The Badger Pause

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The trip of a life time

by Lauren Peterson, BP Staff Writer

In the summer of 2015, a handful of your Berkshire peers will be embarking on the trip of a life time, departing to explore Athens, Florence, Rome and more on June 15, 2015. You can join them today! The trip is open to sophomores, juniors, seniors, and parents. The trip is set up by group leader, Mrs. Hull, through EF Educational Tours.

So, what is an "educational tour"? An educational tour is touching the stone walls of the Colosseum in Rome that you saw in that picture in your history book. An educational tour is being there to experience and interpret the history. When asked what she thought the highlights of the trip are going to be, Hull responded with "I guess most people think of the highlights in Athens and Rome being the Acropolis and Colosseum, but there are going to be a lot of other historical sites to see, too. Along with the Vatican and the Sistine Chapel."

In June of 2013, about 20 students took the opportunity to travel with EF and Mrs. Hull to Dublin, Wales, London, and Paris. It was an incredible, fun, educational trip for those who went. Hull said, "It was wonderful. We had a great group of people, and it went really smoothly, and I think that we all had a really great time!" Hull detailed that her favorite part of the previous trip historically speaking was Westminster Abbey in London and visiting Shakespeare's home, but the trip to the coast in Dublin was also a highlight for her.

Hull is especially looking forward to this trip after having been to Rome before; she explains "I'm looking forward to showing students Rome because it's just amazing. The history there is breathtaking – like you're right where Julius Ceasar was. And the Colosseum is truly amazing." Hull then explained that she is personally looking forward to Athens and Greece since she has never visited there before. "It'll be fun,: she assured."It's going to be a really good time!"

If students are still interested in signing up for the trip in June, there is still time! You are able to register through January. As of now, there are about 25 people registered, but Hull anticipates about 30 people total. If you have any questions about the trip or registration please see Mrs. Hull in room 204 for more information.



Photo courtesy of en.wikipedia.org



Katie Uterhark (left) and Nick Millet (right) will be returning this year to crown the 2014 Homecoming queen and king.

A little party never killed nobody: Homecoming 2014

by Erin Wiggins, BP Staff Writer

As the leaves on the trees start to fall and your backpack become increasingly heavier we arrive at that time year again: Homecoming time. Before you try to coordinate ties to dresses, you'll need to know all of the information for the weekend's festivities. You came to the right place.

To kick off the weekend, the Badgers will go head to head with the Newbury Black Knights on Friday, October 24. Before the football game starts, the Homecoming 2014 parade will begin at 6:00 pm at Burton Elementary. If you have or know of anyone that has a Corvette or Jeep and would be willing to drive it in the parade, please let Mrs. Arnold know in the library. As always, the homecoming king and queen will be crowned at the halftime ceremony by last year's homecoming royalty.

The homecoming dance will be held on Saturday, October 25th. We will start taking pictures at 7:00 pm, but the actual dance does not start until 8:00 pm. This year, the student council has decided on the theme, *The Great Gatsby*. Be ready for a party hopping with flappers and twenties style dance moves. Once again, Zone Entertainment will handle the music for the night, and hopefully will help us throw a party worthy of Gatsby himself. This year the tickets will cost $25 as well as a canned good. All of the canned goods collected will be given to the Burton Food Cupboard, which usually runs low around this time of year. If you would like to bring in more than one canned good, we definitely won't stop you. The more food we can collect, the better. For anyone planning on bringing a student from another school, please pick up a guest form in the library in order to do so. These forms can also be turned into the library.

A reminder for seniors, the Longo Homecoming Scholarship winner(s) will be announced on Friday at an assembly. The winner(s) of the $3000 scholarship will also be featured in the homecoming parade later that evening.

#BerkPerks

by Christin Dornback, BP Staff Editor

It's easy to hurl criticisms at our lovely little Berkshire High, but it's even better to take some time and appreciate the positives like –

Early release Thursdays.
The English department is as hot as their rooms are.
We have college quality racks in the weight room. S/O to Duke.
Fact: the comfy chairs in the library are THE best to procrastinate on.
We might not win all of the games, but we definitely win for best gym in the CVC. #thosebleacherstho
The teachers' style game = strong.
Purple, gold and white is very flattering. A+ to whoever picked the school colors.
Typos in the yearbook reassure us that it's okay to not be perfect.
Mrs. Sherbondy.
No midterms this year????????
Grace Noce and Luke Byler.
4 AP courses? More like 4 times the fun for upperclassmen.
Have you ever met Miss K? (Mrs. Maske)

Take a peek at the newest little Badgers on page 3

Fall into the right style...check out page 7

See "Soccer Pink Out" on page 2 before you head to the game!

New levy to save the Badgers

by Anna Carlson, BP Staff Editor

There will be a Berkshire levy on the November 4th ballot. The levy will ask for a 0.5% increase on earned income tax from the community. Because it is an *earned* income tax, it will only apply to people who are working, therefore not affecting individuals who are retired. It will take eighteen months to collect the money raised by the earned income tax levy.

Doug DeLong, the Berkshire superintendent, explained that "[the Berkshire school district] project[s] that by 2017 the district will be operating in a deficit. We are not permitted by law to operate in a deficit, so we need to have the money to avoid that."

The levy is needed not only to keep the school district operating but will also allow the district to eliminate pay to participate fees (which, for those of you who don't know, result in the charge of $356 per student per sport, except for the third sport a student participates in, which is free), continue employing numerous staff members, allow for the expanison of offered academic choices for students, as well as begin to invest in new facilities. In fact, the existing group of community members working to raise funds for new Berkshire facilities has become involved in the promotion of the levy by forming a levy committee.

The comittee was formed by Jerry Hiscox and roughly twenty-five to thirty other community members from volunteer organizations, booster clubs, the Tunebackers, and P.T.O, among other various groups. The committee's goal is to keep the members of the Berkshire community well informed about the levy as well as promoting the passage of said levy.

Hiscox explains that "Our [the levy committe's] belief is that strong schools make for a strong community." He spoke about how "The residents of the Bekshire School District have always supported its school when a need has been presented."

Yet important questions remain. Is this levy needed? Why should the community support this levy? In answering this, Delong urged the importance of the fact that "[Berkshire schools] are in the business of educating the future citizens and workers of our community and country. In order to do that we need to be able to pay for it."

Levy committee meetings are held about once a week, although now that the November vote is drawing closer, the number of meetings is closer to twice a week. The meetings are open to anyone and everyone.

Soccer pink out

by Abby Carlson,
BP Staff Writer

You know that feeling you get when you're just lounging on your bed, eating chips, and cramming three weeks' worth of a Netflix show into just three short hours? That feeling you should get up and do something productive and worthwhile, but there's nothing to do and nowhere to go? Well now there is! On September 30, the varsity girls' soccer team is hosting a breast cancer awareness game against Open Door Christian Academy on the home football field at 5 pm!

This game is not only a way to raise awareness for breast cancer, "it is also an opportunity for something different and new for the kids to have a fun time and to get the student body and community involved," says Coach Kayla O'Brien, who is currently the head coach for the girls' soccer team.

Kayla also mentions, "I know family and friends [who] are suffering from cancer and I have personally seen how hard it is on the families and the individuals." So get off your bed, pause Grey's Anatomy, put the chips away, and come support both the team and people who are battling breast cancer!

"This is a PINK OUT people, so show your support!"

The game will be a Pink Out, so raid your sister's closet, (or brother's, who knows, maybe he's a pink kind of guy) and come show some support for your girls' soccer team! If you are a current student at Berkshire High School, and you are decked out in pink, you can get into the game for only three bucks! Usually it costs seven dollars, so wear as much pink as you can pile on!

You can also purchase presale tickets for three dollars during the lunch periods the week before the game, but that doesn't mean you should skimp on the pink accessories! This is a PINK OUT people, so show your support! There will also be an opportunity to make a goal at half time for only a dollar. If you DO make a goal, your name will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a 25 dollar gift card to Chipotle! That's a whole lot of happiness for only a dollar! Not only is this a girls' varsity soccer game, it is also Youth Recreation Night! That means the little guys can get into the game for free if they wear their jerseys!



