BYRON AREA SCHOOLS
FEBRUARY 2026 EDITION

BYRON EAGLE PRIDE



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



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BYRON AREA SCHOOLS SHARES UPDATES ON SAFETY INITIATIVES AND FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Byron Area Schools is moving forward with several important projects aimed at enhancing safety, modernizing learning environments, and improving district facilities for students, staff, and the community.

As part of ongoing safety efforts, the district has opted into the 31aa Safety Grant program. Through this funding, Byron Area Schools is partnering with 'Solucient Security' to implement a new keyless entry system across all district buildings. This upgrade will strengthen building security and provide a safer environment for both students and staff.

In addition to the 31aa grant, the district plans to pursue two competitive safety grants with the goal of securing funding for a dedicated, full-time Student Resource Officer (SRO) to serve the district. This position would further enhance safety while supporting positive relationships between students, staff, and local law enforcement.

Technology upgrades are also underway. The elementary school has been equipped with touch smart screen TVs, with only a few classrooms remaining to complete installation. This interactive technology allows for greater student engagement and more dynamic lessons and activities across grade levels.

Looking ahead to the summer months, the district has a full slate of facility improvement projects planned. These may include, but are not limited to:

- New stadium bleachers at the football field
- A facelift and drywall updates for the concession stand and press box
- New windows in the middle school
- New, wider lockers at the high school, along with an updated paint scheme reflecting Byron Area Schools
- New air handlers for the art and woodshop rooms
- Multiple potential improvement projects at the elementary school

While grant funding will assist with several safety-related initiatives, the sinking fund approved by voters in 2024 is being carefully stretched to complete as many upgrades and improvements as possible. These investments reflect the district's commitment to maintaining safe, modern, and welcoming learning environments for all students.

Byron Area Schools appreciates the continued support of the community as these projects move forward and looks forward to the positive impact they will have across the district.

Future Eagles, Future LEADERS!



Byron Elementary Kindergarten & Young Fives Registration

Wed, April 15th 1:30pm

www.byron.k12.mi.us/enrollment

BYRON AREA SCHOOLS - SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Tonia Ritter, President	Ellen Glass, Vice President	Jeanette Prestonise, Secretary	Phillip Hamilton, Treasurer	Richard Whaley, Trustee	David Harris, Trustee	Jim Anibal, Trustee

SOAR LIKE AN EAGLE!

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www.facebook.com/ByronAreaSchools

EAGLES' NEST PRESCHOOL & CHILDCARE



EAGLES' NEST PRESCHOOL: A PLACE WHERE LITTLE LEARNERS SOAR

At Eagles' Nest Preschool, this year has been filled with joyful moments, meaningful learning, and the traditions that make our school community so special. Each day brings opportunities for children to grow in confidence, build friendships, and discover the world around them in a warm and nurturing environment.

One of the highlights of the year is our beloved annual Preschool Christmas Program, where students light up the stage with festive songs and bright smiles. It's a cherished tradition that brings families together and celebrates the growth and confidence our students gain throughout the year. This year we had a great turnout with approximately 400 people in attendance.

Our monthly singing Jamboree is another favorite, filling the halls with music, movement, and laughter as classes gather to sing and celebrate together.

Adding to the warmth of our school is our gentle therapy dog, Mara, who brings comfort, joy, and calm to students and staff alike. Students enjoy special time in the library with Mara, where stories and books spark imagination and a love of reading.

Along with these special visits, our classes take part in field trips that extend learning beyond the classroom and create lasting memories through hands-on experiences in the community.

Beyond these traditions, the everyday moments at Eagles' Nest are what truly make it shine—engaging classroom activities, caring teachers, and a supportive community that helps every child feel safe, valued, and excited to learn.





PLAY TO LEARN PLAYGROUP

Byron Elementary will host a free **Play to Learn Playgroup** for families and children ages 0–5 on **Fridays from 10:00–11:00 a.m., March 20 through May 8**. This eight-week program offers young children opportunities for social interaction, creative play, and early learning in a small-group setting. **Registration opens Wednesday, February 11, 2026**. For more information or to register, contact **Darci Williams, Preschool Director, at 810-266-6323.**

EAGLES' NEST PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT FOR 2026-2027 NOW OPEN!

Did you know all 4-year-olds are eligible for FREE preschool?

We are now enrolling for the upcoming school year, with full-day and part-day options available!

OUR PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Kindergarten readiness activities
- Small & large group playtime
- Healthy meals and snacks
- School bus transportation

We also offer a fantastic 3-year-old preschool program with both full-time and part-time options!

