



THE PAWPRINT



WHERE BEARCATS ARE SEEN, HEARD, AND CELEBRATED!

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BEDFORD CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT



@BEDFORDCSD

Happy Summer, Bearcats!

This special edition Pawprint celebrates the warm, energetic summer experiences of our community and school district. This issue features exclusives of student highlights and community events. The Bedford City School District hopes that you enjoy the stories featured and explore how Bearcats lives were enriched and the community was strengthened during the Summer of 2024.

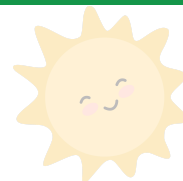
Sisters in Service- Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Incorporated's Book Giveaway

In an inspiring effort to promote literacy and a love for reading in the Bearcat community, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Incorporated organized a community book giveaway at Columbus Intermediate School this summer, aiming to promote literacy and a love for reading among students and the community. The event took place on June 5th and welcomed a steady stream of families, eager to select from a wide array of donated books from various genres, including fiction and non-fiction. With enthusiasm and a passion for reading, the ladies of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Incorporated worked diligently to set up a vibrant display of books, ensuring that every reader could find something that gained their interest. The Bedford City School District looks forward to more collaborative community efforts to empower our youth and instill a lifelong love for reading in all of our community members.



Sigma Gamma Rho (SGRho) is an international service organization and collegiate sorority that was founded in 1922 by seven educators at Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana. The sorority's mission is to improve the quality of life for women and their families through community service.

Celebrating Life and Friendship at Every Age- The Bedford City School District has a prom for 60+



On June 10, The Bedford City School District held a heartwarming celebration that connected generations and fostered community spirit. The second annual Senior Prom was held at La Casa Bella Community Center in Oakwood Village. Nearly 100 Bearcats with 60+ years of life experience participated in the fun. The live DJ spun a mix of classic Rhythm and Blues songs and played contemporary line dancing songs. Many of the senior citizens were on the dance floor moving to the beat, tapping their feet with big smiles on their faces.

With a nautical decorative theme, the event was fun and relaxing and many of the guests dressed in their finest attire. Some of our guests enjoyed reconnecting with old friends and some enjoyed making new friends, but all of our guests enjoyed making new memories.



(Far Right) HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to our 2024 Senior Prom Queen Carol Douglas and Senior Prom King, Greg Barnett, Sr.

Couples had a great time wearing a Corsage, Lei and a Smile

Celebrating 60 Years of Safety Town - Did you know that Safety Town was started in Bedford by a Bearcat

Safety Town is a program for children that teaches safety lessons about fire, traffic, water, guns, poison and drugs. The program was founded by Fred Boals in Mansfield Ohio in 1937 after a child was struck and killed by a car on his way to school. In 1964, an enthusiastic Central Primary School teacher by the name of Dorthy Chlad expanded the program to include a replica town and expanded instruction to encompass emergency preparedness, while fostering a collaborative environment with local law enforcement and health officials. With the support of the Bedford Rotary Club, which provided sponsorship and resources, Safety Town grew throughout the state of Ohio.

With exponential success, Dorthy Chlad continued to grow the program nationally and internationally to include Safety Towns all over the United States and 23 other countries. **YES! NATIONAL SAFETY TOWN WAS FOUNDED IN BEARCAT COUNTRY BY A BEARCAT!** On June 18, 2024, Safety Town celebrated its 60th birthday and Founder, President, National Safety Town director and BEARCAT, Dorthy Chlad returned to The Bedford City School District and celebrated the 60th anniversary of the program at Central Primary School with Central's Safety Town Class of 2024.

Celebrating 60 Years of Safety Town - Did you know that Safety Town was started in Bedford by a Bearcat continued.....



Safety Town Teacher, Shawn Smith presented Dorothy Chlad with a plaque of celebration and appreciation for her dedication and vision of spreading safety to children all over the world.



Bedford Mayor, Stan Koci presented Dorothy Chlad with a city proclamation for her momentous achievement globalizing Safety Town.



The City of Bedford's Safety Town Class of 2024 celebrating the 60th anniversary of Safety Town.

Bearcats Celebrate Juneteenth

On June 19, 2024, The Bedford City School District was the home to the 2nd annual Juneteenth celebration. Bearcats from the communities of Bedford, Bedford Heights, Oakwood Village and Walton Hills assembled at Bearcat stadium to celebrate the significant historical event marking the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in the United States. The celebration consisted of a series of educational activities, performances, and speeches that highlighted the importance of freedom, history, and community. Attendees were encouraged to reflect on the achievements of African Americans, fostering a spirit of unity and respect while promoting awareness of the ongoing journey toward equality and justice.



Juneteenth event organizer, Oakwood Village Councilwoman, Candace Williams-Hill and school board member, Angelic Carter smiled brightly at the Juneteenth Celebration.



