



BOBCAT BULLETIN



A newsletter for the residents of the Bowling Green City School District

SUMMER 2026

Superintendent's Message

By Dr. Ted Haselman, Superintendent

Dear Members of the Bowling Green City Schools Community,

Summer is one of the busiest and most reflective times of the year for our district's administrative team. We are hard at work preparing for the next school year. This includes reviewing the past year to identify areas for growth, hiring and onboarding staff for open positions, and finalizing plans to ensure a strong start in the fall. It's a season of transition, filled with both reflection and forward thinking.

At Bowling Green City Schools, our goal is to provide meaningful opportunities and enriching experiences for every student. We are fortunate to have outstanding students, a dedicated staff, and a supportive community. In this edition of the district newsletter, you'll find highlights that showcase the many accomplishments and experiences from the spring. Our students continue to impress and inspire, and I hope you enjoy celebrating their successes.

I am honored to serve the students, families, community, and staff of Bowling Green City Schools. I promise that our District will work hard to improve each day to provide a high-quality education for our students, a financially sound organization for our stakeholders, and be a point of pride for the entire community.

Go Bobcats,

Dr. Ted Haselman, Superintendent

Board of Education



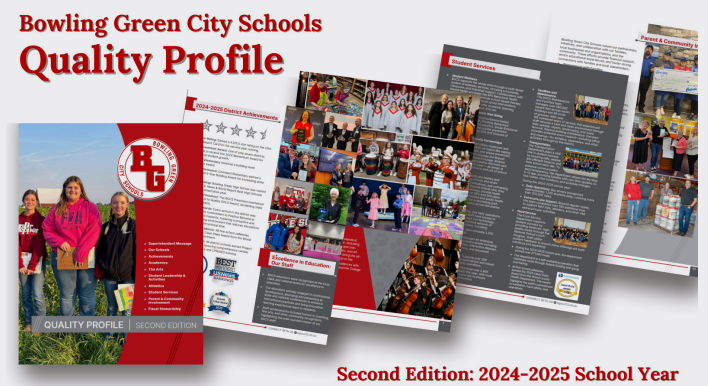
L to R: Mr. Ryan Myers, Mrs. Tracy Hovest (Vice-President), Mrs. Peggy Thompson, Dr. Howard "Ardy" Gonyer (President), Mr. Norm Geer

BGCS Releases Second Quality Profile

Bowling Green City Schools recently released the second edition of the BGCS Quality Profile, a report designed to give families and community members a broader look at the many ways the district supports student success.

The Quality Profile highlights the work happening across the district in areas such as academics, the arts, student leadership and activities, fiscal stewardship, parent and community engagement, and student services. Together, these areas help tell a more complete story of Bowling Green City Schools and the opportunities available to students inside and outside the classroom.

The report also reflects the partnerships, programs, services, and achievements that help make BGCS a strong school community. Community members are encouraged to visit our website to review the Quality Profile and learn more about the district's progress, priorities, and commitment to serving students.



Second Edition: 2024-2025 School Year

Celebrating the Bowling Green High School Class of 2026



Bowling Green High School proudly celebrated the Class of 2026 during commencement, honoring students for their hard work, leadership, perseverance, and accomplishments throughout their time at Bowling Green City Schools.

This year's graduating class achieved many outstanding academic, artistic, and athletic milestones. Among the 234 graduates in the BGHS Class of 2026, 90 students were members of the National Honor Society, three were members of the National Technical Honor Society, 71% earned a GPA above 3.0, 61 achieved a GPA higher than 4.0, 82 earned an Honors Diploma from the State of Ohio, and two were recognized as National Merit Scholarship Commended Scholars. In the arts, three seniors were selected for All-State Choir, one was selected for All-State Band, and one was selected for All-State Orchestra. In athletics, three seniors earned All-State honors in football, girls swimming, and hockey, and several graduates were members of the boys cross country team that finished as the OHSAA Division II state runner-up.

Commencement marked both the conclusion of one chapter and the beginning of many new paths for our graduates. Members of the Class of 2026 are preparing to continue their education, enter the workforce, pursue career and technical training, serve in the military, and contribute to their communities in meaningful ways.

We are proud of all they have accomplished and look forward to seeing the many ways they will continue to make Bowling Green proud.



Camp Invention Sparks Creativity

Bowling Green City Schools hosted Camp Invention for the first time June 8-12 at Bowling Green Middle School. K-6 students participated in Spark, a hands-on STEM program focused on creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving.