Come take a tour of our facility and learn more about what we offer!

Enrollment Event: Scheduled for March 3rd, 2026 5:30-7:00 pm

Don't miss out on the opportunity to give your child a great start!

Also Offering Before and After School Childcare to accommodate your busy schedule!

At Eagles' Nest, we focus on fostering growth, creativity, and social skills in a safe and caring environment. Our experienced staff is dedicated to helping your child thrive.

CONTACT US TODAY TO LEARN MORE:

Byron Area Schools
Director:..... Darci Williams
Phone: 810-266-6323
Website:..... www.byron.k12.mi.us/byronpreschool

— SPACES ARE LIMITED! —
Enroll your child in our *Eagles' Nest Preschool and Childcare* programs today!



BYRON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Stacey Johnson
Johnson@byron.k12.mi.us



Byron Elementary School has added touch-screen smart TVs to classrooms throughout the building. This new technology keeps students engaged and makes learning more interactive and enjoyable.



5TH GRADE PIRATES MUSICAL



Our wonderful music teacher, Mrs. Lysa Shaw, orchestrated our 5th grade student musical on January 14th. The 5th grade students worked very hard to prepare lines, create props and showcase their skills in a dazzling musical performance and BOY did they deliver! The musical drew a packed gymnasium and roughly fifty-two 5th grade students participated in the production. We are proud of our Eagles and their dedication to explore a new passion and hope they continue to pursue the dramatic arts as they enter secondary school! A big thank you to Mrs. Shaw and all of the parent volunteers who helped make this event happen!



STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Each month, our K-12 staff is celebrating and explicitly teaching a new character trait that best embodies being a Byron Eagle. Our district celebrated students who have exhibited self control, gratitude, forgiveness and integrity since our last edition. These students are invited to the monthly board meetings and celebrated by the staff and community for their efforts. We are proud of our Eagles and the strong character they exhibit as SOARing Eagles!



RETIREMENT OF RENEE VANDEMARK

After countless ice packs, office notes, announcements, and "do you think crackers will help?" smiles, Ms. Renee Vandemark is officially retiring as of January 30th! As our elementary school secretary and school nurse at the beginning of her time at Byron Elementary, she patched up more than bumps and bruises—she calmed nerves, dried tears, and made every student feel safe and cared for. While we'll miss her superhero-level patience and laughter, we're so excited for her to enjoy a retirement full of relaxation, laughter, and grandbaby snuggles! Thank you for taking such great care of our school family!



FAMILY MATH WORKSHOP

Byron Elementary hosted our first Math Family Workshop where every class highlighted the wonderful things happening within our Bridges Math curriculum. We wanted to create an event that allowed parents to see how our Eagles learn math everyday through hands-on exploration, discussion and problem solving. All families who attended were given a Bridges math game, complete with materials generously purchased by our PTA, to keep and play at home! We had over 50 families participate in the workshop and love to strengthen the connection between the classroom and home!







ADOPT A BOOK



Looking to make a small donation to make a big impact on student learning? Our elementary school utilizes the Adopt-A-Book program to grow our school's library. A donation of $20 places one brand new, library bound book in our school's library to be checked out by students for many years to come. In addition, your name or the name of your choosing will be placed on the Adopt-A-Book sponsor label inside the book during its life in the library. If you're interested in adopting a book, please contact Mrs. Stacey Johnson at the elementary or send in cash/check made payable to Byron Area Schools with Adopt-A-Book in the memo. A big thank you to the Adams, Varady, Phalen, Whitehead families and Byron Methodist Church! Byron Elementary was able to stock 27 new, beautiful, hardcover books in our library due to their generous donations! On behalf of our Eagles, thank you for your kindness and generosity growing our library for generations to come!



BYRON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL





NURSES NOTES

Middle schoolers can be a tough crowd sometimes! But, if you can bring up a topic they're interested in, they lock in and are incredibly perceptive. This was especially true during our recent vaping education sessions with the 8th, 7th and 6th graders. Over 2 Sparc classes, we had the opportunity to talk with the students about the negative effects of smoking and vaping.

It might seem like that age group is too young to think about becoming vapers, but in every class hands went up when I asked if anyone had ever seen any of their friends vaping. Because vape producers are expert marketers, most students are exposed to vape ads and see teens vaping on their social media on a regular basis. They also know older kids or family members who vape. Vapes are promoted as either harmless or at the very least less harmful than smoking cigarettes. Emerging research indicates however, that while vapes may have fewer chemicals than traditional cigarettes, vaping is not by any means harmless and does most likely have long-term negative effects, including addiction, lung disease and heart disease.