Photo courtesy of J. Arnold

Coach O'Brien says, "I have a very supportive and great group of girls that are always trying to improve and make things better, not just for the team, but for the people around them." This is why she chose to host the game this year, and she hopes to continue having a Pink Out soccer game. Whether or not you were described in the first paragraph, come show your support for your Berkshire Badgers Girls' Soccer team, and those fighting with breast cancer by wearing LOTS of pink to the game!

A different type of school: PSEO

by Carolyn Mayer,
BP Staff Editor

Each day, there is a group of upperclassmen here at Berkshire High School who take their education to a higher level. These students participate in PSEO—Post Secondary Education Options—at the Kent State branch down the street. They take classes to earn both high school and college credit, but some people have questions about this option for high school students.

Berkshire guidance counselor Michelle Paluf sat down with The Badger Pause and states that PSEO "is available to any freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior with a grade point average of a 3.0 or higher." But because of scheduling availability and general readiness to take on the responsibility of a college class, mostly juniors and seniors participate.

Students who are considering PSEO as an option should not take the decision lightly. Coming from a PSEO student, it is a great opportunity, but it does require a hefty commitment. Paluf advises that students "have to think about if they're ready to take on college level classes. They have to think about if they're mature enough… Are they going to be able to balance both of their schedules here at Berkshire and PSEO?"

Some students who participate in PSEO have to miss portions of their classes at the high school if they overlap with their college course. This scheduling discrepancy is important to consider when thinking about doing PSEO. If there is a possibility that a student will have to miss a class a Berkshire, he or she will have to consult with the teacher whose class will be missed, but senior Bri Steigerwald confirms that "for the most part [the teachers] are really nice about it. The hardest thing is that you have to figure out what you missed and it's just a little extra work that you have to put in."

Berkshire senior Andrew Cook takes classes at Kent and he wants to inform potential students that "if you were to do poorly in a class, it would be really bad because it affects high school and college credit later down the road."

Despite the potential downfalls, doing PSEO is a great opportunity to experience college while still in high school. Cook says to everyone who is considering PSEO to "definitely do it. It is absolutely worth it." It's an opportunity to earn free college credits that can transfer to your college or university after high school.

A PSEO student will save about $2,000 per three-credit course taken through this program. Berkshire senior Christin Dornback explained to The Badger Pause, "I like the freedom and the flexibility that it gives me. I also like the college atmosphere of it; it's very relaxed."

Although the year just began, if you're interested in becoming a PSEO student next year, consult with your parents and guidance counselor to figure out if it's the right choice for you.

Sweet Reads

It's Kind of a Funny Story by Ned Vizzini: A Review

by Erin Wiggins,
BP Staff Writer

It's Kind of a Funny Story follows Craig Gilner, a young teen living in New York City. After months of studying he finally gets into his dream school, Executive Pre-Professional High School. He sees this high school as his pathway to get into a "Good College", so he can someday have a "Good Job" therefore meaning he would have a "Good Life". The pressures of this competitive high school finally become too much for Craig, and he decides he wants to kill himself. Instead of doing so, he checks himself into a mental hospital where he meets many strange, but kind people. Throughout his stay, he finds out who his real friends are, revisits passions from his childhood, and realizes he doesn't need to push himself as hard as he has been.

It's Kind of a Funny Story is one of those stories that stay with you long after you have finished it. It's the kind of book you reminisce on when you're in a sticky situation, not knowing exactly what to do. This book is funny, relatable, and entertaining. Ironically, though it is about depression, it is not in the slightest bit depressing. Vizzini himself spent five days in a mental hospital, only days before he began to write this book. Sadly, Vizzini committed suicide on December 19, 2013 at the age of 32. *It's Kind of a Funny Story* feels completely genuine and Vizzini's struggle with his own depression shows through. I whole heartedly recommend this book.

As a person who has suffered from anxiety her entire life, this book helped me through a lot. The same things Craig worried about, I worried about. Sometimes school, friends, family, and extracurricular activities just becomes too much. Every commitment you make is like fuel to the fire, but reading about Craig's struggles helped keep me from getting scorched. I realized that I didn't need to constantly try to make other people happy and doing the best I can is enough.

With the new school year starting, it's easy to get caught up in everything that's going on. Due date after due date, the work seems never-ending. This book reminds you there is a light at the end of the tunnel. While that math homework is super important, your mental health is more important. If you are feeling overwhelmed please talk to your teachers or guidance counselor. Your teachers are human too; they'll understand. Don't let your worries get the better of you. Take care of yourself, Berkshire.

If you are having thoughts of suicide please call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 or talk to an adult.

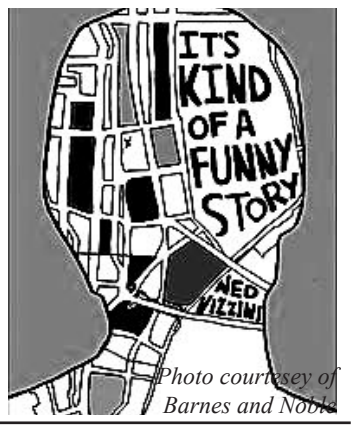


Photo courtesy of Barnes and Noble

What people have been reading and loving

by Kaitlyn Moses, BP Staff Writer

Amy Pfiester, grade 9: *Looking For Alaska* by John Green
" It made you want to keep reading."
Melissa Braun, grade 10: *Twisted* by Laurie Halse Anderson
"The author's writing really grabs your attention."
Rachel Rich, grade 11: *The Host* by Stephenie Meyer
"The book's a lot better than the movie."

Fresh faces grace the 'Shire

by Lauren Peterson, BP Staff Writer

Each year, there seems to be more new individuals rounding the halls of Berkshire. Although the Badger Pause staff couldn't interview all of them, here are four fresh faces for you to get to know.



From left to right: Abbie Maschek, Julia Losasso, Hunter Geber, and Jake Sedivy.

Hunter Geber is a freshman from Newbury, and is a new student here at Berkshire. Geber claim's "[Berkshire]'s really cool, and I like the people here and everything." Though he has yet to find his favorite thing about Berkshire, Geber said "I'm sure I'll come up with something because I really like it here!" Geber enjoys all of his classes and teachers this year, but he said his favorite is Mrs. Kiczek's English class because "she is really nice." When asked if there were any weird or different things that happen here at Berkshire compared to his previous school, Geber claims "it's not really that much different from Newbury". It's still early in the school year, however, so he is sure to find out some of Berkshire's weird quirks throughout the year. When Geber isn't eating his macaroni and cheese with a fork, he's on the football field. If Hunter could, he said he would combine a penguin and a panda and call it a Panguin. Could you imagine that.

Julia Losasso is a sophomore transferring from Hershey Montessori School in Huntsburg, Ohio. Julia plays on Berkshire's Varsity soccer team. When asked what she thinks of Berkshire so far, she replied "it's good! It's really different from the school that I came from." Laughing, Julia said that she doesn't have a favorite thing about Berkshire yet. (We're sure she'll find a favorite soon!) She attends many of the sporting events including the cross country meets and even football games to support her fellow athletes. Losasso says "my sister is on the cross country team so I've gone to the meets for a couple of years." In response to the differences at Berkshire in comparison to Hershey Montessori School, Losasso said "some of the classes are different, and they are just really separated. At my old school, we didn't have desks in all of the class rooms, so it was just more open." Hershey Montessori is very different from the average public school; it's primarily a boarding school, so many of the students live in dorms while attending school there. However, she explains that she thinks it is a nice change. Losasso's favorite class is the ever-so-popular Modern Novels course. Strangely, little Losasso prefers to eat her macaroni and cheese with a spoon. Her favorite animal is a horse and if Julia could combine any two animals, she would combine a horse and a giraffe, but she has yet to come up with a name for this creature.