Bearcat Families really enjoyed the festivities.

Bearcat Author, Romeo Mitchell is Building his Dreams!



Romeo Mitchell, a rising fourth grade student author at Carylwood Intermediate School celebrated a milestone by hosting his very first book signing at Ellenwood Community Center on June 30, 2024. With his proud parents by his side, the event attracted families from our four communities and Bearcats were eager to support Romeo's imaginative storytelling, which was inspired by his love of adventure. Alongside his parents, who helped him publish his debut book, "Dream It Then Build It," Romeo signed copies, shared his inspiration, and even engaged with his supporters through a lively read aloud, marking a promising start to his budding literary career.



(L) Romeo Mitchell lovingly surrounded by his very proud parents.



(R) Bedford Mayor, Stan Koci and Bedford Councilwoman, Sandy Spinks were all smiles as they showed their support for author, Romeo Mitchell.

Bearcats at The Fourth of July Parade

The excitement of the Fourth of July parade was contagious as Bearcats from Bedford, Bedford Heights, Oakwood Village and Walton Hills proudly showcased pride for America's Independence day. The crowd was filled with BCSD staff and parents, and they cheered and clapped as parade participants waved flags and banners to the very festive atmosphere. It was a truly patriotic and fun celebration, and The Bedford City School District looks forward to seeing YOU at next year's parade.



(L)BHS Teacher of the Year, Jennifer Shauf and HMS Teacher of the Year & District Teacher of the Year, Raelene Jones led the Alumni Band at this year's Fourth of July Parade.

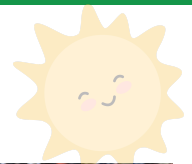


Members of BHS's Football Team attended and celebrated at the Fourth of July Parade.



Members of BHS's Cheerleading Team attended and celebrated at the Fourth of July Parade.

Bearcats and Cleveland Guardians Unite in signing!



This summer, American Sign Language (A.S.L) students from Bedford High School had the incredible opportunity to showcase their talent and pride by performing the American Sign Language version of the national anthem at The Cleveland Guardians baseball game that took place on July 24. Their performance not only highlighted the beauty of ASL but also promoted inclusivity and awareness of the deaf and hearing-impaired community.



(L) Shawn Harold, ASL Teacher; Davion Gipson, BHS Alum; Natalia Rivera Rivera, Alum; Mikeia Little, BHS Junior

Summer Exchange: Japanese Students Visit Bedford High School

On August 2, Bedford High School welcomed former Bedford High School student Paul Richardson, founder of Chubu International School (CIS) and four of his students from CIS. Mr. Richardson has made a remarkable journey from the halls of BHS to establishing an English school in Japan. In a unique cultural exchange, Mr. Richardson brought a group of his students to see some attributes of the American educational system. Athletics Director, JC Commander provided the group with a tour of BHS buildings and facilities, and the group even had the opportunity to interact with some Bearcat athletes that were preparing for Fall sports. The Bedford City School District is eager to engage with international guests, showcasing Bedford's vibrant learning environment while sharing insights into American culture. The Bedford City School District welcomes this enriching exchange, and we hope to foster more international friendships.



(L) Maya Richardson, 8th grader- Paul Richardson, Founder of CIS- Miu Imai, 8th grader- Yusei Kato, 6th grader- Yuto Torii, 8th grade- JC Commander, BCSD Athletics Director



The students were eager to take a picture in front of The Bearcat Logo :)

The Browns Boost Bearcat Spirit



Sunday, August 4, 2024 is a day that the members of Bedford High School's football team will forever remember. On this day, the Cleveland Browns' shared their training camp with our Bearcats, where they received an unforgettable welcome and an incredible gift—**BRAND NEW HELMETS!** The experience not only allowed our Bearcats to enhance their skills through interactions with seasoned professionals but also fostered a spirit of camaraderie and sportsmanship. The Browns players and staff shared invaluable insights and training tips, making it an enriching day for our team. The new helmets made a great day even better. Undoubtedly, this gift symbolizes the Browns' commitment to keeping young athletes safe while simultaneously boosting their morale and confidence. Our players are energized as they gear up for the upcoming season.



L to R Coach Toth, Jaivon (J.J) Hudson, Dani Donaldson



L to R Denayne Davidson-Dixon, Coach Toth, Tyland Murphy

“This really shows us how much The Cleveland Browns care. We have to go out and win some games now!”

~ J.J Hudson- Senior Running Back and Defensive Back

Bearcat Leadership

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Superintendent

Tabitha Armstrong
Treasurer

Board of Education

Eva Boyington, President
Sharyn Macklin, Vice President
Anthony A. Akins
Danielle M. Turner Birch
Angelic M. Carter



***HOPE YOU ENJOYED THIS SPECIAL EDITION
SUMMER 2024 PAWPRINT!***