

In Search of our Next Superintendent

On July 1, Dr. Rob Glass officially ended his tenure as Superintendent of Bloomfield Hills Schools. Rob and his wife Cynthia are now New Yorkers, and we wish them luck on their journey. Tina Kostiuik, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations, has been appointed Interim Superintendent and has made the transition seamlessly.

The Board of Education has hired national search firm, Ray and Associates, to guide us in the process of finding our next Superintendent. Ray & Associates has completed the 19 community forums held throughout Bloomfield Hills Schools and received great input during the process. More than 150 people participated in the forums, combined with online surveys completed by 138 teachers, 498 parents, 115 students, 29 community members, 49 support staff, and 26 board members & administrators. Thank you for this amazing support! The Board of Education has compiled the comments from the online survey and is reviewing them as well. The results of the forums and survey are as follows:



Bloomfield Hills Schools is seeking a Superintendent who...

Possesses excellent people skills, presents a positive image of the district and will listen to input and make a decision when necessary.

Is a strong communicator; speaking, listening and writing.

Promotes a positive and professional environment for district employees and Board.

Possesses ability to enhance student performance, identify and close/narrow gaps.

Possesses the leadership skills required to respond to the opportunities and challenges presented by an ethnically and culturally diverse community.

Is able to delegate authority appropriately while maintaining accountability.

Is able to develop and communicate a vision of quality education for the future to the board, staff and community with successful experience in the selection and implementation of educational priorities consistent with the interests and needs of students, staff, board and community.

Has experience recruiting and maintaining exceptional staff for the district and schools.

Inspires trust, has high levels of self-confidence and optimism, and models high standards of integrity and personal performance.

Previous experience that will benefit the long-term financial health of district.

Is strongly committed to a "student first" philosophy in all decisions.

Is capable of developing both short and long-range district goals.

Has knowledge of emerging research and best practice in the area of curriculum/ instructional design and practice.



This fall, Bloomfield Hills Schools is bringing together a small working group of stakeholders for five sessions to continue the work that has been completed thus far around Strategic Planning, Mastery Property Planning, and moving Bloomfield forward. This Scope & Design team met for the first time on September 23, and is facilitated by district administrators with the goals and objectives to study design elements as it relates to the physical structure of Bloomfield Hills Schools. Specifically, the Scope & Design team will be developing design principles, and providing input on long-range facilities planning around the topics of:

- Safety & Security
- Building & Grade Configurations
- Instructional and Support Spaces
- Unique and Specialized Programming, and
- Shared Community Spaces.

At the conclusion of this Scope & Design work, the deliverable will be a Scope & Design Master Plan with facility recommendations for our Board of Education.

Student Voice: We care about the Environment

Young advocates are changing not only procedures at Bloomfield Hills Schools, but also the future of our earth. India Woll Stewart, a 7th grader, presented an idea to BHS Food Services to switch from styrofoam trays to a more sustainable version, and the idea was enthusiastically received. As a result, the district has started using compostable trays made of sugar cane as an alternative.

Food Services Director Marianne Romsek is directing the procedure change. "We started the pilot last year with the compostable trays. One of the reasons we are going to compostable rather than reusable trays is because we do not have dishwashers in the middle schools. Although you can recycle styrofoam, it is difficult to have students clean it sufficiently to make it recyclable as any food waste can contaminate the entire batch."

Romsek agrees that reducing waste is also a high priority for BHS Food Services. "As a Food Service Director, I see how much we buy. We go through thousands of trays across the district. We are looking for ideas on what we can do to change this."

Many BHS students are advocates for the environment and are working to increase awareness among their peers. India said, "I care a lot about the environment. When we go to a restaurant, I will bring my own takeout containers or if we go to an ice cream place, we will bring our own spoons. We also bring our own bags to the grocery store."

Free Senior Gold Card Program

Bloomfield Hills Schools district residents 55+ years are eligible for the Senior Gold Card Program. Gold Card holders are entitled to FREE admittance to home athletic events (except playoff games governed by MHSAA regulations), dramatic productions, and musical programs. To get your free Gold Card, contact the Communications Office at 248.341.6329 or communications@bloomfield.org.