Junior Abbie Maschek is from Agape Christian Academy. Maschek explains that Berkshire is "definitely a good culture change for [me] being from a private school." She says that she is getting used to the school, but "it's just a big adjustment." Maschek hasn't really run into any weird things at Berkshire yet, but "the classes here are a lot different. Ours at Agape were based on a biblical perspective; this is on a secular." Maschek also goes on to say that "the students here are more outspoken" than she's used to, and "a little more intimidating." After fighting through the new and more frank students, Maschek finally reaches her favorite thing about Berkshire – having Journalism with Mrs. Hull. She says her favorite thing about Berkshire thus far is the journalism program, following up with the exclamation that "I love journalism class!" Maschek likes to eat her macaroni and cheese with a fork (which is definitely the right way). When asked what two animals she would combine, Abbie said "probably a yellow lab and a wiener dog because they're my two favorite dogs, and maybe call it a wiener lab or something."

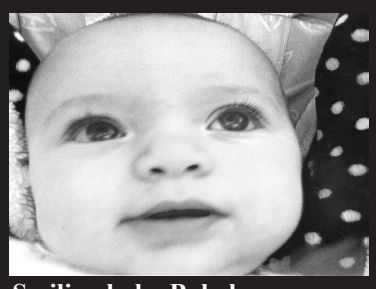
Senior Jake Sedivy transferred over from Newbury High School. Jake, being over six feet tall, of course plays basketball and claims he is very excited for this upcoming season. When asked what he thinks of Berkshire so far, he admits "it's better than Newbury!" Sedivy says his favorite things about going to school at Berkshire is that it's closer to home, and Nikki Reid, obviously. Jokingly, after hearing rumors, Sedivy exclaims that he heard about "the Berkshire Bug; it's so weird!" The Berkshire Bug is definitely one of the weirdest parts of this school, Jake; wait till you actually see one. He says his favorite class is psychology with Mr. List. Like a typical person, Sedivy eats his macaroni and cheese with a fork. When asked what animals he would combine, Sedivy replied "I would combine a Nikki Reid and a koala, and make it a Nikwala." Interesting.

So there you have it, Berkshire. Now that you know the personal details and macaroni-and-cheese eating rituals of these new kiddos, be sure to embrace them as your fellow badgers. From all of us, welcome to the family.

A batch of bouncing baby Badgers

by Abbie Mascheck, BP Staff Writer

The joy of bringing a child into the world is an undescribable experience for most individuals. This new life comes with new excitements but also new challenges. As each day is filled with a new adventure, a baby changes the lives of the people close to him or her. Two Berkshire staff members have recently experienced this new adventure.



Smiling baby Bakalar.

Brittany Bakalar, Berkshire's guidance counselor welcomed Emersyn Gene into the world on April 18, 2014 at 7:30 am. When asked what her first impressions of her new little girl was, she simply said "lots of emotions: fear, love, curiosity, concern, just making sure she was okay."



M. Guthrie and R. Guthrie admiring baby P. Guthrie.

Now you would think, and Bakalar would agree, that Emersyn would look like her after carrying her for nine months, but that's not the case. When asked who in the family she resembles, the proud mother said, "She is a healthy mixture of her dad and grandmother." Some babies have a hard time sleeping through the night during the first couple of months of their life, but not Emersyn. "She sleeps awesome through the night. Like after the first month, she's been sleeping through the night, which is helpful because my first baby still gets up. So she wakes up at least once in the night." Emersyn proves that the best things in life are the ones that are unexpected. "She was unexpected, but she's the easiest baby known to man. She's so calm. It's like night and day from my other one." For those that don't know, Bakalar's two children are twelve months and two days apart, so it is not an understatement to say that she is a busy woman.

But, Bakalar is not the only teacher at Berkshire that recently welcomed a new baby; math teacher, Richard Guthrie and science teacher, Megan Guthrie also did. Unlike Bakalar, Richard Guthrie didn't actually give birth, his wife did, but he was there for that special moment. Guthrie happily recalled, "I got to hold her as soon as she came out and they got her all cleaned up. It was awesome. It was pretty surreal."

Peyton Elizabeth was born on August 25, 2014 at 1:56 am which, coincidently, was the first day of school. Being the first child for the Guthrie's, they seem to be adjusting well to their new lives as parents. Peyton is a pretty easy baby to understand, Guthrie mentions "She likes to snuggle, she cuddles up into your arms real quick, right away. She likes to eat. So she eats and sleeps and cuddles." Some babies can't bear the thought of sleeping in a loud environment, yet Peyton doesn't seem to mind loud noises when she tries to get her rest. When asked about her current hobbies, Guthrie had a simple answer, "She likes to sleep. She does not wake up to loud noises, and between me and my dog, our house is pretty loud. So that's a good thing." Everyone should have a sibling that they can call their own. When asked if the Guthrie's plan to expand their family Guthrie answered vaguely, saying "Time will tell, we'll will see how this first one goes."

Don't be fools, follow these rules

by Sam Hargis, BP Staff Writer

Along with a good start to the school year, teachers are also having a good start to enforcing many unique rules and different styles of teaching. Although students may not like some of the restrictions and methods, they are there for a reason, so they must be affective. We have always had the same, 'late to class three times', 'no cell phones' and 'don't talk while the teacher is talking' rules along with the 'two column notes', ' copy off the power point', 'quiz and test multiple times a quarter' teaching methods, but some teachers at Berkshire decided to change it up a bit.

Emmett Keller, the new science teacher at Berkshire has brought some very unique rules and methods to his classroom. In the beginning of the class period, and periodically during the class, he will say 'Gimme 5'. Instead of requesting a high five he's asking for five things, 1. Be quiet 2. Be still 3. Listen 4. Eyes on the speaker 5. Hands free of objects. This method is liked by most of his students which makes it effective. "CHAMP" is another of Keller's big teaching methods. It is short for C- Conversation, H- Help, A- Activity, M- Movement, and P- Participation. Keller says he learned both of these methods from his professors as a student in college. Both of them "instill healthy habits in students" says Keller. These also helped Keller at the beginning of his teaching career because he was very young and had classroom management problems. His students are enjoying and getting used to his new methods during this school year.

Jim Lester, on the other hand, has been at our school for a while and is the head of the mathematics department. He is the king of technology at Berkshire High school, and has many unique teaching methods. The most recent rule added to his class is his phone rule which requires students to give up their phone to the cell jail.

Students never like giving up their phones but this is a useful strategy to keep students focused in class. Lester put up a shoe organizer near the door of his classroom; each slot is numbered and everyone is assigned a slot. He says he chose a clear organizer, so student will not be distracted or worried about their phones. Lester explains he got the idea from Miss Timmons. He also states "I noticed when I first started using it; students would leave their phones in their lockers." This is a perk for any teacher. He says it works excellently and he is going to keep using the method. He suggests it to any teacher who wants to eliminate phone distractions. Lester gave his spare organizer to Mrs. Ray, another new teacher at Berkshire. Hopefully teachers will use this idea more often. Mrs. Hunter, the English III teacher, also has this as an 'option' in her classroom. She says it helps the students have "less of a temptation" to be on their phones.

We as students never like rules, but if they're making our learning come easier, so be it. Thanks to Keller, Lester, and possibly other teachers with unique and useful methods, they're making our school better and better! Keep it coming Berkshire teachers!

Deadlines and dates and seniors, oh my!

by, Lexi Sell, BP Staff Writer



Brittany Bakalar, School Guidance Couselor for L-Z

The time has finally come for the class of 2015 seniors to start the final stretch before graduation. Seniors, as your last year of high school comes to a close there are a few deadlines and dates you must mark down before you can walk across the stage. While the school year has only just started, the next few months leading up to winter are the most important to the hopeful graduates. Making memories and having a great senior year may seem like the key goal but it's all fun and games till you're here one year later repeating the same process.