In our discussion with students, we talked about some of the ways their brains are still growing and changing. Adolescent brains are especially susceptible to nicotine and other addictive substances. It is safe to assume that, like smokers, the younger a person starts vaping, the harder it is for them to quit later in life. We looked at a list of the chemicals that have been found in vapes, including things like lead, cadmium and formaldehyde. Knowing how vaping producers target advertisements and social media posts to their young audiences shows kids how they are the intended target, and that the goal of these companies is to make young people customers for life.



Mrs. Andrea Howard, RN

So, what can parents do to help their kids remain vape-free? The CDC has the following tips:

1) Set a good example by being tobacco and vape free. In every class there were students who had an example of a parent or another loved one who was currently trying to quit smoking or vaping. Kids watch, they know what's going on, and they truly want their parents to be healthy. Making your home tobacco and vape free is one of the most loving things you can do for your kids. There are resources to help you quit, and by quitting you help your kids.

2) Talk to your kids about why vaping is harmful to them. Start the conversation by choosing your moment; your child will be more likely to listen if the conversation feels natural. Ask your child what they think about something you see together, such as someone using a vape, when you pass a vape shop or see vape products or advertisements.

3) Kids who know how their parents feel about vaping or smoking are more likely to remain vape free. It's never too early or too late to start these conversations. Ask questions about what we talked about in our classes. Parents are always welcomed and encouraged to review our curriculum, and I'd love to share some quitting resources if anyone is interested.

My hope is that talking with the kids on a regular basis about vaping and the benefits of remaining vape free will help give them the tools they need as they move into high school and beyond. If you do get a chance to talk to you students about our classes and what they learned, I'd love it if you could share their thoughts! Please feel free to contact me at andrea.howard@byron.k12.mi.us

It's good to be an Eagle!

BYRON MIDDLE SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



Jay Schmitt
schmitt@byron.k12.mi.us

Byron Middle School is excited to share the intentional and collaborative work taking place to strengthen both instruction and school culture. A major focus of this work is curriculum development, led by our Mathematics Leadership Team. This year and next year, the team is concentrating on reviewing, refining, and implementing high-quality mathematics curriculum that promotes deep conceptual understanding, student engagement, and consistent instructional practices across grade levels. This focused approach allows staff to thoughtfully build coherence in mathematics instruction while ensuring students are well supported as they progress through middle school.

Looking ahead, Byron Middle School is also planning for the future implementation of English curriculum in the coming years. Together, the work in mathematics and English will support both vertical and horizontal alignment with our elementary school, strengthening continuity of learning and providing students with a more seamless academic experience. This alignment ensures that instructional practices, expectations, and learning goals build logically from one grade level to the next, setting students up for long-term success.

In addition to curriculum work, Byron Middle School continues to make meaningful progress in developing a strong and consistent PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) system. Staff members are working collaboratively to establish clear expectations, reinforce positive behaviors, and create a supportive learning environment where students feel safe, respected, and valued. A key component of this work is the intentional celebration of students—recognizing positive choices, academic effort, growth, and contributions to the school community (most recently we had our first ever Christmas Karaoke). Next, we are looking to celebrate our students for their NWEA testing achievements and improvements. These celebrations help foster a positive school climate and reinforce behaviors that support learning and belonging.

The dedication and professionalism of the Byron Middle School staff are evident in this ongoing work. Through thoughtful curriculum development, strong collaboration with our elementary partners, and a continued focus on PBIS and student celebration, Byron Middle School is building a foundation that supports both academic excellence and a positive, inclusive school culture.



MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL FAMILIES:



IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN! We would greatly appreciate donations of pencils, seal top bags, and tissues. Thank you for any help you can provide!

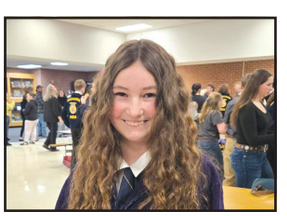
MIDDLE SCHOOL FFA COMPETES AT DISTRICTS

The District Leadership contest was held on Thursday, January 29th at Dansville High School. We had four FFA Members compete, three in Junior High Public Speaking and one in Creed Speaking. The students worked really hard to make it this far!