Students rotated through four modules: building rockets, developing and pitching products, solving mysteries with robotic animals, and learning how inventors protect original ideas.

Camp Invention is a National Inventors Hall of Fame program supported by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Grant funding allowed the first 70 BGCS students to attend at no cost.



New High School Construction Continues to Move Forward on Time and On Budget

The new Bowling Green High School continues to take shape, and the progress on campus is becoming more visible each month. Recent drone photos show just how far the project has come. This project remains an important investment in the future of Bowling Green City Schools and the broader community. Crews continue to work hard to advance toward the planned opening of the new high school in Fall 2027.

As part of the ongoing construction process, the Poe Road entrance to the high school and middle school campus temporarily closed on June 2 and will remain closed for approximately six weeks. During the closure, all high school and middle school traffic should use the Fairview Avenue entrance.

BGCS will continue to provide construction updates as work progresses. Thank you to our students, staff, families, and community for your patience and flexibility as we move closer to opening the new Bowling Green High School.



BGHS students Landon Fry, Kiera Novinsky, Allison Hover, and Leah Koester participated in the 2026 National Junior Duck Stamp Competition, which highlights the importance of wildlife and wetlands conservation.



Our DECA International Qualifiers Carson Black, Ethan Smith, Brooklyn Esterline, Cadence Litchfield, Stella Dye, Julie Goff, Allison Hover, and their teacher, Mrs. Cara Maxe, were recognized at the May Board of Education meeting.



BGHS choir students and alumni joined together in song.



Fourth Graders participating in FFA students educated the community.



Wood County Recorder Connor Rose hosted the BGMS Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Auction. Eighth graders used points earned by demonstrating Bobcat Proud behaviors throughout the year to bid on more than 75 donated items.



Thank you to all of the volunteers who give their time to support Bowling Green City Schools by assisting in libraries, classrooms, events, extracurricular activities, and more. Your service makes a meaningful difference for our students and staff.

Pictured: Elementary library volunteers.



Conneaut third graders on a living history field trip to Carter Farm and Zimmerman School.



Jennifer Campos, and Public Relations, Relations Association district calendar she Public Relations Association.



Several BGHS seniors received Penta Career Center Outstanding Student Awards in their career-technical programs, including Tyler Firsdon in Automotive, Avery Jicha in Marketing, Emily Lantz in Engineering Technologies, and Ryan Taylor in Medical Technologies.



The BGMS Art Show featured student work in sculpture, clay, painting, drawing, mixed media, self-portraits, and still life.

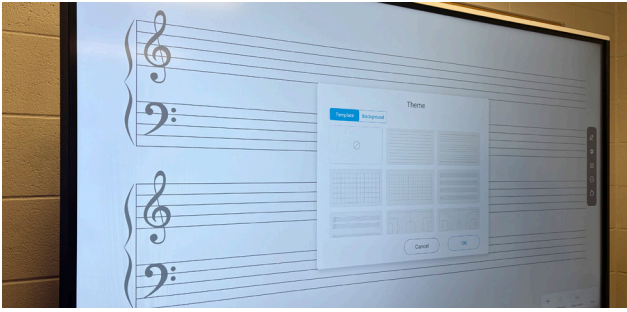
BGMS Classrooms Receiving Technology Upgrade

Bowling Green Middle School classrooms are receiving a technology upgrade this summer thanks to the work of the BGCS Technology Department. New SMART Board interactive panels are being installed throughout the building to provide teachers and students with flexible tools for instruction, collaboration, and engagement.

The touchscreen panels can connect to a classroom desktop or be used independently, functioning much like a large touchscreen computer. Teachers can access online resources, use Google Workspace, write directly on the screen, save notes, move content around the board, and use built-in templates such as lined paper, graph paper, sheet music, and more.

The panels also allow for 40 points of touch, which means multiple students can interact with the board at the same time. This feature supports small-group activities, hands-on learning, problem solving, and classroom collaboration. Additional features, including multilingual recognition and translation tools, can help support communication and learning for students.

Thank you to the BGCS Technology Department for their work preparing these new tools for Bowling Green Middle School classrooms.