Upcoming Events for Gold Card Holders

Monday, October 7, 2019 at 3:30 PM
Home Boys Varsity Tennis vs. Northville High School

Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 7:00 PM
Home Girls Varsity Volleyball Game vs. Farmington High School

Friday, October 18, 2019 at 7:00 PM
Home Varsity Football Game vs. Troy High School

Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at 7:00 PM
Music Department Concert at Bloomfield Hills High School

November 21 & 22 at 7:00 PM, November 23 at 2:00 PM
Fiddler On The Roof at Bloomfield Hills High School

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 7:00 PM
Home Girls Varsity Basketball Game vs. Oxford High School

Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at 7:00 PM
Home Boys Varsity Basketball Game vs. Rochester High School

December 17 & 18 at 7:00 PM
Collage Concert at Bloomfield Hills High School

The BHS Foundation – Forward. Stronger. Together

Last school year, the Bloomfield Hills Schools Foundation celebrated five years of funding educational initiatives in BHS. If plans for this year are any indication, the next five years should continue to be bigger and better.

Speaking to the Board of Education in July 2019, BHSF Executive Director Cathie Badalamenti outlined the BHSF's recent accomplishments, its financial standing, and its plans for the future. According to Badalamenti, "Since 2014, the BHSF has issued more than \$250,000 in teaching grants. Each year the BHSF funds dozens of educational initiatives – everything from "Ozobot" coding robots to diverse literature collections to ukuleles to liquid nitrogen for studying energy and matter.

This year, the BHSF plans to establish "Partner" grants (grants sponsored with other organizations such as PTOs and the BYA) and an endowment that will create a permanent and sustainable solution for funding enhancements and program support in our schools.

The BHS Foundation is committed to supporting the future of our schools and our community for generations to come, and we need your help. You can help the BHSF in three vitally important ways: making a donation, giving your time and raising awareness.

- Make a donation during our Annual Appeal (November 1 – December 31, 2019), attend or sponsor our CeleBHration (March 28, 2020), or give to our Tribute Campaign (May 1 – June 30, 2020).
- Give your time by joining our board or one of our committees: Grants, Alumni, Events, and Endowment/Investment.
- Raise awareness of our mission and talk about the significance of our grants. Tell your friends and family that BHSF grants impact every student in our district. You can also "Like" our Facebook page and share our social media posts.

Together, we can move forward stronger for our students, staff, schools, and community.

For more information about the BHS Foundation, please visit our website at www.bloomfield.org/Foundation or call our Executive Director, Cathie Badalamenti at 248-341-5465.



In 2017, the BHSF expanded its grant program to include "District" grants, funding programs that reach across our schools such as the seventh-grade World Religions Program, the Multicultural Celebration, and revival of the community resource, the Farm Activities Building, at Bowers School Farm.



Welcome to Bloomfield Hills Schools!

Nicole Kata, Wing Lake
My new role in the district is special education teacher at Wing Lake. I was a teacher for 9 years at Ferndale Public Schools. I am originally from Michigan and have lived here all my life. I love to go boating, be outside in the sun, go Up North with my family. I have 2 daughters, 5 years old and 7 years old. I've been married for 9 years. We have a dog named Hank, he is a 3 year old Golden Doodle.

Erin Piligian, Conant, Second Grade
I graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in Elementary Education and a focus in Language Arts. I previously interned at Vandenberg World Cultures Academy in Southfield. I was born and raised in Novi, Michigan and still reside there today! I love to travel, cook, and I enjoy spending time with my family, especially my niece and nephew!

Mallory Russell, BHHS, 10th grade math teacher
I went to Oakland Community College, Wayne State University, and then the University of Michigan. I taught at Walled Lake Western High School and Grand Blanc High School prior to joining the Black Hawks. I grew up in Waterford. I love to read, watch movies and play card or board games!

Dana Rubin, Conant, Third Grade
For the past nine years, I have been teaching with Ferndale Public Schools. I have my Masters Degree in Educational Leadership, which I obtained from Eastern Michigan University. My favorite things to do include cooking, spending time with my friends and family, and playing Mahjong. I also love spending time with my husband, Steve, my son, Brody, who just started kindergarten, and our fur-baby, Yogi. I am so excited to be a part of the Bloomfield Hills school community.

Julia Hanson, Bowers Academy, Social Emotional Learning Social Worker
I obtained my master's degree in social work from Wayne State University in 1999. I have worked in public education for twenty years, providing support to students in both the general and special education settings. My family and I enjoy traveling together to see different parts of the United States. We especially enjoy touring National Parks and big cities. This past summer we visited the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California. I have 3 children ages 17, 14, and 12. We also are the owners of a 100-pound Bernese mix, a 7 pound Papillon mix, and one large cat.

Jonathan Robinson, BHHS and WHMS Math Teacher
I graduated from Eastern Michigan University in April. Although I've lived other places for brief periods of time, I grew up and lived in White Lake, MI for most of my life, and that's where I still currently live. I love traveling when I get the opportunity to. Most recently, I went to Poland and this was the first time I've ever flown over an ocean. I like to play video games, I love playing cornhole, and I am a huge Red Wings fan.