Another priority the staff has for students is that they all reach their full potential as they move on. Mrs. Arnold has given some important yearbook details; senior baby ads will be at a first come first serve basis along with the fee of 40 dollars. Many students look forward to getting their baby ads and senior pictures put in the yearbook, but the photographs must be in no later than winter break, otherwise the yearbook class won't have enough time to make your pages a beautiful tribute of your childhood journey. Don't forget to preorder your year book for 55 dollars.

The many different deadlines can be overwhelming, but Brittany Bakalar, one of Berkshire's guidance counselors reminds students to "stay organized and do not procrastinate." Michelle Paluf, another guidance counselor has been working hard with Bakalar to keep the students up to date with all the requirements as well as aware of their possible choices as graduation grows closer.

Bakalar's biggest tips for seniors included, "Ask as many questions as you can, start asking for recommendation letters and if you're a senior and haven't taken your ACT or SAT get on that, but don't stress, get at least one in the next deadline." She also advised that "it's crucial to get on top of doing scholarships (like the Longo Homecoming scholarship due October 3) which are available in Guidance. (A list of scholarships and deadlines were provided by Paluf.) it included Wendy's High School Heisman Scholarship (which can be applied to online an turned in before 10/31/14), Cleveland Browns Foundation – Marion Motley Scholarship (which information is in the guidance office but must be applied online and finished before October 15th) , Coca-Cola Scholarship (deadline of November 1st) , and lastly the Horattio Agler Scholarship (which can be applied for online before October 25th). Outside of this condensed list are the hundreds of scholarships online that can be obtained for the chance to add some money to your college savings.

As for specific college details, those will be different depending on where you, as an individual, decide to go. Particular information can be discussed with your assigned guidance counselor to help narrow your choices and options as the deadlines and due dates come to a close. Bakalar also explained, "We're moving to get everything online, but until then come to the office to get what you need." As the months continue, deadlines will be released which will be affiliated with each month; talk to your teachers and counselors to get the most recent updates on what needs to be done to ensure you take advantage of as many opportunities as possible.

Get by in Junior High

by Samantha Hargis &
Alex Sanda, BP Staff Writers

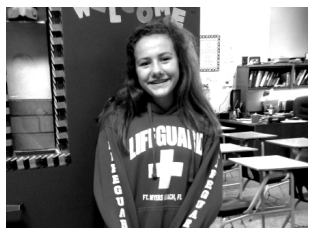
Ah, a new beginning of the year with the crazy hallways, a new class of seventh graders, and students adjusting to the different school year. Students in junior high often have problems with being stuck in the hallways or being too shy to ask for help. Many of them have a plethora of questions or troubles at school but have a hard time finding the right people to. The truth is anyone (from seventh to twelfth grade) could ask any student, teacher or counselor. The seventh grade class completed a survey to see how the school year has started or if they could give or receive advice, to which seventh grader Alex Kovach replied, "I don't need advice, I need ambition". Find your ambition while following these tips.

The number one concern seemed to be time, time, time. All of the students have said that time is their biggest issue. Coming from students who have been there, done that, the lack of time really isn't as bad as it seems. Eighth grader Dan Fabian admits he had lots of trouble last year, but it gets better after seventh grade. Seventh grader Megan Speelman calls the hallways hectic, while Grace Lilibridge says, "It's hard getting from one class to another, but I'm getting it down".

Most students will find that it gets much easier by the end of the year. Lilibridge also suggests that everyone uses their study hall, especially if they participate in sports. Other ways to find time to go to your lockers and avoid being late to class is to stay organized. In your locker, separate your morning classes and afternoon classes. Put your book and binder for the same class together, and MEMORIZE YOUR SCHEDULE. Recycle loose papers and keep anything you need for a class in your binder, like a calculator or book.

Studying is a whole different story. Always take advantage of your study hall and try to finish all homework in school so you don't forget or procrastinate at home. Also if at any time during class you are having trouble, just ask! Stay after class and talk with your teachers.

Cramming for tests does not work at all. If you know a test is coming, then take home notes and/



Grace Lillibridge, 7th Grader



Danny Fabian, 8th Grader

or book every day until the test and study for 15 minutes so sleep isn't lost due to studying for hours the night before. Always look over notes or study guides any chance you get. Use classmates or friends who are in the same classes to study with. When studying, always put distractions away.

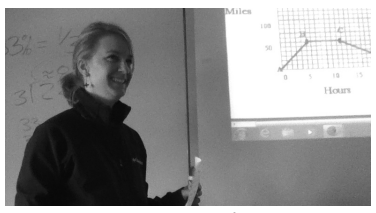
Never forget this wonderful advice from Berkshire seventh grader Nicole Casalandra, "Give respect to get respect". Success at the high school will come easier if everyone could follow that. Junior high and high school really aren't as difficult as some may think, but remember, see our guidance counselors if you need any more help. That's what they're there for.

Meet the Teachers

by, Zak Martinjako and Clare Lynn, BP Staff Writers



Josh Deweese



Tracy Lobins



Emmett Keller



Jennifer Ray

Imagine being a new kid at school, but instead of having to fit in among your peers and adjust to a different school, you're standing in front of many new faces each day and...teaching them. Such is the life of a new teacher at Berkshire. This year Berkshire welcomes four new teachers to the faculty, including Josh DeWeese, Tracy Lobins, Emmett Keller, and Jennifer Ray. We've spoken to these four new teachers and would like to introduce you to them.

DeWeese may be a familiar face to some, as he filled in after Mr. Gerald Canton retired second semester last year. In a one on one interview, DeWeese disclosed that he wanted to come back to the community and teach for Berkshire, especially as he was a 1996 graduate of this very high school. He went to college at Kent State and now teaches American History and Current Events. He coaches Badger football, which is coincidentally his favorite sport to coach, and expects a great season. When asked if he did, in fact, know all the lines to the Disney movie Frozen, he admitted that he did but used his daughters as a cover.

Tracy Lobins is completely new to the school and greatly enjoys her new surroundings. She attended James Madison College in Virginia then transferred to Slippery Rock in Pennsylvania where she majored in Environmental Geo-Sciences before getting her Masters in Education at Edinboro University. She now teaches seventh grade science and one class of CP Physical Science. She is not a coach at Berkshire (yet), but has coached volleyball in the past. When asked what her spirit animal was she answered with the environmentally friendly Lorax, and quoted, "I speak for the trees!"

Keller is a new teacher at the school, and happily so as he was a 2001 Berkshire graduate. When asked why he wanted to return he said "like Lebron I wanted to come home." He is happy to have returned to the school system that provided him with so many opportunities. Keller attended Muskingum University and is now a teacher of Biology, AP Biology, and Environmental Science. His inspiration to get into teaching and science was his experience in Jack Arnold's Biology II class, in which Carey Maske, the current chemistry teacher, was a student teacher. On the sports side, he was very immersed in football throughout high school, and may be interested in a coaching position in the future. However, for the time being he is just focused on getting settled in.

Ray is also a totally new face to Berkshire. She taught in Toledo for two years, but wanted to return to the Cleveland area in order to be closer to her family. She did have a friend who went to Berkshire when she was growing up, which drew her here. Miss Ray is a graduate from Ohio University and now teaches Berkshire's Algebra 1A, Math Topics, and Intro to College Math classes. According to her, she decided she wanted to be a teacher in fifth grade, and her decision was reinforced in high school by her teachers. Ray also has a sporty side, she was a swimmer for eleven years (she started at the age of five!), which she enjoyed greatly.

Berkshire students would like to welcome all the new teachers, and we look forward to an awesome year.

Students, how to fight the post-September blues

by Christin Dornback, BP Editor

With September reaching its end and the reality of school settling in, it's easy to lose any motivation to wake up, plop your butt in a chair, and learn. Moan and groan all you want about school – how it's sooooo awful, how this education system has crossed the line to the ridiculous side, how it's unethical to ask anything more than a bit of work from us, etc. – but that doesn't change the fact that, well, you're stuck in it. If you're stuck, you might as well make it worthwhile and succeed in something other than being a fantastic complainer. September is always a golden month when it's still moderately warm out and the "new school year, new me" mentality is all the rage, but the months following are definitely something that we're all to familiar with – what can blatantly be described as the not-so-golden months.