THE RESULTS:

Creed Speaking

Mallory Mahar:
Silver Award -
5th place



JH Public Speaking

Jocelyn Justice:
Silver Award -
Alternate to regionals

Josie Ward:
Silver Award -
4th place

Gracie Morey:
Silver Award -
5th Place



BAS FOOD SERVICE



Samantha Marks
Food Service Director
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The Food Service Department would like to thank the families for their patience and support while changes to our menus and procedures were rolled out this school year. We have received awesome feedback from our students and staff that has helped us continue in the right direction. Coming up the MS/HS has a Pasta Bar on 3/5/26, a Nacho Bar on 4/9/26 and Arnie Dog Day on 5/8/26. Seniors, please stay tuned for selections you will make for your Senior Choice lunch!

Thank You,
Sam, Dawn, Jen, Kristy,
Alyssa, Star, Jules & Jillian
Your BAS Food Service Crew

MOOLAH FOR SCHOOLS

We are proud to announce that our Food Service Program has received the Moolah for Schools grant from Michigan's dairy farmers through the United Dairy Industry of Michigan (UDIM). This grant provides us with new equipment that supports our food service goals while enhancing our students' access to and enjoyment of dairy foods, promoting overall health and wellness.

"Applying for this grant was at the top of my list this year. Grants such as these are essential for improving the quality, accessibility, and nutritional value of dairy and food programs within our community," says Samantha Marks, our Food Service Director.

"School meals play a vital role in building healthier students and contributing to their academic success," says Brianna Henton, MS, RDN, United Dairy Industry of Michigan. "Michigan's dairy farmers support the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs and other nutrition initiatives by providing resources and equipment to offer innovative opportunities to serve students healthy, nourishing food throughout the school day and beyond."

To learn more about the Moolah for Schools program, visit milkmeansmore.org/grants.

ART STUDENTS

The Advanced Art students have been pushing their creative boundaries last semester with several challenging and independent projects. **Jaelyn Doty** has demonstrated exceptional skill with a masterful portrait painting that captures fine detail and emotion. In the realm of 3D art, **Kory Colbert** tackled hyperrealism to construct a deceptive clay goldfish box, while **Gracie McDowell** is featured for her impressive clay rendition of a stuffed animal, skillfully manipulating the hard medium to mimic soft, plush textures.

In her Art II class, **Adyson Hunter** explored the dynamics of human motion through a mixed-media sculpture of a track and field hurdler.

In a creative collaboration between grade levels, **Art II and Advanced Art** students brought the imaginations of **3rd graders** to life. Working from original monster drawings provided by the elementary students, the high school artists carefully interpreted the sketches into three-dimensional clay sculptures. The project culminated in a heartwarming exchange where the older students surprised the young designers by gifting them the finished statues, turning their paper creations into tangible reality.













BYRON VIRTUAL ACADEMY

The Byron Virtual Academy closed out last semester with eight students in the program, and each of them demonstrated strong effort and academic success through consistent and efficient work in their courses. The progress and responsibility shown by these students reflected the effectiveness of the program and their commitment to learning.

This semester, the Virtual Academy continues to build momentum, growing to ten enrolled students and now maintaining a waiting list for families interested in joining the program. This growth highlights the positive impact the academy is having within the Byron School District and the increasing demand for flexible, supportive learning options.

With a strong focus on accountability, individualized support, and academic progress, the Byron Virtual Academy remains committed to helping students succeed while preparing them for long-term educational success.

www.byron.k12.mi.us/Enroll

BYRON HIGH SCHOOL

BYRON HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB PROUDLY PRESENTS

Game of Tiaras

A glittering tale of royal ambition, sharp humor, and darkly delightful twists, far from a gentle fairy dream.

Join us for an evening of bold drama, unexpected turns, and laughter fit for audiences a little more grown, where crowns clash, secrets unfold, and the stage comes alive.

March 14th & March 15th, 2026
Byron Elementary School Auditorium

Come witness the chaos... and see who claims the crown.



BYRON HIGH SCHOOL



HIGH SCHOOL FFA

Regional Recreation: On November 12, we took about 20 members to a regional recreation with schools surrounding us like Durand, Corunna, New Lothrop, and many more.

Greenhand/Chapter Degree Ceremony: On November 18th, we initiated 27 new members (Greenhands) in our chapter and had 23 sophomores earn their Chapter degree.

Tie Blankets: On December 4th, we partnered with the Craft and Contemplation Club to make 5 tie blankets, which we donated to local hospital patients.

Adopt-a-Family: During the month of December, our members shopped for Christmas presents for 10 kids on the Angel Tree at a local church.

Doe Pole: On December 19th-20th, our chapter partnered with alumni members to run a Donation Doe Pole, where we collected 20 does to donate to families in the community. We donated around 33 pounds of venison to 15 local families.

