



BBCHS Newsletter

December 2024

What's Happening?

Academic Approach Testing

The Illinois State Board of Education has switched their standardized test from the SAT to the ACT for our state testing accountability beginning this year. This test measures college and career readiness. Our freshmen, sophomores, and juniors participated in the second attempt of Academic Approach Testing on the 11th to help them prepare for their upcoming ACT testing. Students will participate in one more practice test this year in March prior to spring testing in April.

Winter Sports Festival

The Winter Sports Festival is currently taking place and will be ending tomorrow! All physical and health education students are participating in the 44th Annual Winter Sports Festival once created by Coach Doug "Barc" Barclay. Winter Sports Festival is a fundraiser for students and families in need of some extra financial assistance. The Health and Wellness department partners with Helping Hands to reach families in need in our own school community. Students have been competing in class competitions to see who can raise the most amount of money.

If you would like to donate and help our families in need, please scan the QR code below or use this link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfQIbXcod8bR4343HKQutvI1ec9VihqoF0xHjR6mq2MeuhVsw/viewform>



Boiler Block Enrichment Spotlight

Romeo and Juliet

English Teacher, Misti Kohl and English & Fine Arts Division Chair, Jill Fightmaster created a Boiler Block Enrichment for students to learn more about musical theatre production, more specifically, the tragedy of "Romeo and Juliet".



Mrs. Fightmaster began teaching her students the literature of "Romeo and Juliet" and Shakespeare to get them informed and familiar with the background of this tragic tale. Mrs. Kohl then shifted the perspective and began teaching these students the musical theatre aspect of production.

Mrs. Kohl was able to connect with the actress who plays the lead role, Juliet, whose real name is Rachel Simone Webb! She agreed to join a zoom call with the class and allowed them to visit with her and ask questions about the experience of being a real Broadway actress!

With great appreciation for the Academic Foundation, this Boiler Block group was able to attend "& Juliet", a Broadway musical in Chicago! They even got to visit the stage door and meet the actors and actresses who played roles in the musical! They are creating a presentation to culminate the

performance they watched and highlight everything they have learned. What a great experience for these students!

What was your overall experience after seeing the show?

"It was very exciting and a wonderful time to be able to connect with people I am not usually around."

"I LOVED IT and am so grateful that we were able to do everything we did."

What would you like to say to the Academic Foundation for covering the cost of our trip?

"Thank you. It was one of my best high school experiences so far, and I'm so grateful for the opportunity to go."

"Thank you so much, this is truly a trip that changes lives and changes how I perceived theatre and the classical story."

"Thank you for giving us this opportunity to indulge in the things we love about the creativeness of the arts. Giving students that don't have the opportunity to go make memories like this is so deeply appreciated. Thank you!!!"

Would you encourage a friend to sign up for this kind of Boiler Block in the future?

"Yes! I think this Boiler Block is perfect for ANY student in the school. All students have an opportunity to learn in the Boiler Block."

"YES!! If I'm being honest, I went into this knowing absolutely nothing because I'm not a theatre kid or choir kid. But it was so much fun and I would definitely do it again!"



Students getting autographs at the stage door from actors/actresses from the musical!



Students on zoom with the lead role actress, Rachel Simone Webb!



Beyond the Classroom

Winter Clothing Drive

The Annual "Baby, It's Cold Outside" winter clothing drive is back! The Tri-M Music Honor Society and Fine Arts Department SAC Chair, Brittany Williams are collecting donations of gently used and/or new coats, jackets, hats, gloves, scarves, boots, snow pants, etc. for local community members who are in need of these items. All sizes are welcome!

Donations are to be placed in the corresponding boxes located in the Atrium and Main Lobby of our school. They will be continuing to collect donations until January 24th. If you know a student at BBCHS and would like to donate clothing, send your donation to school with them, or you can put your donation in one of the boxes when you come to watch a sporting event, concert, or competition! Your support is appreciated!

Scholastic Bowl Qualifies for the National Championship Tournament

All three of our Scholastic Bowl teams traveled to Homewood-Flossmoor to compete in the IHSSBCA Kickoff Tournament and had a successful day! The BBCHS A Team took third place out of 26 teams in the tournament, finishing with 7 wins and 2 losses, with both losses coming to the eventual tournament champions.

Senior Gavin Quinlan finished 12th out of 147 players in individual scoring with 34 tossups, followed by freshman Xavier Schultz with 25 tossups and senior Quinn Meadows with 22. Junior Pine Kimery led the BBCHS B Team with 25 tossups, and sophomore Landon Eilers had 24 tossups to lead the C Team.