My fellow procrastinators, complainers, and kiddos dreading all things academic, here's how to stay driven through the straining months ahead of us.

1. Acknowledge that there is an end. Yes, the end might be eight months and a lot of exhaustion from now, but there is an end. You just have to reach it, and those darned sayings are actually true. It'll be over before you know it.

2. That pointless assignment given to you at the end of September on a Friday afternoon may seem irrelevant and not worth the time or effort, but when your grade falls to an 89.4, you're going to wish you did it, so just do it. Tears will not make your teacher more inclined to bump

3. Pretend the school year is one big game – make it fun, make it something you can be overly passionate about. If the year is a game, it can be won. However, being "the comeback kid" is not an appropriate method to approach your grades…chances are you'll fall just short.

4. Go workout; drink some tea or coffee; google "tips on how to stay motivated" and find some beauty guru or grad student yakking on about how feeling great correlates to doing great. But if you're lacking all motivation to even do that, never fear, your Badger Pause staff does all of the hard and critical work so you don't have to. - Collegeboard.org lists five tips to help all of us highschoolers swimming in an ocean of un-motivation:

1. Focus on high impact activities. Focus, prioritize, succeed.

2. Create new challenges. Shake it up a bit; live a little. Get out of that groove you're used to.

3. Set attainable goals.

4. Find a social support group. Call up your BFF Jill or have a conversation with your mom that lasts more than five grumpy half-responses.

5. Acknowledge your accomplishments. Pat yourself on the back for finishing that seven page paper in a record of two hours; throw a party for getting that A- on your test; celebrate that you are an able-bodied and one heck of a person for achieving what you have achieved. Don't belittle any of your successes.

5. Stress is just bad. Coming from a girl who has regular breakdowns in a corner of Mrs. Hull's room, stress is not something to give more attention than its worth. Brush it off. That burgeoning feeling of life crashing down around you is exactly that: a feeling. Things will be okay and stress doesn't look good on anyone, so just breathe. (Side note: Chai tea lattes are very therapeutic.)

And yes, there are going to be times when the beginning-of-winter blues, middle-of-winter maladies, and almost-summertime stresses try to pull you down into the scholastic and emotional dumps, but you can determine whether it's for two minutes or two weeks. I won't argue, I know it's rough and tough and seemingly impossible, but use these steps to stay motivated post-September, and you'll find that it's totally worth it.

Creativity crisis crushes Berkshire

by Clare Lynn, BP Staff Writer

This year, many students at Berkshire are wondering: "where did the Family Consumer Science (FCS) and higher level art classes go?" Some of the classes that have disappeared, such as Exploring Foods, Fashion Design, Child Development, and Arts III and IV were favorites of students. This means that the many students that have been working hard to make it to higher level art and other creative courses had to switch to different electives this year.

The reasoning behind the cancellations of both the higher level arts and the FCS courses has to do with the low numbers of students attending. In an interview with Karen Fortier, the teacher of all art courses, she was asked her how she felt about not teaching Art III and IV this year. She replied that she felt "awful, I want to see it that Art II and III kids have a place to go the following year." Fortier is hoping that student numbers will be up next year because she enjoys communicating with and teaching students who are clearly interested in the subject.

However, students such as Alexis Johnson, a senior at Berkshire, who had hoped to take Art IV, are bringing up valuable counterpoints. When asked the same question, Johnson stated that "it doesn't make sense because the numbers of people in Art III and IV were low last year as well, and they could've combined the two just as last year. We're already a small school, and now our choices are even more limited." Now, Johnson and other seniors must create their own portfolios for potential art schools at home this year.

Art students are not the only students upset by these course cuts, Michelle Sohm, a junior at Berkshire, said "I understand why they were removed, but I still don't think they should've been." Sohm had wanted to take Fashion Design this year. However, when asking why the FCS courses were cut specifically, Dawn Nielsen, the Berkshire curriculum director, had the same answer as Fortier; low student numbers were to blame for the course cuts.

Although it is unclear whether FCS courses will ever return to Berkshire, what is clear is that many students are angry that these courses are gone. So how can this be, if the reasoning behind the disappearance is low attendance? Perhaps students just liked the idea of having these courses around without actually attending them, or maybe funding was a major issue this year. Students are not the only ones affected by the course cancellations either; almost every teacher who was asked, reported that they enjoyed having these classes at Berkshire as well.

The response from Berkshire on the topic is clear. Berkshire wants these courses back, but only time will tell if these creative classes will return to the school.



Berkshire's art room sits empty after years of use.

Berkshire students' aspirations for the new school year

by Gwen Losasso, BP Staff Writer

Amy Pfeister

Grade: 9

What are you looking forward to most this year?
"I can't wait for track season!"

What are your goals for this year? "My goals are to keep up with school and sports."

What is currently your favorite class, and why?
"My favorite is history because I like the subject and the teacher."

Extra-curricular activities:
"I'm in cross country, cheer for basketball, and track."



Brian Malkus, left, and Amy Pfeister, right work in Berkshire's computer lab.

Brian Malkus

Grade: 10

What are you looking forward to most this year? "Getting sleep."

What are your goals for this year? "To get some sleep at night."

What is currently your favorite class, and why?
"Computer Apps; it's very easy for me."

Extra-curricular activities:
"Basketball and playing baseball with Aaron Pawlak."

Kaitlyn Moses

Grade: 10

What are you looking forward to most this year? "I am most looking forward to writing for the paper this school year."

What are your goals for this year? "This year, I hope to improve my writing skills and read more books."

What is currently your favorite class, and why? "My favorite class is English because I love writing, reading, and analyzing stories."

Extra-curricular activities:
"Journalism is the only activity I do both in and out of school."

Emily Shantery

Grade: 12

What are you looking forward to most this year? "Graduating!"

What are your goals for this year? "This year I want to have a great season in volleyball, and make a decision on a college."

What is currently your favorite class, and why? "English! I like English because I learn a lot."

Extra-curricular activities:
"I am in volleyball and National Honor Society."



Emily Shantery getting work done.

Make the hallways less hectic

by Zak Martinjako, BP Staff Writer



School's been back in session for about a month now, and that means we should all be getting settled back into the rhythm of things. Yet amidst the structure and organization of the standard school day, there waits a behemoth of chaos. In those three minutes between each bell lies a daunting foe. Everyone has something they need to do during that precious time, and it's a tight schedule. Therefore, it's essential that hallway traffic runs smoothly and efficiently.

However, as most of us know all too well, that is not the case. In those halls we only find disarray as hundreds of people try to retrieve supplies, travel to a class, and attempt to avoid smacking into stationary objects and other people. There is a way to defeat this enemy, though. The source of this chaos begins and ends with us, the students, which means we have the power to bring order. So for the sake of everyone's sanity (and punctuality), here's your guide to navigating Berkshire's halls.

The Do's:

• Do walk on the right side of the hallway. This standard rule of the road applies nicely to any hallway and helps avoid collisions, abrupt stops, and those awkward moments where you have to squeeze between a bunch of people as you meekly mutter "excuse me."

• Do walk at a moderate pace. One person going slowly can create a hallway full of frustrated people. Remember, everyone has somewhere they need to go, and some of us have to walk from one end of the building to the other. People trying to go around you can create a traffic jam quite easily, so try not to give people a reason to pass you.

• Do try to be courteous. If someone drops something and you can pick it up (without blocking everyone else!), then do so. If you run into somebody, say you're sorry. Accidents happen in the halls, but we can avoid making others angry.

• Do travel up and down the stairs in a single file line on the right side. The stairs don't have much wiggle room. Most of us have experienced the frustration of trying to go up or down the stairs while there are those two or three people going the opposite direction and taking up all the space. So don't be "that" guy or gal; use the stairs correctly.

• Do stand close to your locker. Be as close as you can while still able to get your stuff. The halls are already constricted enough with the lockers in them, so don't amplify the problem.