Culver's Night: Our officer team served meals at Culver's in Owosso on January 12th for a Share Night. The proceeds for this event were donated to the Loaves and Fishes food bank in Vernon.

Leadership Contests: We had 33 members participate in 8 different District Leadership Contests in Dansville on January 29th. 13 of those members placed in the top 2, moving onto the Regional contests in Perry on February 12th.

State Officer Candidates: We had 2 FFA State Officer candidates (Myleigh Rohner and Eisley Rocco) make it through the first round of interviews on January 31st. Their second round of interviews is February 13-15th in Lansing. The new officer team will be elected on March 6th at our State Convention.

Pigs: Our Zoology class is taking care of piglets in the ag barn. We purchased 2 sows from MSU, which farrowed on February 2nd. We currently have 21 healthy piglets, which will be raised at the school until August to be shown at the fair.

Elementary Ag Program: We have 8 members who have presented 7 lessons about agriculture to elementary school students this year as part of our Elementary Ag Program. They rotate through Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade classes every other week.

Chapter Recreations: We have had several chapter recreation events in the last couple of months, including bowling, ice skating, Top Golf, High Caliber go-karting, and the Spartan Stampede Rodeo.

FUTURE EVENTS:

State Convention .....March 4th-6th
Labor Auction.....March 18th
Skills Contests .....April 17th
Awards Banquet .....April 29th
Elementary Farm Day .....May 7th

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



Jason Beverly
Beverly@byron.k12.mi.us

BYRON HS STUDENTS SOARING THROUGH FIRST SEMSTER

Going into the 2025-2026, Byron High School students were introduced to a new policy that had been created over the summer months. This year, a new exam opt-out policy was put in place to motivate students regarding not only their academics, but attendance as well. Students in grades 9 through 12, had an opportunity to opt-out of at least one exam, if their academics and attendance fell within the guidelines set forth in the policy. As the first semester was coming to an end, exam opt-out forms started flying in. After all the dust settled, there were 102 students that had the opportunity to opt-out of at least one exam. This demonstrates a commitment by not only the students, but parents as well. We wanted to take some time to thank the great students and families of Byron High School for their tremendous efforts on making the first semester such a great success. This policy remains in effect for final exams and we look forward to what the end of the second semester brings!

BYRON BAND UPDATE



The Lions Club International hosts an annual conference around the world, and the Michigan chapter along with many others invites an honors band to attend with its membership to complete service projects through music. This opportunity is open to any high school band student who passes an audition, and students may continue performing with the band until age 21.

Restarting a Byron Tradition: Last year's conference was held in Orlando, Florida, where Abby Harper and Emma Davis auditioned, fundraised, attended band camps, and performed at Dollywood and Universal Studios. Pictured above are the students in their uniforms with me at their kickoff concert before departing on the six-day trip. In previous years, Byron students Madison Pellman and Emma Goudreau also performed with the Lions Band in Rome, Italy, as well as in Chicago and Las Vegas.

You get to go where???: This year's conference will take place in Hong Kong, China, and Byron is proud to send four students, Mya Keway, Mason Davis, Abby Harper, and recent alumna, Emma Davis. Their first rehearsal was already held, and we are excited for the incredible adventure ahead.

Huge thank you to Blackmore Rowe Insurance Agency! This amazing agency presented our band with a generous donation from their Friday Jeans Day fundraiser. Shown below are Mrs. Shaw, several high school band members, Ms. Bev Miller, and Frosty, our band snowman. Thank you, Blackmore Rowe, for your support of our band program!



BYRON HIGH SCHOOL

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION / EARLY COLLEGE


Malinda Smith

Malinda Smith

If you would like to schedule an appointment with me, please send me an email with preferred dates and times or give me a call. I often meet with parents to discuss course options, both current and future. Students heading into 11th & 12th grades have a lot of options and it can often become confusing. PLEASE don't hesitate to reach out to me!