Crushing Cans for a Cause

A recycling project became a meaningful lesson in teamwork and service for students at Kenwood Elementary and Bowling Green High School. Throughout the school year, members of the Kenwood K-Kids Club collected and crushed aluminum cans through their "Crushing Cans" initiative, raising more than \$150 for student-selected community service projects including Angels in Arms and the Crim Inclusive Playground Project. K-Kids members also collected pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

Students in Mrs. Kayleigh Evans' BGHS Life Skills course supported the effort by collecting cans through their weekly recycling program. The partnership provided students with opportunities to develop real-world skills, including leadership, teamwork, problem-solving, and service to others.



ed in the Annual Farm Festival. Our
em about animal agriculture.



The Bobcat Student Section was named the Student Section of the Year for 2025-2026 at the recent BCSN Honors awards.



Seventh grade students traveled to the Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation for a learning experience connected to their Renaissance unit in Social Studies. They visited a special exhibit on Leonardo da Vinci, where students explored his paintings, inventions, and innovative ideas.



The Bowling Green FFA chapter attended the 98th Ohio State FFA Convention, where three BG FFA officers earned gold ratings: Grace O'Connell, treasurer; Kelsey Kline, reporter; and Isabella Belleville, secretary. Gavin Roessner and Casey Naus also became BG FFA's newest State FFA Degree recipients, an honor earned by fewer than 4% of Ohio FFA members.



BGCS Director of Communications received a 2026 Ohio School Public Relations PowerPro Award, and the 2025-2026 created earned a 2026 National School Association Award of Merit.

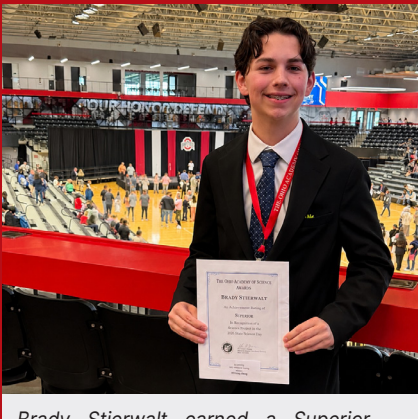


Our 2026 Resident Educators completed two years of mentorship, collaboration, reflection, and professional growth through the Resident Educator Program, strengthening their instructional practice and building a foundation for continued work in the classroom.

L to R: Patsy Crawford, Claribel Timmins, Roman Sommer, Shelby House, Mikayla Johnson, Hannah Smoyer, Sarah Church. Not pictured: Lilly Ahmed



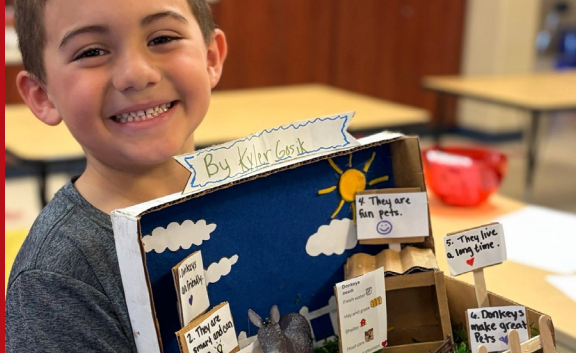
BGCS preschool students celebrated the end of the school year with friends, families, teachers, pizza, and playtime at the annual Carter Park picnic. The Wood County District Public Library bookmobile also provided free books and summer reading sign-ups.



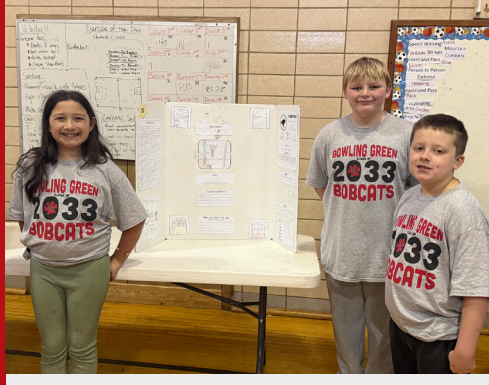
Brady Stierwalt earned a Superior rating at State Science Day and placed second among ninth-grade students. He also received the Future Physician-Scientist Award and a \$250 scholarship.



plaster, cardboard,



Mrs. Carr's kindergarten students recently became animal experts through their Pet Projects! Students researched an animal of their choice and presented their findings during a gallery walk!



Conneaut fifth graders showcased projects in art, math, science, ELA, and technology during the annual 5th Grade Arts Assembly.



Kenwood Elementary Music Students of the Year.