The Don'ts:

• Don't walk right beside your friends. You block people from getting around you, and it congests traffic. Plus, if you're talking to someone right beside you, then you're probably going too slowly. You can talk to your friends later. If you must chat, pull off to the side and stay out of everyone else's way.

• Don't act like an idiot. No one appreciates it. That means no throwing things, slamming other people's lockers closed, jumping on each other, knocking binders and books out of people's hands, pushing people on the stairs, etc. Basically, if a teacher would yell at you if they saw you, don't do it.

• Don't use the time between classes as time to spend with your boyfriend/girlfriend. Seriously. No one cares about your relationship except you. Hugging, holding hands, and other flirtatious behavior serve only to annoy the people who are actually trying to get to class.

• Don't just stand there. Whether you're waiting for a friend, talking to a teacher, or trying to remember where you're supposed to be going, DO NOT become an obstacle. Keep moving or pull off to the side.

• Don't crowd around doors. It happens a lot, the teacher is out of his or her room for whatever reason and the door is locked. Students start to arrive and have no choice but to wait. These situations are unavoidable, but can completely block a hallway. Try to keep yourselves from becoming too much of a problem by staying close to the wall and arranging yourselves so that there is an open path for students to get around you.

That's all there is to it. Simple, right? Follow these guidelines and those chaotic hallways will be much less painful (and rage inducing) to get through. So next time you embark on the arduous journey to class, remember this article, and you just might find that those three minutes were all the more pleasant for it.

Empty bleachers leave Berkshire athletes searching for support

by Melissa Braun, BP Staff Writer

Is there school spirit to be found anywhere at Berkshire? There seems to be an epidemic of students and community members not coming to support Berkshire's sports teams. Lately the crowds in the student section at games are lacking and are getting smaller and smaller. Along with the bare stands, there is hardly any school spirit and cheering among the Berkshire crowd.

There are always really cool vines on the internet featuring student sections at other schools which are insane; the bleachers are packed, the crowd is going crazy and the fans are spirited and cheering. So Berkshire, why can't we be like those student sections?

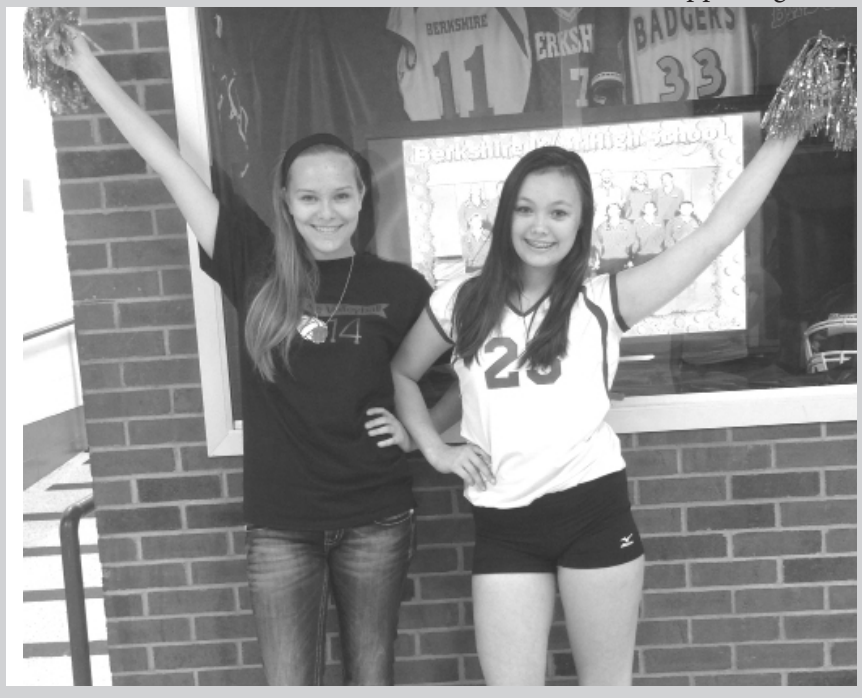
Although some students do put effort into coming to sporting events and be spirited, their numbers still remain low. It turns out there are several reasons behind the lack of fans showing up to Berkshire games.

For those who do want to come watch a team play, it's not cheap; to attend you usually pay between six and seven dollars just to go and support one of Berkshire's teams. It becomes especially costly when you decide that you want attend a few different events in a week. For instance, to attend a volleyball, soccer, and football game, all in the same week, it would cost around twenty dollars. Perhaps the school could make a policy that if a student attends two games in one week, that the third game he or she attends, in the same week, can be free. If the cost to get into games was less would more students and parents come? Possibly.

Athletes crave an audience at their events. Players ask people all day long to come watch them play and to cheer on the team; some even make Instagram posts or tweet about games begging people to come watch them play. It makes the win that much better when your fellow peers are there to witness it. When the stands stay empty it's hard for the participating athletes because they have to create all the enthusiasm and energy themselves, without the encouragement of a crowd. It's a disappointment when you put hard work and dedication into practices, but when game day arrives hardly anyone comes to watch you play and see your hard work pay off.

Another problem lies with students not knowing when and where the games are. Sophomore Katie Moses suggested the school "advertise more, a lot of the times I don't even know about the game." Perhaps Berkshire teams could make posters and hang them around the school showing what time the games start and where they are held. Maybe then more students would know about the game and make it a priority to attend. Moses went on to say that maybe students just do not have a way of getting to the games. Parents are often working, leaving their kid with no ride to get there. Away games and meets out of the area are even harder to get to, although athletes understand they still feel the sting of no students support.

But still, even home games are lacking students. Some games just start at weird times in the evening, conflicting with dinner or other games running at the same time. Athletes do want to support each other but when games seem to be always scheduled around the same time it becomes seemingly impossible to do so. Sure, some games may be really long but it's all about sticking it out, showing Berkshire pride and cheering on the team till the end.



Kylee Minik and Lizzie O'Conner show their spirit!

An additional factor remains: perhaps there is just not enough time in the day to go watch a Berkshire sporting event. Students struggle to balance everything in life. It is hard for a student to come to events when he or she is bombarded with homework and trying to maintain a job at the same time. It is an understandable reason for why they don't come.

Freshman, Lizzie O'Conner says "people should take pride in their school's sports teams." It doesn't seem like many pupils care about Berkshire, but students should be proud about what school they attend. The purple and gold pride is disappearing little by little every season. Students should get more involved with the events happening at the school and in the community; there's a lack of school spirit lurking within Berkshire. Oh where, oh where has Berkshire's spirit gone? Hopefully it finds its home right back here soon.

Hilarious and heart-wrenching; The story of Robin Williams and other fated comedians

by Carolyn Mayer, BP Editor

Over the summer, the world lost a great comedian. Robin Williams was just 63 years old when he took his life in his California home on August 8th of this year. Authorities stated that he slit his wrist and then eventually hanged himself in his bedroom. He was vocal about his depression and substance abuse issues over the years, but eventually the comedian was overcome by his illness. Williams' wife also stated that her husband had recently been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease which targets the nervous system and makes movement and speaking difficult over time which could have contributed to his increased depression.



Photo courtesy of salon.com

Robin Williams was born in Chicago, Illinois on July 21st, 1951. His mother was a model, and his father was a successful Ford Motor executive. Williams was bullied in school, until he discovered that being funny could make him friends and eventually the bullying stopped. He joined the wrestling and track teams at his elite prep school while discovering new ways to make people laugh.

Williams studied acting at the prestigious Julliard School in New York City on a full scholarship before he dropped out to pursue comedy full time. He was a stand-up comedian, but his career took off when he made a guest appearance on the sitcom Happy Days as the silly alien called Mork from the planet of Ork. Soon after, Williams became the star of the spin-off sitcom Mork and Mindy in 1978. Audiences loved Mork, and his catch-phrase "nanu-nanu" became a worldwide sensation. The show was a success and Robin Williams became a household name. Williams' portrayal of Mork won him two Golden Globes for best actor in a TV series comedy. It was during this rise to stardom, however, when Williams started abusing cocaine and alcohol, among other drugs.

