville	Homecoming
Friday, October 14	Monroe	Fall Sports Senior Night
Friday, October 28	TBD-Playoffs	1st Round of Playoffs

All varsity football games kick off at 7pm.



- **Booster Blast (Athletic Boosters) - Saturday, October 15.....SAVE THE DATE!!!**
- **Excellence in Sportsmanship + Communication** - This initiative started last fall. The purpose of this initiative is to create a respectful environment for everyone involved.
- **Streaming** - All home games at the stadium (lacrosse, soccer & football) and in the main HS gym (volleyball, basketball & wrestling) will again be streamed on the [NFHS Network](#).

Stephen Bell Celebrates School Library Month

Stephen Bell Elementary students celebrated School Library Month this past April by participating in a Read-A-Thon. Students were challenged to log ten independent reading sessions during a two week period. Not only did the Read-A-Thon highlight the importance of reading, but it also generated \$32,000 in donations to benefit the Stephen Bell Library.



Mrs. Culler reads to her 2nd grade class.

Last September, School Library Media Specialist Stephanie Vukovich spoke to the school board to highlight

the current conditions of the school library collection. With an average age of 25 years, it was clear that it was time

to refresh the space with current titles that young readers would be excited to read.

Thanks to the success of the Read-A-Thon, Stephen Bell will be able to replace 25% of its current collection with new, relevant titles that will support the curriculum and promote early literacy skills. Stephen Bell students were proud to accomplish their reading goal while helping to support their school library and look forward to new books to read next school year.



“BCI Book Club” Kicks Off

Author C.S. Lewis once said that, “we read to know that we are not alone,” and Bell Creek Intermediate is rebuilding a sense of belonging and community through shared reading and projects involving ALL of our students during Morning Meeting time. The last two years have been challenging, to say the least. Many students and teachers feel isolated, frustrated, and tired. We wanted to help change that! A group of teacher-leaders saw the need and found a creative solution in this project and created ready-to-use lesson plans for their colleagues to accompany each book so that all BCI students could share in a common learning experience rooted in reading. Our plan is to use books as a way to create connections between all students and teachers throughout the school year. We want students to know they are valued for who they are and that all are welcome at BCI. We kicked-off this building-wide event, affectionately dubbed “BCI Book Club” with a book titled, All Are Welcome. Thanks to a grant funded by our PTO, we were able to follow this up with a series of books by author Peter H. Reynolds. Each book encourages kids to express themselves and try new things with six inspiring stories that celebrate creativity, hard work, and individuality. So far we have enjoyed activities, created artwork, and made hallway displays using The Dot, Be You! and Ish. We plan to continue with new titles annually.



Supt. Dr. Cozad and teachers Lynzee Allen, Shelby Sigman, Emily Cline, Debi Schwieterman, and BMS Asst. Principal Jenna Hill

BMS Teachers Earn Greene County Achievers Award

On Friday, May 6th, the Greene County Community Improvement Corporation and Commissioners Office honored a group of BMS teachers with the Greene County Achievers Award! Jennifer St. Pierre, Lynzee Allen, Emily Cline, Kyle Ferguson, Nate Doolos, Debi Schwieterman, Crystal Current, Tammy Bacich, Allison Bisignani, Molly Miller, Shelby Sigman, and Kayla Bruggeman received this honor as additional recognition for all of their hard work earning the Governor’s Thomas Edison Award for Excellence in STEM Education for the 26th year in a row!



BHS Competiton Drone Team Wins National Title

The Bellbrook High School competitive drone team recently competed in the Drones in School National Championship in Orlando Florida. This national competition was a part of the AUVSI Xponential (Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International) conference. Two teams from the BHS engineering program used CAD (computer aided design) to design and construct unique drone prototypes using 3-D printing. After successfully designing and producing their drones, the teams participated in multiple virtual and in-person competitions qualifying for nationals in the process. The teams traveled to Orlando during the last week in April in order to compete and participate in the AUVSI Xponential conference. During the National Championship the teams competed in drone flying contests and fielded questions from professionals in the field. Team Monkey Brains claimed the overall title and best video while Team Hog Flyers won best engineering and design. The teams would like to thank everyone that donated to the program and helped make this year such a success.

AF Junior ROTC "Exceeds Standards"

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 - during their evaluation on 25 March 2022.

Cadets Madison McConnell, the second semester Corps Commander, and Dylan Schofield, the first semester Corps Commander, exhibited exceptional leadership during the inspection and throughout the entire school year - for their efforts, both cadets were



Corps Commander McConnell (top) and Corps Commander Schofield are presented with the Award

recognized as Top Performers during the inspection.

Lieutenant Colonel Christine M. Gangaware (Retired) and Master Sergeant Brian N. Kaufman (Retired) and the BHS cadets performed exceptionally well and took great pride in leading and accomplishing their unit goals which includes community outreach.

The Bellbrook High School Air Force Junior ROTC citizenship program is making a positive impact on the cadets, the school and the community.



Winterguard and Indoor Percussion Ensemble Have Strong Seasons

Music Department Wins Honor

The Music and Theater Departments have had a busy but wonderful end of the school year!

The Indoor Percussion Ensemble, performing their show Rods and Cones, finished their season as a Winter Guard International semi-finalist, finishing in 21st place in their class in the country. The Winter Guard advanced to Winter Guard International's finalist round, finishing 4th in the country in their class. Their show was entitled To:You.

The Wind Ensemble, Symphony Band, Choir, and Jazz Band finished the year strong with fabulous end-of-the-year concerts. The spring musical, The Addams Family, was a huge success, with theater and music students combining for four community performances.

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools was honored to receive the 2022 Best Communities for Music Education Award from the National Association of Music Merchandisers. The award recognizes the efforts of students and staff of the music department, grades K-12. Congratulations!

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools
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UPCOMING DATES

- Aug 11** Regular Board Meeting - 7 PM @ BMS
- Aug 18** First Day for Students, Gr. 1-12
- Aug 19&20** Lion's Club Summerfest
- Aug 25** Regular Board Meeting - 7 PM @ Stephen Bell
- Sept 5** No School/Labor Day
- Sept 8** Board Meeting - 7 PM @ BMS
- Sept 16** No School- teacher in-service
- Sept 23** BSS Hall of Fame Induction and Homecoming
- Oct 10** No School- teacher in-service
- Oct 13** Board Meeting - 7 PM @ BMS
- Oct.14** End of the 1st quarter
- Oct 24** No School P-T Conferences K-12
- Oct 27** Board Meeting - 7 PM @ BCI
- Nov 8** Election Day
- Nov 10** Board Meeting - 7 PM @ BMS
- Nov 11** No School- teacher in-service
- Nov 21-25** No School
- Dec 8** Board Meeting - 7 PM @ BMS
- Dec 21** End of 2nd quarter

BHS and Stephen Bell Once Again Earn Purple Star Designation

The Ohio Department of Education has renewed the Purple Star designation for Bellbrook High School and Stephen Bell Elementary. This is a testament to our commitment to serving military-connected students and families. Ohio's Purple Star Advisory Board established a set of important criteria that schools must meet to be considered for a Purple Star designation. In Ohio, only 431 schools have the Purple Star Designation. Bellbrook Middle School and Bell Creek Elementary are also currently Purple Star schools. Congratulations!



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