Phone: (810) 266-4620 x1608
Email: smith@byron.k12.mi.us

2025-26 BYRON CTE/COLLEGE PROGRAM ENROLLMENT:

Career & Technical Education / College Programs

BYRON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

IN HOUSE CAREER TECH EDUCATION	SHIAWASSEE COUNTY CAREER TECH EDUCATION	GENESEE CAREER INSTITUTE	DUAL ENROLLMENT	EARLY COLLEGE/5TH YEAR
61.4%	22.5%	4.5%	11.7%	26.1%
of 9 - 12 grade Byron students are participating	of 11 - 12 grade Byron students are participating	of 11 - 12 grade Byron students are participating	of 11 - 12 grade Byron students are participating	of 11 - 12 grade Byron students are participating

(Data for 2025/26 school year)

CAREER TECH EDUCATION/EARLY COLLEGE/DUAL ENROLLMENT

February was CTE Month. Byron students interested in SRESD programs, such as Career and Technical Education (CTE), Dual Enrollment, and Early College*, can apply during their 10th or 11th grade year for the following year, with applications available from mid-October to February 27th. Information sessions about these programs were held at the College and Career Readiness Center in January and February. After applying, students will be provided with details on the next steps, which may include placement testing, interviews, and applying to the college. These programs offer a valuable opportunity for students to explore educational and career paths while still in high school.

(*Early College must be applied for before the 11th grade per State of Michigan rules)

CAREER TECH EDUCATION IN SHIAWASSEE COUNTY:

The Shiawassee RESD provides a range of classes for Byron students seeking a distinctive learning experience. Current CTE (Career Tech Education) program options include Electrical, Health Science Academy, Heavy Equipment, Public Safety, Teaching Cadet, and Welding.

Byron students also can earn their Cosmetology and hours through the Vibrissa School of Cosmetology in Owosso after which they can take the State of Michigan licensing exam.

Participating in CTE programs provides students with many valuable benefits, such as the chance to earn free college credit and industry-recognized credentials. Students also gain hands-on experience through field trips, job shadowing, and both paid and unpaid work opportunities. These programs offer leadership and community service experiences, along with key skills like resume writing and mock interviews. Furthermore, students build important skills in teamwork, collaboration, and problem-solving, all of which are essential for success in any career.

THE SHIAWASSEE EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM

The Shiawassee Early College Program (SECP) is a 3-year program that allows selected students to extend high school by one year in order to earn both their high school diploma and up to 60 college credits. Our current post-secondary partners include Baker College, Lansing Community College, and Mott Community College. Students in the SECP will follow a prescribed program of study, with classes offered online, in-person, or in a hybrid format. Upon completion, students can earn one or more of the following: a MEMCA technical certificate, the Michigan Transfer Agreement (30 transferable credits), a professional certification, or an associate's degree (up to 60 college credits).

The Byron Early College Program

Byron is proud to have been the first district in Shiawassee County to have a partnership with the University of Michigan Flint through the DEEP program. We have continued that collaboration and Byron students are able to earn 25+ credits in grades 11 and 12 with the opportunity to earn an additional 24+ credits in their 5th year.

DUAL ENROLLMENT:

Dual Enrollment through the Shiawassee RESD enhances a student's high school experience by allowing them to take college courses during their junior and senior years. Our current post-secondary partners include Lansing Community College, Mott Community College, and Baker College. Courses are available in online, in-person, or hybrid formats. Students will collaborate with their high school counselor to incorporate dual enrollment courses into their high school schedule. This opportunity allows students to earn college credits while working toward their high school diploma.

THE GENESEE CAREER INSTITUTE (GCI)

The Genesee Career Institute (GCI) offers students both instruction and hands-on experience in high-wage, high-demand fields, preparing them for immediate entry into the workforce or for college-level programs. At GCI, students have access to various opportunities, including gaining knowledge and skills in their chosen field, developing marketable skills for quick employment, and earning college credits at recognized colleges and trade schools. Students can also earn industry-recognized certifications, participate in internship placements and work-based learning, and compete in Career Technical Student Organization events. Additional opportunities include job placement assistance, field trips to colleges and businesses, guest lectures, and volunteer projects. Junior completers also have the chance to return for a senior year of advanced studies with internship placements. The Genesee Career Institute (GCI) offers a wide range of programs for the 2026-27 academic year, including Agriscience, Aviation, Construction Trades, Culinary, Education, Forensic Science, Health Science, Information Technology, Mechatronics, Public Safety, Marketing, Welding, and US Army JROTC.

LEARN MORE HERE: WWW.BYRON.K12.MI.US/EAGLEOPTIONS

BYRON HIGH SCHOOL



BECOME AN EDUSTAFF SUBSTITUTE

Whether you're looking for a flexible schedule or more steady employment, substitute teaching through Edustaff offers competitive pay, access to health and 401(k) benefits, the chance to work at a school you consider a future employer, and a great way to be involved in your child's or grandchild's school and stay active in your community.

Go to https://www.edustaff.org/requirements to apply!