Theater Honors



Dr. JoBeth Gonzalez, Theatre and Public Speaking teacher, was selected as the winner of the 2026 EdTA Research Excellence Distinguished Book Award by the Educational Theatre Association for her book *Temporary Stages III: How High School Theatre Fosters Spiritual Strength and Critical Consciousness*.

BGHS students Aiden Thomas and Calista Motisher were cast in the All-Ohio production of *Ragtime* at the State Thespian Festival and they also earned Superior ratings in the Thespys competition for their duet performance and Aiden’s solo performance. They are performing at the International Thespian Festival June 21-26, 2026.

Hometown Hero Award

Conneaut Elementary Principal Alyssa Karaffa was recognized as a Hometown Hero by Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial. The recognition follows several years of achievement at Conneaut Elementary, including two consecutive 5-star ratings on the Ohio School Report Card, the Ohio Momentum Award, and advancement from a PBIS Bronze Award to a PBIS Silver Award in 2025. Conneaut was also nominated as an OAESA Hall of Fame School, and Mrs. Karaffa was a candidate for the OAESA 2026 Principal of the Year Award.

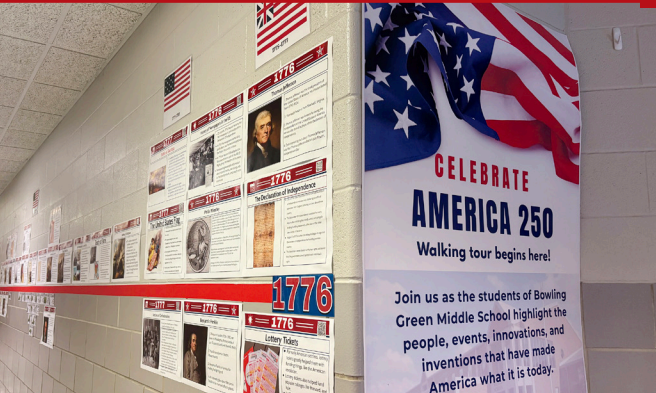


Food Service Earns Award

All five BGCS schools earned the 2026 Clean Plate Award from the Wood County Health Department for excellence in sanitation and food safety. BGCS schools were five of only 39 award recipients selected from more than 800 licensed food facilities in Wood County. This recognition reflects the work of Food Service Director Tabitha Hiler-Young, cafeteria managers Kathy West, Ashley Bodi, Nicole Reilly, Julie Clauson, and Sherrie Sparks, and the entire BGCS food service team.



BGMS Students Create America250 Timeline



Bowling Green Middle School students recently completed a schoolwide America250 Timeline project in recognition of the upcoming 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2026.

Every BGMS student contributed to the project by researching and presenting information about important events, innovations, inventions, and people throughout American history. The timeline includes QR codes that link to student presentations, allowing viewers to learn directly from the students’ work.

This project gave students the opportunity to connect history, research, writing, technology, and presentation skills while contributing to a shared schoolwide learning experience.

Celebrating the End of the School Year

Our students and staff across BGCS celebrated the end of the school year with hands-on learning, creative projects, field days, field trips, awards, performances, family events, and opportunities to share their work with others.



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Kindergarten Registration

If you missed our kindergarten registration days in April, visit the enrollment page on our website and fill out FinalForms for the 2026-2027 school year to register your child. Children must be 5 years old on or before August 21, 2026 and live in the Bowling Green City School District to enroll in kindergarten.



Summer Food Program Available

Free summer meals are available for all children ages 1–18 at Crim Elementary from June 8 through July 31. Breakfast is served from 8:00–8:30 a.m., and lunch is served from 11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Meals must be eaten on site and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.



Sign up for the
Bi-Weekly
BGCS
E-Newsletter



Fall Sports Parent Meeting July 28

Families of high school students interested in participating in fall athletics should mark their calendars for the Fall High School Sports Parent Meeting on July 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the PAC (Performing Arts Center).



Join Our Team

Bowling Green City Schools is looking for great people to join our team. Current openings are posted online and may change throughout the summer as positions are filled and new opportunities become available.

Community members are encouraged to share BGCS career opportunities with friends, family, neighbors, and professional contacts who may be a good fit for our schools.

Interested candidates can learn more and apply online at bgcs.schoolspring.com.

Our vision is to provide excellent instruction and equitable opportunities for each student.