Since our Varsity team placed 3rd, they have qualified for the NAQT National Championship Tournament! NAQT is the national organization overseeing scholastic and quiz bowl competitions at multiple levels in all 50 states. Participating in their official National Championship Tournament would place the BBCHS Scholastic Bowl team among the top 320 high school teams in the nation!

BBCHS last qualified for and competed in the national championships in 2016-17, so this is indeed a rare achievement. Congratulations, Scholastic Bowl team and Coach Mike Dorsam! What a great accomplishment!

Savannah Zirbel Recognized at Village of Bourbonnais Board Meeting

During the December board meeting for the Village of Bourbonnais, Mayor Paul Schore and Village Trustees recognized our student, Savannah Zirbel for her State Champion swimming achievements!

Savannah is officially the first AWD (Athletes With Disabilities) swimmer from BBCHS to win one event in IHSA AWD with a record-breaking time. She also finished 2nd in two other AWD events and 3rd in another. She holds AWD IHSA state records and four AWD BBCHS school records.

The Village of Bourbonnais featured her on their Facebook page and celebrated her amazing accomplishments! Congratulations, Savannah!



1st Place to BBDT and History Made!

Congratulations to our Varsity Dance team for winning first place at their first competition of the season with the highest score our dance program has EVER received! Great work, ladies!



BBCHS Runs on Dunkin!



Bradley-Bourbonnais Community High School was lucky enough to receive \$5 gift cards for every single staff member and student with the help from Laurie Blake and sponsorships by High School Nation and Dunkin Donuts! At the staff meeting in the first week of December, Bruno handed out gift cards to all of the staff members. The following week, each student received a gift card in their first period class. Thank you so much to High School Nation and Dunkin Donuts!

Boys Swim and Dive - First Invite!

Our Boys Freshman and Sophomore Swim and Dive team had their first invite at Andrew High School. As a team, they finished in 7th place overall out of 11 teams. Our diver, Elijah Shold got 2nd place, and it is his first year ever diving! The team also earned 4 medals. Eli Swafford got 2nd place in the 200 IM and the 100 Fly, Tylen Coyle earned 5th place in the 500 Freestyle, and Jett Baker finished in 5th place in the 100 Backstroke. What a great way to start the season!

Swim & Dive competes again tonight, 12/19 at home vs. Carl Sandburg High School at 5:00pm!

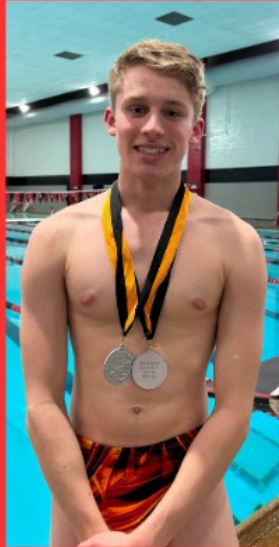
Boys Swim & Dive take 7th Place out of 11 Teams @ Andrew Fresh/Soph Invite



“Swim/Diver of the Week”



Elijah Shold-Fresh
Diver-2nd Place



Eli Swafford-Soph
Swim-2X 2nd Place



Jett Baker-Soph
Swim- 5th Place



Tylen Coyle-Soph
Swim-5th Place

Back-to-Back Wins for our Dance Team!

Congratulations AGAIN to the Dance Team for earning 1st place at the Evergreen Park Competitive Dance Invitational on December 8th! This was also the first competition where our JV team competed, and they finished in 2nd place. We are extremely proud of all your hard work and success! Keep it going!



Holiday Art Show Reception

The BBCHS Holiday Art Show Reception, created by our very own David Knudson, was held on December 9th at the Kankakee County Museum. Our Studio, Digital, and Ceramic Arts students were featured along with live music from our Performing Arts students. Our Culinary and Baking students served up some delicious homemade treats as well. It was a great showcase of the incredible work our students do. Great job!



Tri-M Candy Cane Grams

Our Tri-M Music Honor Society was helping our BBCHS students spread some extra holiday cheer to their favorite people by selling candy cane grams that they could get delivered to their friends at school! They sold them all last week during lunch hours. The students' special messages and candy canes were delivered this past Monday, the 16th. We hope that it brightened someone's day!



Bettering Boilers Giving Tree

The Bettering Boilers' next student project was up and running with the goal of making some holiday magic happen!