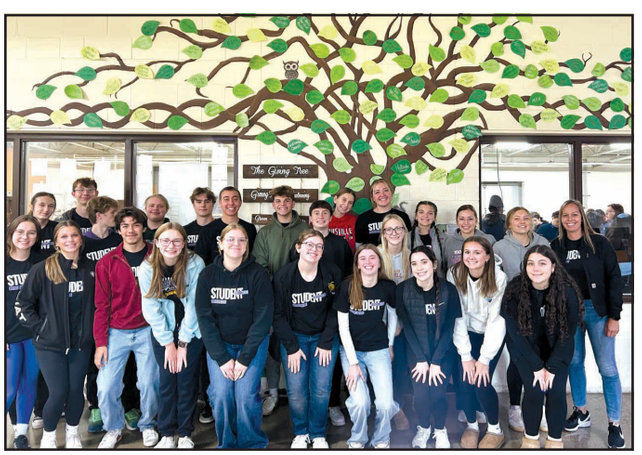




BASKETBALL TEAMS HELP AT NORTHEND SOUP KITCHEN

Varsity and JV Boys' Basketball tipped off their season in December and have been playing strong basketball. This year's varsity team is led by six seniors whose chemistry, teamwork, and dedication brought energy and excitement to every game. Over Christmas break, the varsity players bonded as a team while attending a Michigan basketball game and giving back to the community by volunteering their time at the Northend Soup Kitchen, where they helped pack Christmas gifts and serve those in need. Full of heart, determination, and standout moments , **congratulations** to our players on an unforgettable season!





STUDENT COUNCIL

In November, Student Council partnered with the National Honor Society to volunteer at the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, helping pack Christmas meals for families in need. Student Council has also teamed up with Versiti Blood of Michigan to host blood drives throughout the year. So far, Succo has hosted two blood drives this school year and will be hosting another on **March 6th in the high school library from 8:00–2:30 PM.** We are grateful to our students generosity, teamwork, and commitment to service.



BYRON ATHLETICS

VARSITY CHEER



The Varsity Cheerleading program is having a strong and productive season as we continue to build for the future. While we are a small but mighty team of five — made up of four juniors and one freshman — our focus this year has been growth, goal-setting, and preparing our juniors for their senior season next year. The drive is there, and these athletes are committed to becoming bigger, better, and stronger both individually and as a team. With our February Winter Showcase approaching and summer camp plans already in the works, we are focused on developing this program into everything it can be. This season is all about learning, growing, and building — and the future is very bright for Varsity Cheer!

MIDDLE SCHOOL CHEER

The Middle School Cheer coach says that she is incredibly proud of the hard work and positive attitude our middle school cheerleading team has shown this season. The cheerleaders have grown tremendously in skill, confidence, and teamwork, bringing great energy to every game and school event. We've been busy learning new stunts and chants while perfecting our halftime routine, and we were excited to welcome three new girls to the team this season. Their commitment, sportsmanship, and school spirit have made this a fun and successful season so far!



BOYS BOWLING

The boys bowling team has shown tremendous improvement this season with the addition of freshmen Brayden Smith and Teaghan Rohner. Returning bowlers Brayden Vincent, Christian Keway, Patrick Conlen, and Ben Sherwood have continued to grow and compete at a high level, creating a team capable of making a strong showing at regionals. It has been an exciting season so far, and the team is working toward a great finish with hopes of a state tournament qualification for both programs.



WRESTLING

While our wrestling team is small in numbers, it is big in dedication, grit, and determination. This young group started the season slowly but has continued to improve each week through hard work and commitment. Their growth has been impressive, and with such a motivated group of athletes, the future of the program looks very promising.



SCAN FOR:
High School and Middle School
ATHLETIC SCHEDULES



GIRLS BOWLING

The girls bowling team is chasing their third consecutive league championship this season, led by seniors Caitlyn Wasilenski, Kara Chapman, and Brianna Patterson. Seniors Chelsea Moe, Ember Woodbury, and Chloe Honke are also hoping for a strong performance at the regional tournament at the end of February. It has been a great season so far, and the team is aiming for a strong finish — with hopes of qualifying for the state tournament for both the girls and boys programs.



BYRON ATHLETICS

VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Byron girls basketball program has continued to make steady progress as the season reaches its midpoint. The team has shown clear growth in fundamentals, improved chemistry, and a stronger commitment to executing together on both ends of the floor. While late-season injuries temporarily slowed momentum, they have also opened the door for other players to step into expanded roles and make meaningful contributions. Overall, the season remains on an upward trajectory, with the team continuing to build confidence and focus as it prepares for the stretch run and postseason play.