During his nearly forty year career, Williams starred in classics like Good Will Hunting, Dead Poets Society, Aladdin, and Mrs. Doubtfire, among other successes, all while battling depression and drifting in and out of sobriety. He earned an Oscar for his supporting role in Good Will Hunting, and in all, Williams acquired nine total awards for his acting endeavors.

Williams isn't the only comedian to suffer from depression or other mental issues. Many well-known comedians have struggled with depression. The Saturday Night Live funny-man John Belushi died from a drug overdose in 1982, most likely as a result of mental illness. Another Saturday Night Live legend, Chris Farley, died from the same thing in 1997. Comedian Richard Pryor famously set himself on fire in 1980, claiming later that he was on drugs and was trying to kill himself.

There are plenty more sad stories where that came from. Funny does not necessarily mean happy. For many comedians, comedy is the only way out of their depression. They can divert their misery into other people's laughter. Being funny is a coping mechanism for comedians because they feel that if they can make people happy, then maybe they'll feel a little better.

The link between comedy and depression has become so obvious that some famous comedy theatres like The Laugh Factory and the Comedy Cellar actually have in-house psychologists for the performers to see if they need to.

Whatever may have been Williams' situation, the issue of mental illness needs to be addressed after a tragedy like this one. It's important for people of all ages to understand what depression is, that it's not uncommon, and that it shouldn't be overlooked. Similar circumstances like this can be avoided with awareness. Depression is not just the feeling of sadness. Depression is a medical condition that needs to be treated by professionals. According to the website Everyday Health, 9 percent of adult Americans suffer from depression, and 3 percent suffer from major depression. These statistics are so staggering that depression is actually considered a worldwide epidemic by the CDC.

Even though it is a hefty price, maybe the death of Robin Williams will be an eye-opener for everyone about this issue. With awareness, we can stop this worldwide epidemic together.

Fall fashion must-haves

by Kaitlyn Moses, BP Staff Writer

With fall just around the corner and closing in slowly, many of us are just itching to wear all the clothes we really love. There's nothing quite like having that first pumpkin spice latte in your favorite fall outfit, but as we know so well, the trends are always changing. So, I looked into what we're sure to see this fall and what some of our students think about when it comes to dressing for these colder months.

You're right to expect sweaters and scarves again, that's a given, we need to stay warm, but you might be surprised to learn what our runway faves are sporting this season. We've seen lots of new trends hit the fashion world from Saint Laurent, to Moschino, and even Prada. It's not likely anyone will start wearing the often ridiculous outfits we see models like Cara Delevingne strutting down the catwalk in, but the brands we love take inspiration from those on the main street, so expect to see some sensible variation of the original designs.

If you watch the runways for the fall 2014 lines, there are many trends present throughout. We're seeing lots of military green, gold, and reds. These colors are incorporated in the ever-so-popular pea coats, smock dresses, and capes. I'm not talking superhero capes, I mean the ponchos that can unzip, unbutton, or untie in the front. The unexpected style is brought back from the 90's and what we now call grunge; those 90's print parachute pants and the noisy-when-you-shuffle wind jackets are in.

However high fashion and comeback attire probably won't be the trends in any normal person's life. We're more likely to see parkas, knit sweaters, and plaid. Berkshire Student Lexi Sell says, "I think sweaters and cardigans are essential in Berkshire student life because we have a fluctuation of temperature in the school, so you need to be able to take your cardigan off if you're too hot or put it on if you're too cold."

2012 Berkshire graduate and winner of the best dressed superlative, Kaileigh Rowell agrees that, "big comfy sweaters [are essential] because, they're just really easy and you can pair them with anything."

As far as footwear goes, the Chelsea boots, or sometimes called mod boots are becoming increasingly popular. Rowell goes on to tell me that her favorite footwear for fall are boots of any height, and Sell agrees that the tall boots are really in. If you aren't ready to go out and buy new boots though, do not fear; we expect to see Vans, Converse, and Keds carried in to the colder months of the year as well.

If you're looking to dress it up a bit however, you might consider some loafers and oxfords as they are both cute and versatile. Your shoes often make a statement, but they aren't the only option that can make you stand out.

Rowell says "my favorite fall statement piece would be either a bright or really dark colored lipstick." She elaborated by explaining that it's both fun and unexpected. I definitely agree!

While Berkshire students rock the trends, we all know Ms. Bomback has great style and states that the "no white after labor day" business is not a rule to be followed. She also thinks "we should end the no brown and black together oppression, because if done right it looks very sophisticated."

Ms. B likes to keep it simple with comfortable outfits that don't ever look overdone and when it comes to shoes, she says, "My favorite fall/winter shoes are my leather motorcycle boots... which are almost dead because I've loved them so many years in a row." When it comes to your closet, it's definitely okay to hold on to those timeless pieces."

Now that you know what styles will be popular, let's talk color. This might be the area where runway fashion and everyday outfits blur. You will be seeing the reds, oranges, and the gold of course, but junior, Kieran Wichert wants to see more olive green and dark wine tones. Rowell chimes in and wishes her favorite color, pink, was more common in the fall, although she'd "like to see more dark pinks." The most popular patterns coming up are likely to be plaid, leather, denim, and knitwear according to the runway fashion.

Women aren't the only ones that switch up their wardrobe for the fall, the gentlemen do as well. I asked sophomore Nathan McFadden about his take on the most essential item in men's fashion and he says "definitely sweaters; I like to wear a lot of baggy sweaters. Jeans, dark jeans because it's fall." He tells me that his sweaters are his statement pieces and he bases his outfits around them.

McFadden says boots are in for men as well, he explains that Chelsea boots and combat boots are the best footwear for fall. When McFadden thinks fall colors, he thinks "dark colors like black, brown, and dark blues."

So you want to keep up with the newest trends, but maybe you don't have the best paying job or a job at all. How can you get the clothes you want without burning a hole through your pocket?



Above is sophomore Nathan McFaddden sporting a fashionable sweater.

I wondered how fashionista Kaileigh Rowell was able to afford her clothes and become best dressed of her year, so she advises me if you're looking for higher quality [clothes], you just have to wait for sales and really hunt them down."

McFadden says "there are a lot of nice stores at the mall. H&M is definitely the most affordable place and they're known for being fashionable, but there are also a lot of websites you can find that aren't that expensive." Asos.com is an example of a shop where you can find high quality clothes for less if you spend some time looking. Plato's Closet has the name brands we'd see at the mall for a lot less. But if you're up for some hunting and willing to spend most of your day doing so, thrift stores such as the Good Will and Salvation Army often have some hidden treasures.

Now you know what the must-haves are for fall and where to find them for less, hopefully you can find what you'd like to wear as we enter the colder months of the year. Although the runway fashion isn't always popular, those designers seem spot on this season; we'll just have to wait to see what really takes off. Try shopping at new places and looking for sales online ahead of time, you may be surprised to find how much you can buy for a lot less. This fall, let's keep Berkshire warm and classy with the newest trends.

Horoscopes

By Abby Carlson, BP Staff Writer

Aries: Watch your outgoing attitude this month because Libra is rather stressed out, and they are close to snapping. Even though everyone loves a fun outgoing person, be careful you don't offend someone with your strong opinions, a Gemini teacher is keeping a close eye on you, and you don't want to upset them! Sadly, you will lose a close Pisces friend to a Sagittarius with a bad attitude. This isn't your worst month, but it also isn't your best, so keep your chin up, your luck may change for the better next month!

Taurus: Congrats! This is going to be a great month for you! A Capricorn teacher will recognize how hard you have worked and congratulate you! Also, the Virgo you've had your eye on for the last couple months will finally work up the nerve to ask you on a date. (Just make sure you don't forget about your friends, because they need you also.) This may be a great month, but don't take advantage of it. All you can do is continue working hard and never give up!