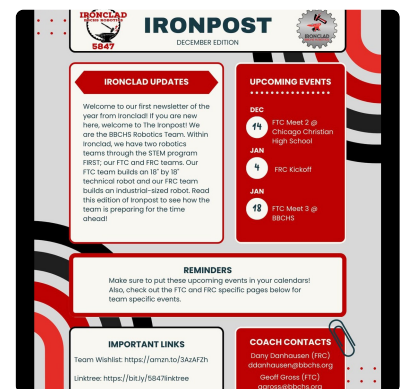
Our BBCHS Bettering Boilers created a Giving Tree that was set up in the school Atrium to sign up to donate hot cocoa, marshmallows, candy canes, or they also gave the option of making a monetary donation online.

This awesome group of student leaders had the goal of sending multiple families home with something sweet along with meals for the upcoming long break. We appreciate any help you were able to offer in making their vision come to life!



Ironclad Robotics First Newsletter - Ironpost

Our Ironclad Robotics team created their first newsletter of the year. Take a read on their Facebook page to learn about updates, important upcoming events, their new sponsors, and read about the coaching staff!



Ironclad Robotics Helps Local Charity

Last week, our Ironclad Robotics team helped Mattea's Joy pack around 200 snack boxes! They were able to help a local charity and help support families with hospitalized children. This is a great way to make a positive impact on our community!





Trade Show

BBCHS held a Skilled Trades Fair last week for all juniors and seniors who are interested in a career in the Skilled Trades, would like to join a Union, or start an Apprenticeship after high school!

The different tables that were set up included information about mechanical insulation, the Union of bricklayers, pipe fitters, carpentry, and electrical entrepreneurship. This was a great learning experience for our students!

Chess Fightin' Irish Tournament

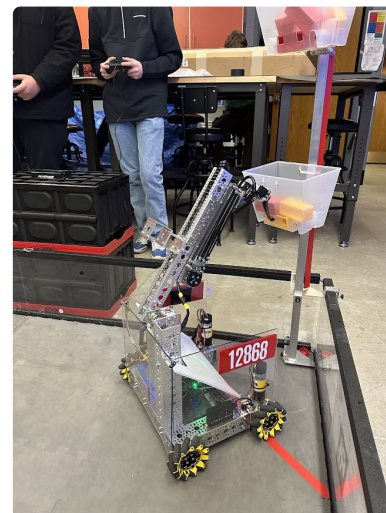
Our Chess team traveled to Bishop McNamara for a tournament on Saturday the 14th. The team finished with two wins and two losses on the day. Nic Aguilera ended the tournament with two wins, one loss, and one draw. BBCHS Chess had a great performance! Great job!

Second Robotics Meet

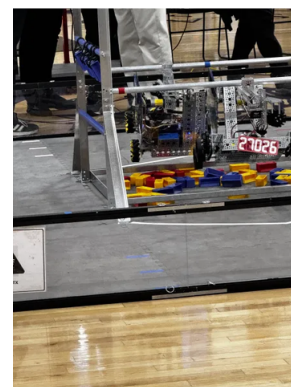
Last Saturday, the FTC Robotics team traveled up north for their second meet. They worked on creating a new auto-run code (coding the robot to move around on its own) and transferred all the robot's mechanisms to a smaller chassis size - no easy feat! This has made the robot significantly lighter, easier to maneuver, and better at completing the game's tasks.

At their second meet, FTC Robotics walked away with three more wins for the season and held several of the top scores for the meet.

BBCHS FTC Robotics hosts their third and last meet at BBCHS on January 18th. They will then compete in their League Championship that will qualify them for State. Good luck Robotics, and great job so far!



Drive Team: Christian Sadulla, Saloni Patel, & Nate Tharp



Their robot suspending and hanging at the end of the match.

Cheer Hosts Invitational

On the 15th, our Cheer team hosted their cheer invitational at BBCHS with 25 teams that were attending throughout the day. Both JV and Varsity performed and did a great job!

Dance Team @ Lincoln-Way Central

Our JV and Varsity teams both traveled to Lincoln-Way Central this past weekend and had a successful trip! JV gave a great performance and were extremely proud of the dance they showcased! Our Varsity Dance team finished 2nd out of 21 routines! Congratulations to both teams!



Miracle at the Grove

Saturday was the Miracle at the Grove in Bourbonnais on Festival Street. This was a way for our village to kick off the holiday spirit! The BBCHS Jazz Choir performed at 12:00pm, while our National Art Honors Society did face painting in the community room from 12:00-2:00pm!

The Dos and Donuts of Consent - SASH

SASH, or Students Against Sexual Harassment, was in the main lobby this past week having conversations about consent. Their event was titled, "The DOs and Donuts of Consent", where fellow students had the chance to win donuts, while learning lots about the meaning of consent.