Stefanie Cromar, Lone Pine, Resource Room Teacher
I grew up in Bloomfield Hills and went to Michigan State University. After graduating, I moved to Chicago and spent 7 years working in Chicago Public Schools. I moved back to Michigan three years ago to be closer to family. I have spent the past two years working for Ann Arbor Public Schools. I recently moved back to the Bloomfield Hills area and I am excited to join the Bloomfield Hills school community. I love to garden, cook and spend time with my family.

Lilia Mareski, Lone Pine & West Hills, Spanish
I taught in Waterford School District for the past five years. I was born in Mexico City and grew up in Texas. I moved to Michigan in 1997 and have four children and two huskies. My husband and I have been married for 26 years. I am a fitness instructor and photographer.

Jordan Stark, BHHS and Bowers Academy, Social Studies
This is my first year teaching, but it certainly isn't my first time in the classroom. Last year I finished my student teaching at Michigan State University where I taught at Cass Technical High School in Detroit. While I was at Michigan State, I was a member of the MSU Travel Fencing Team! When I'm not teaching or fencing, my other passion includes music. I've been playing piano since I was 5, was an avid percussionist in my high school marching band, and taught myself guitar.

Katie Locano, BHHS, English Teacher and Reading Specialist
I am from Michigan and have lived here my whole life. I attended Michigan State University for undergrad and Western Michigan University for my Masters. I have taught at Oak Park High School for 19 years. I love to travel, read (preferably on a beach) and I am an avid theatergoer thanks to my teenage daughter's love of all things musical theater! We have a cat named Sookie.

Brittney Schell, Eastover, Interventionist
Originally from Michigan, I graduated from Michigan State University, and this is my 8th year of teaching. I taught in Hartland Consolidated Schools for 6 years, and most recently in the Novi Community School District for a year. I enjoy gardening, traveling, reading, running, and being outdoors. A fun fact about myself is that reading has always been my favorite subject as a student, and now as a teacher, I am so excited to help young children learn how to read. I hope to inspire my students to open a book and love what's inside!

Elena Yordanova, Lone Pine Music, BHMS Choir, and EHMS Band
I was born in Bulgaria, and besides my degree in Music Education, I have two Master degrees in Violin-performance. I also studied in Paris, France, and have a Concert Artist diploma from Ecole Normale de Paris Alfred Cortot. For seven years I was working in Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra (the best professional orchestra in Bulgaria) in the First violin section. I like to travel and spend a lot of time with my kids and their activities.

Alicia Pinderhughes, BHHS, Chemistry
I received a BS from Spelman College, a MS in Pathology from NYU and a MS in Adolescent Education from Pace University. I started out teaching in New York and then taught for 3 years in Madison Heights prior to coming to Bloomfield Hills High School. I love science fiction, spend a lot of time doing fun things with my kids, and try to learn a little French in my spare time.

Madeline Andrews, Conant, Second Grade
I graduated from Michigan State university in 2018 with a degree in elementary education. I student taught in kindergarten at Commerce Elementary School in Walled Lake. I am originally from the Plymouth Canton area, and am now living in Troy. My family and I (including my dog Jack) love to spend time on the lake boating.

Honor Shelef, Lone Pine, First Grade
I graduated from Michigan State University in 2018 with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. Last school year, I student taught in fourth grade in the Walled Lake Consolidated School District. I am born and raised here in Michigan. I love to read, hike, watch documentaries, and travel.

Maciej Litkowiec, Wing Lake, Adaptive Physical Education Teacher
I previously taught in the Detroit Public Schools for 16 years also as APE teacher. I was born in Poland and that's where I received most of my education; I also attended Wayne State University for my Special Education study. I love outdoors activities, mainly cycling, hiking - exploring National Parks is my favorite vacationing time (there are not many in the US I haven't visited yet). One of my biggest individual achievements is finishing an Ironman race in 2014 under 13 hours. I am a Special Olympics swim coach for the team USA at the World Summer Special Olympic Games in Athens, Greece and Dubai, UAE, and Winter World Special Olympics in Austria as a Skiing coach.

Jamie Reedholm, Conant, Fourth Grade
I grew up in Austin, Texas, and graduated from Texas A&M University. I spent the first few years of my teaching career in Detroit and then at Friendship Circle supporting the families of children with special needs. I love to visit my family in New York, go on long walks, and spend time with my friends.

Haley Ludwig, Conant, First Grade
I graduated from Michigan State in 2018 and completed a year of student teaching in Clarkston. I am originally from Michigan and live in Rochester Hills. I love to travel, hike, and take my dogs to the dog park! I have two dogs named Boone and Landry.