Gemini: A Leo will try to cause you a lot of sadness this month, so keep a wary eye out for them. Try not to let what they say bother you; most likely what they are saying is completely wrong, and they only said it to make themselves feel better. If you need a pick-me-up, a close Scorpio friend is always in the mood to hang out. So cheer up! This may not be a great month, but that doesn't mean the next one won't be! All you can do is make the best out of it, and keep your spirits up!

Cancer: Did you know that it's a proven fact that smiling for four seconds can lighten your mood, even if it isn't genuine? Well it's true! So if a Virgo tries to make you laugh when you're in a sour mood, do it! If they're trying to make you laugh, then obviously they want to see your beautiful smile! Try to stand clear of Libra this month, they aren't enjoying life, and whoever is around them will most likely stop having fun also. So don't get sucked in! Just try to be the best possible version of yourself that you can be!

Leo: You will make a new Gemini friend this month, but you should stand clear of Aries; they are under a lot of pressure and may blow a fuse at any moment! A Taurus may try to bring you down, but just ignore them, they're just jealous because you're always so smiley! The good news is that a Pisces teacher will cut you some slack when you didn't finish all of your homework! Younger siblings can be so needy! All I can say is keep your head up and don't let the little things in life weigh you down!

Virgo: Smile lots this month! You have a Scorpio admiring you from afar! Someone, most likely a Capricorn, will cheer you up when you're feeling down. But be wary of Pisces, they are having a bad month, and they don't control their anger well. As well as Pisces, stand clear of all Libra, one of them will try to tear you down, but stay strong! As Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent." If you follow this little chunk of uplifting advice, your month will be a good one, but ultimately, it's up to you!

Libra: Let's be honest, you have an attitude problem. But no need to fret, you can fix that by helping a Leo when they need it most. After all, helping people is so much more rewarding than tearing them down! A Cancer will reach out to you and help you through your hard times, but remember to be nice to them; they are only trying to help you. Remember to smile, because your pearly whites will make a Sagittarius's day! So keep your chin up, people want to see you happy. Don't disappoint them.

Scorpio: You will gain many new friends this month, but don't forget about the ones you already have! They are just as important! And reassure your closest Aries friend that you guys are still best buds; they're feeling a little jealous of the Leo that seems to have taken their place! And remember, it's okay to frown once in a while; you don't have to always be happy-go-lucky. Your true friends will stick by your side, no matter what happens!

Sagittarius: This next month is going to be a stressful one! Try to remain positive even when you're feeling run down. Keep in mind that you aren't Superman and you still need some down time to just relax. Curling up with a good movie is always a great way to relieve stress, so give it a try with a fun Leo friend! A Scorpio will help you study for that upcoming test so you no longer have to stress out about it. Just remember that, yes, you need to work hard, but it's okay to take a breather once in a while.

Capricorn: This month, you'll stand up for yourself to an Aries, and refuse to let people push you around! Usually you only do what would make others happy, but not this time! People want to know what you're interested in, so don't be afraid to show them. Not only will you express what you like, but you will also be happier because no one likes living a life that isn't theirs! Stay true to your heart, and you will find a great friend in a Leo who wants to know the real you, not the pieces other people have put together.

Aquarius: You will have the opportunity to make some extra cash this month, so don't pass it up! It may be laborious, but stick with it. You also have the opportunity to make a new Libra friend, so remember, carpe diem! Be outgoing. Because if you are, you may discover something new and wonderful! Just remember to have fun and not worry too much!

Pisces: Beware of Libra; they are like tornadoes this month, if you get in their way they'll just plow you over without hesitation. Try to show them a little bit of compassion, sometimes that's all it takes to cheer someone up. Other than that, this month will be pretty uneventful, so you can either take that as a positive or negative thing. It's completely up to you!

Dating? Talking? Relationships?

The confusing tale of young teen desires

Lexi Sell, BP Staff Writer

It seems technology has become a relationship mediator, proven to be more of a hindrance than helpful. Our generation has taken a different meaning to the terms "talking", "dating", and "relationships" In comparison to our parents dating world, were definitely different. Are they outdated or are we simply too complicated? Time has told the ultimate truth about relationships and how they have changed throughout the years, and decoding the lingo and underlining meanings.



Friends or more? Students have trouble defining their relationship status.

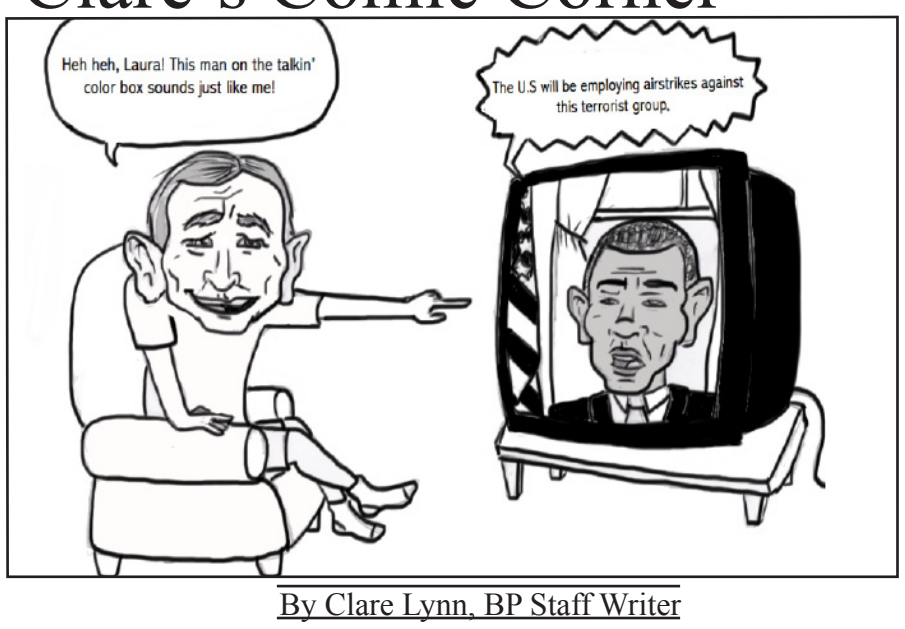
How many teen have been asked by their mom if they like anybody or were dating someone? I bet a lot of students reply with a vague "I'm talking to somebody" or "I kinda like this person." You're not alone, as boys and girl are in this "waiting" stage. If you think you're the only one, our trusty internet source Urban Dictionary defines "talking to someone" as: "when two people are not exclusive with each other nor have established what they are as a couple, but have some sort of relationship."

Junior Sydney Mighton elaborated on this subject saying "it's basically when your crushing on someone, but you're too afraid to date them or be in a relationship with them. " Ben Bleschmid a senior, was asked what he believes causes the infamous talking stage to not become something more, he says "I believe that being afraid to commit to a relationship is more of a girl thing because they are more afraid to get hurt in the beginning." While investigating to see how Berkshire students identify with these relationship statuses and labels, it became evident that we seem to believe these labels are forms of DTR (defining the relationship), when dating is simply the act of going out.

When did we decide that the line between are we more than friends but not official become a dead zone? Many girls play a confusing card, (although they know exactly what they want) so they're not the first to express their feelings. In this case, fear will strike you out of the game; statistics show that it's human nature to hide behind a façade in order to shed light on truths, so naturally this would follow into the world of dating. Perhaps this is why jokes are such a common factor in the stages of a relationship, whether it is "official or not" all joke told hold some truth to them. Junior, Cecelia Parker, agrees with the statement that people often make jokes to take away from serious questions in relationships. Before you dismiss your last text from your crush, check if maybe his/her joke had a hidden meaning, because if you have masked your feelings your crush might too.

For now, dating and relationships are full of mistake making and learning from regrets, take into account we're all teenagers trying to figure it out. Until then define, the relationship let them go . When continuing a relationship, know the facts to a dead-end romance before dragging out something that's not worth your time or theirs.

Clare's Comic Corner



By Clare Lynn, BP Staff Writer