Boiler Brigade vs Best Buddies

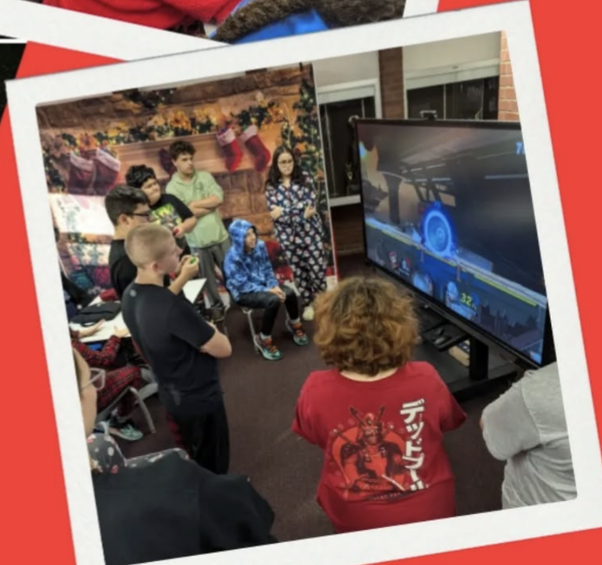
BBCHS Boiler Brigade, our eSports team, and our Best Buddies went head-to-head this week after school on Monday to play Super Smash Bros and Mario Kart! What a great way to kick off the last week before break!

BEST COLLAB EVER

BOILER BRIGADE VS BEST BUDDIES

WE HAD A GREAT TIME
AND GREAT CONVERSATIONS.

@boiler.brigade



BBCHS Fine Arts

The BBCHS Marching Band participated in the Bradley Holiday Parade at the beginning of the month. The Chamber Orchestra performed at Meijer for a holiday charity event. Our Jazz Choir performed for our community at a local holiday dinner. Great job to all performers and Mrs. Brittany Williams, Director of Orchestras and Fine Arts Department SAC Chair! We love seeing you all out in our community representing BBCHS!



The Tri-M Music Honor Society and the BBCHS Music Department partnered together and hosted a food drive at the Band, Orchestra, and Choir December concerts. In lieu of admission to the performances, audience members donated a non-perishable item. All three concerts brought an abundance of donations. The Tri-M Music Honor Society are donating all items to our Bettering Boilers program.



Holiday Spirit Week

Student Council sponsored a Holiday Spirit Week this past week to bring the holiday cheer before the long break!



Thank You, CSL!

We would like to extend a huge "Thank you" to CSL for their generous donation and continued support of the BBCHS Ironclad Robotics team!



State and Conference Honors - Boilers Football



Congratulations to Lyzale Edmon!

Congratulations to Lyzale Edmon for receiving First Team All-Conference and First Team 7A All-State from his past season as a part of the Boilermaker football program. Lyzale is only a junior and has such a bright future. Great job, Lyzale!

Congratulations to Gavin Kohl!

Congratulations to Gavin Kohl for receiving First Team All-Conference and Academic All-State from his past season as a part of the Boilermaker football program. Gavin was able to reach 20 touchdowns and close to 2000 yards. Great job!



Congratulations to Kenvontae Sutton!



Congratulations to Kenvontae Sutton for receiving First Team All-Conference and Academic All-State from his past season as a part of the Boilermaker football program. Kenvontae was the ultimate teammate and a great football player. He was a Team Captain who helped lead his team to the quarterfinals. Great job, Kenvontae!

Congratulations to Calvin Kohl!

Congratulations to Calvin Kohl for receiving First Team All-Conference and Academic All-State from his past season as a part of the Boilermaker football program. Calvin was dominant on both sides of the ball. He was the most physical player week in and week out. His future is bright!



Congratulations to Ben Lovell!

Congratulations to Ben Lovell for receiving First Team All-Conference and Academic All-State from his past season as a part of the Boilermaker football program. Ben led his team in tackles this season as a senior leader. He made some integral plays in the playoffs to help his team advance to the quarterfinals. Great job, Ben!

Congratulations to Jaden Shivers!

Congratulations to Jaden Shivers for receiving First Team All-Conference from his past season as a part of the Boilermaker football program. Jaden is a two-year starter who helped his team rush the ball every week opening up attacking gaps. He was also a great teammate! We are proud of you, Jaden!



Congratulations to Dekari Faulkner!

Congratulations to Dekari Faulkner for receiving First Team All-Conference from his past season as a part of the Boilermaker football program. He played tough, physical, and fast all season. Dekari was also an amazing teammate. Great job, Dekari!

Congratulations to Jaedin Timms

Congratulations to Jaedin Timms for receiving First Team All-Conference from his past season as a part of the Boilermaker football program. Jaedin had an outstanding senior season. He played on both sides of the ball to help his team make a run into the 3rd round of the 7A playoffs. We are proud of you, Jaedin!