Camille Davis, Conant and Eastover, Resource Room Teacher
I grew up in Canton, MI and graduated with my bachelor's degree in Special Education with a concentration in autism from Eastern Michigan University. My brother, Aaron who has autism, has been my inspiration and ignited the passion that I have for working with individuals with exceptional needs. I've taught general education at Logan Elementary in Ann Arbor and special education teacher at Orchard Hills Elementary in Novi. I enjoy nature and spending time with my family. Looking forward to an amazing school year!

Lauren Lesniak, West Hills
I graduated from Grand Valley State University in 2018. Previously, I worked for a marketing agency in Detroit before joining the summer staff at Bowers School Farm. I enjoyed my time at Bowers so much that I decided to continue along a career path where I got to work with kids. In my free time I love to read and write, walk my dog, spend time outside before it gets too cold, and visit with friends and family. My dog's name is Rufus! He is about 8 years old and is a Wheaten Terrier & Lhasa Apso mix. Since the day we rescued him, he fit right into our family and has been our biggest joy!

Joan Lynch, West Hills, Math
I am originally from Bloomfield Hills - I attended Hickory Grove, East Hills and Lahser. I graduated from the University of Michigan and Oakland University. I moved "home" in May! I've been teaching in Florida for the past 13 years. I love to spend time with my family, which includes my husband, 7 year old and 5 year old, who attend Eastover. I like to read, hike, swim, be outside, and travel!

Russell McCall, PREP Teacher
I graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a minor in physical education and completed all of my student teaching at Bloomfield Hills High School. I am a 5th degree black belt and instructor. I love gym and yoga time. I am an avid woodworker in my free time. I have twins that will be 6 in October: Hudson & Harper.

Carina Grennan, EHMS, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program
I have been in the district and have subbed and taught for over 10 years. I am originally from Michigan but have lived in Sweden (my mom is from there) I went to college in Texas, and I have lived in Utah. I moved back to Michigan because I missed my family. I LOVE to travel and rock climb. My favorite thing to do is to walk the Lake Huron beach, look for rocks, and watch my dog play and swim. My dog Bella is a therapy dog and we enjoy going out into the community. Our favorite place is Camp Cavell in Lexington, MI.





Family Fun Day Memories at the E.L. Johnson Nature Center

More than 100 families attended the E.L. Johnson Nature Center's Family Fun Day hosted by the Friends of the Nature Center on September 21. Many fish were caught, canoeing was available on the pond, and Science Alive brought a variety of live animals that could be observed up close. In addition, families enjoyed an ecological scavenger hunt, toured the log cabin, and had the opportunity to attend a guided walk. It was a great way to enjoy a fall day out-of-doors and for some people their first opportunity to fish, canoe, and visit the Nature Center. This annual event is growing each year, and we hope you'll join us next September!



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

VOLUNTEER DAY AT THE NATURE CENTER

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 26
9 A.M. - 12 P.M.
E.L. JOHNSON
NATURE CENTER
3325 FRANKLIN,
BLOOMFIELD HILLS**

DETAILS

thank you
for your time
and support

- No registration needed, but if you are in a group of five or more call the nature center in advance at 248.341.6487.
- What participants will do: mulching trails, improving habitat, removing invasive species, and more.
- What will be provided: tools needed, instructions, and snacks.
- What to bring: shovel and/or rake, refillable water bottle.
- Great opportunities for students to earn community service credit!



WILD ABOUT BOOKS

at the E.L. Johnson Nature Center
3325 Franklin Road in Bloomfield Hills
in partnership with Bloomfield Township Public Library

*Free to
attend!*

*Family
Friendly*

*Reading,
craft, and
outdoor
activity*

*Rain or
shine!
No
registration*

**SEPTEMBER 28
OCTOBER 19
NOVEMBER 16**



1 TO 3 PM



October 5 and 6, 2019
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WAGON RIDES • ANIMALS
• FOOD TRUCKS • CIDER
• PUMPKIN PICKING •
STRAWLAND HISTORICAL
EXPERIENCES • LIVE
ENTERTAINMENT •
AND SO MUCH MORE!

New this year!
Festival After Five is
from 6:30 to 11 p.m.
on October 5.
Join us for an adults
only evening in
partnership with
Griffin Claw Brewery!

www.bloomfield.org/FallFestival
248.341.6481

\$10 per person; 2 and under free.
If you'd like to pick a pumpkin
from our patch,
the prices range from \$3 to \$12.
Food prices will be determined
by individual food trucks.



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Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48301

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Thanks for a great summer!
DETAILS FOR SUMMER 2020 COMING SOON