JV GIRLS BASKETBALL

The girls JV basketball season is coming to a close at the end of this month. They have put in a lot of work this season and some of them even spent time over the Summer preparing. The team has put in many hours in the gym not only working on their individual game, but working to build team chemistry. Game after game, they have shown up with grit, energy, and a commitment to improving. They show no quit and continue to battle their opponents until the final buzzer no matter what the scoreboard says. Whether it is in practice or a game, they never back down from a challenge. We have learned from tough losses and continue to support one another on and off the court. Their season is not defined not by wins or losses, but by determination and the willingness to do what it takes to become better basketball players. We appreciate everything these girls have put into the season so far. As a team, we are looking forward to finishing this season off strong! Go Eagles!



MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

The middle school girls' basketball team had a great start to the season, showing determination and teamwork every step of the way. Their dedication is clear as they continued to get better every day, pushing themselves to improve and supporting each other as great teammates. With their commitment and hard work, they had an exciting and successful season!



VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL



JV BOYS BASKETBALL

The 2025–26 Boys JV Basketball team proved that wins aren't only measured on the scoreboard. Through growth, heart, hustle, and respect for teammates, opponents, and the game, these young men gained confidence that will last far beyond this season. Proud of this group.



8TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL

The 8th grade boys basketball team has shown steady growth throughout the season. The team has continued to improve on both ends of the floor, especially on defense, while working hard to develop their skills and teamwork. Although there is still plenty to build on, the progress has been encouraging, and the coaching staff is excited to see how the team responds in the second half of the season. Athletes, the future of the program looks very promising.



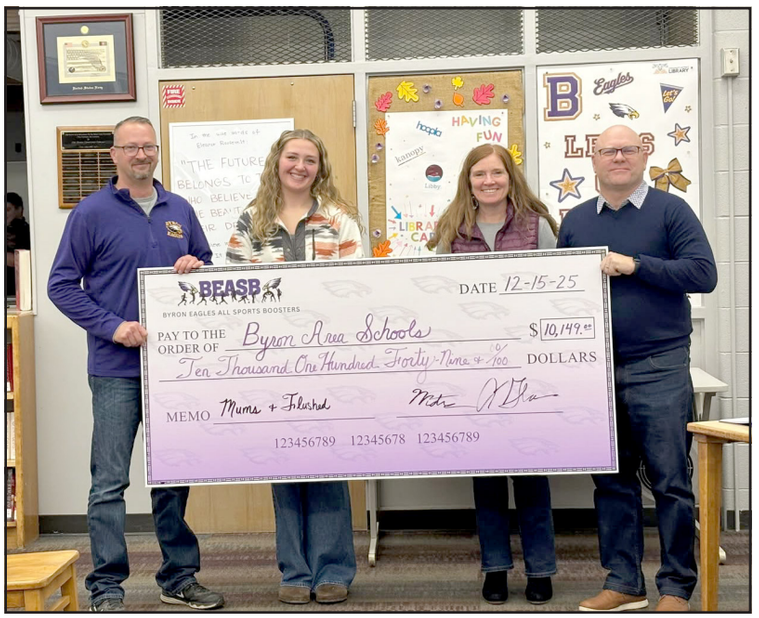
7TH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL

The coach says he is proud of the way they've progressed since the beginning of the season. They worked hard to make themselves better and that's the whole goal from day one till the end .to see the improvement. Looking forward to seeing that improvement for the rest of the season.



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BYRON EAGLES ALL SPORTS BOOSTERS

Huge thank you to the Byron Eagle All Sports Boosters for their dedication and service to our high school athletics. They proudly presented $10,149 from the "Get Flushed" fundraiser and fall mum sale.

Thank you for all your hard work, Boosters!

HELLO BYRON COMMUNITY!!

Our flower fundraiser will begin March 9th and run thru March 23rd. If you don't have a student to purchase from, please visit our Facebook page, Byron Area PTA.

Flowers will be delivered May 8th, just before Mother's Day!

We'd like to again thank the community for their continued support. We very much appreciate you!

Please, come hang out with us and see what we've done, will be doing and even share your ideas at one of our next PTA meetings.

March 10th, April 14th or May 12th. 6 pm in the elementary school library.

BYRON AREA SCHOOLS EAGLE PRIDE PTA

Byron PTA Email: Byronarea@gmail.com

Byron PTA Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/ByronAreaPTA

2026-27 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Now available!

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MUSIC EVENT
SQUIRREL HUNT
GOLF OUTING

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