BB Works Student of the Month

On-Campus Spotlight

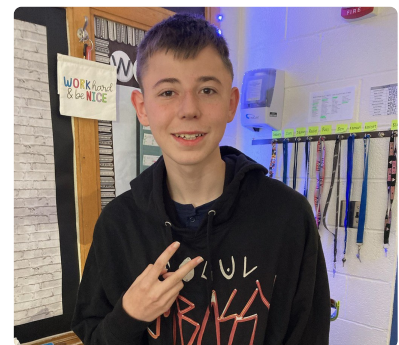


September: Kamauri Dabney

Boiler Room Maintenance - Have you noticed the squeaky clean Boiler Room lately? Kamauri works hard to keep the tables and chairs sanitized, the carpet vacuumed, and overall, a comfortable and tidy Boiler Room!

October: Christian Sorenson

Pass Runner SS - Service with a smile is Christian's style! He is always on time for work and is very efficient at running passes. Look out for your next speedy delivery from this star worker during 6th period.



November: Derek Otero Rivera

Pass Runner SS9 - Derek puts his best foot forward each and every day. He radiates positivity! Running passes is his strength - everyone should strive to be on his wavelength.



Community Spotlight (Employee of the Month)

September: Nate Corder

Subway - Nate has done a great job working at Subway in Bourbonnais. He impressed the manager from the Main St. location so much, he requested to have Nate transferred when he moved to the Convent location.



October: Savanna Emling

Bradley East Elementary - You would never guess this is Savanna's first year in the Work Program. She receives glowing reviews from her boss in the cafeteria for adding tasks to her daily list. If you see her around, it will be worthwhile to congratulate her for going the extra mile!

November: Micah Ervin

Olivet Nazarene University - Micah is an assistant baker in the ONU cafeteria. His attention to detail shines brightly here. Micah's finished products are delicious...don't believe it? Ask the dishes!



Upcoming Dates

Have a Great Winter Break!!

The Boilermaker community wishes you all happiness, health, and safety over the break. We can't wait to see you all again on Monday, January 6th! Go Boilers!

Over the Break:

December 21:

JV Girls Basketball - 9:00am @ Joliet Central
FA Girls Basketball - 9:00am vs. Joliet Central (Home)
F Wrestling - 9:00am @ Plainfield East Invite Bengal F-S Tournament
Boys Swim - 9:30am @ Joliet Co-Op
V Girls Basketball - 10:30am vs. Joliet Central (Home)
JV/V Dance - @ Stagg IHSA Competition
Wrestling - @ Oak Forest Quad

December 23rd:

JV Girls Bowling - 9:00am @ Oswego High School Panther JV Invite

December 26th-28th:

V Girls Basketball - @ Peotone Holiday Tournament

December 26th-30th:

Boys Basketball - @ State Farm Holiday Classic (Bloomington, IL)

December 27th-28th:

Wrestling - @ Midstates Tournament (Whitewater, WI)
JV Girls Basketball - @ Coal City Invite
Soph Boys Basketball - @ Coal City Invite

December 27th:

Girls Bowling - @ Reavis HS Rock-and-Roll Invite

January 3rd:

JV Wrestling - 9:00am @ Woford Classic

January 4th:

JV Girls Basketball - 10:00am @ Carl Sandburg
FA Girls Basketball - 10:00am @ Carl Sandburg
V Girls Basketball - 11:30am @ Carl Sandburg
FB Girls Basketball - 11:30am @ Carl Sandburg

January 5th:

Dance - @ Lake Villa

New Year's Day

When?

Wednesday, Jan 1, 2025, 08:00 AM

Event Information

Return from Winter Break

When?

Monday, Jan 6, 2025, 08:00 AM

Event Information

Operations Committee

When?

Thursday, Jan 9, 2025, 12:00 PM

Event Information

Education Committee

When?

Friday, Jan 10, 2025, 12:00 PM

Event Information

End of 1st Semester

When?

Friday, Jan 10, 2025, 08:00 AM

Event Information

Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

When?

Monday, Jan 13, 2025, 06:00 PM

Event Information

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

When?

Monday, Jan 20, 2025, 08:00 AM

Event Information

Operations Committee

When?

Thursday, Jan 30, 2025, 12:00 PM

Event Information

Education Committee

When?

Friday, Jan 31, 2025, 12:00 PM

Please contact me with any questions or comments.

Kennedy Weigt - Director of Communications and Community Engagement

kweight@bbchs.org



Kennedy Weigt

Kennedy is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters