

Together, inspiring students to think, learn, achieve and care in a global community.

Shamrock Connection

FOURTH QUARTER

2022-2023 Newsletter Volume 12, Issue 5

Berrien Springs Public Schools

Class of 2023 earned more than \$1.8 million dollars in scholarships

BHS students excelled in academic growth, extracurricular activities, community involvement, and personal development during the school year

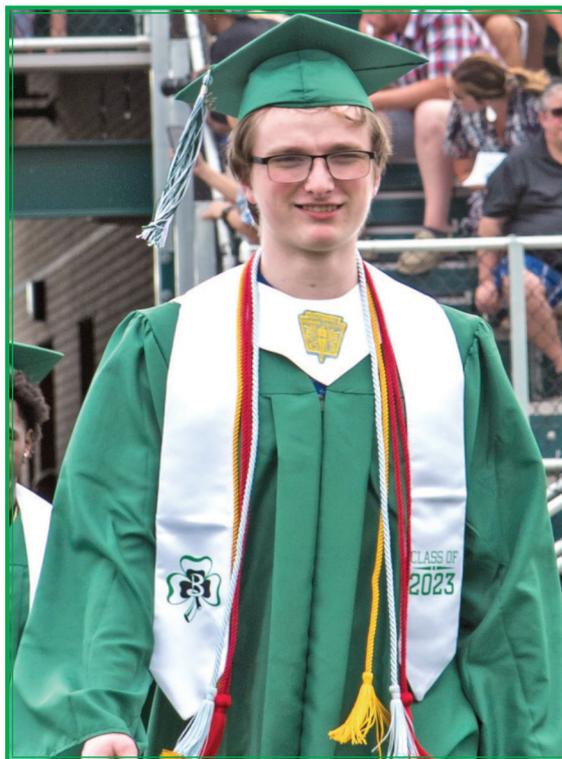
**By Stacey DeMaio
Principal of Berrien
Springs High School**

High school achievement refers to the level of success and accomplishments that a student attains during their high school years. It encompasses various aspects, including academic performance, involvement in extracurricular activities, personal growth, and character development.

Academic achievement is a significant component of high school achievement. It typically includes factors such as grades, test scores, class rank, and overall academic progress. Students who consistently demonstrate a strong work ethic, maintain high grades, and actively engage in their studies are considered to have high academic achievement.

However, high school achievement extends beyond academics. It encompasses participation and achievements in extracurricular activities, such as sports, clubs, music, drama, community service, and leadership roles. Involvement in these activities helps students develop skills such as teamwork, time management, leadership, and a sense of responsibility.

High school achievement also includes personal growth and character development. Students who exhibit qualities such as resilience, perseverance, integrity, empathy, and good communication skills are seen as achieving success beyond academic metrics. These qualities contribute to a well-rounded individual who is



Graduates Jonathan Clough and Sofia Pate excelled in multiple aspects of high school achievement.

prepared for the challenges of higher education, career pursuits, and life in general.

Furthermore, high school achievement is influenced by factors such as a supportive learning environment, strong teacher-student relationships, effective goal setting, and the ability to manage stress and setbacks. A nurturing educational environment, along with positive relationships with teachers and peers, plays a vital role in fostering high school achievement.

Ultimately, high school achievement is a comprehensive measure of a student's accomplishments, growth, and development during their high

school years. It encompasses academic performance, participation in extracurricular activities, personal qualities, and the ability to overcome challenges, setting the foundation for future success in higher education and beyond. Our Shamrocks have grown in all aspects of achievement this year. They have achieved in academics by showing growth in assessment scores and demonstrating mastery of standards. They have shown achievement in extracurricular and athletic activities as evidenced by our successful baseball, track and field teams, girls' soccer, our Robotics team, our Esports team,

and our very successful band, choir, and drama programs. Our Shamrocks have achieved in giving back to our community in the various volunteer opportunities, food drives, blood drives, meals distributed and money raised. All year, our Shamrocks achieved in making and gaining personal, mental, and physical strength, showing perseverance and determination to overcome obstacles set in front of them. As we reflect on the year behind us, we set goals for the year ahead of us. As a proud school community, we will continue to achieve in all aspects of high school, and beyond.

#SHAMROCKPRIDE

New administrators are named at Berrien Springs High School and Sylvester Elementary

Berrien Springs Public Schools have new administrators at the high school and Sylvester Elementary

At the high school, Mrs. Andrea Lemon is the new assistant principal. Mrs. Lemon grew up in Berrien Springs, attending Berrien Springs Public Schools from kindergarten through twelfth grade. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Special Education from Trinity Christian College and her Master's in Education from Western Michigan University. As a BSHS alumna, Andi has always had a solid connection to our community and understands the values that make it great.

Mrs. Lemon began teaching students with emotional impairments at the Lighthouse Education Center and did so for nineteen years. During this time, she demonstrated her commitment to student success through various roles, including 10 years at the high school level with emotionally impaired students, four years at the Berrien County Juvenile Center, and five years in the Autism program. Mrs. Lemon was at Sylvester Elementary and the middle school for two of these years. She recently served as the Principal of Lighthouse Education Center and the Supervisor of the Berrien County Jail and Juvenile Center programs.

Mrs. Lemon enjoys traveling, hiking, cooking, and throwing axes outside of her education work. She is married to Berrien Springs alumnus Tyson Lemon, and they have two children, Henry and Hazel.

Mrs. Lemon is excited to come home to Berrien Springs.

"It's such a unique and diverse community," she said. "I'm thankful for the opportunity to join the high school team as the assistant principal."



Andrea Lemon

Mr. Micah Lambert is the new Sylvester Elementary principal. Mr. Lambert is currently the Berrien Springs middle school assistant principal. He will be transitioning to Sylvester Elementary on July 1, 2023. He holds a Bachelor's degree from Anderson University, a Master's degree from Ball State, and an



Micah Lambert

Administrative License from Indiana Wesleyan. Previously, he was the principal at Mary Feeser Elementary School in Elkhart, IN, where they led a dedicated team and approximately 550 students for four years. Before that, he held the position of assistant principal for a decade and taught various grade levels, including

3rd, 4th, and 5th grades, as well as K-6 special education.

In his free time, Mr. Lambert enjoys cooking, traveling, watching his favorite athletic teams, and spending time with family and friends.

Mr. Lambert is excited to become the next principal at Sylvester Elementary.

"I want to continue to foster the great things already taking place in Berrien Springs," he said. "My goal is to ensure Sylvester Elementary is an inviting and safe school with an increasingly positive overall culture and a growth mindset. In practical ways, I will support a school environment conducive to learning and personal growth and be welcoming to students, parents, and community members. I desire to further the Berrien Springs tradition of helping students grow academically while teaching them the skills necessary to become productive members of society."

#shamrockpride #Achieve #Seniors



"The most important thing that I have learned in high school is that you don't have to do anything alone. It's okay to ask for help, and a support system goes a long way. I have also discovered that passion is my main driving force. I struggle in classes that I'm not interested in, but excel in courses that peak my interest. This has helped me determine my pathway forward."

--Klay Raschke,
Class of 2023

and 5th Year (E/MC) Program
at LMC, Cohort 2024



"Learning is important because it's a valuable opportunity to be able to obtain knowledge. To let your mind be able to grow and experience new information is wonderful. There are also a lot of places where education and learning in general isn't so easily accessible and we should be grateful for the opportunity of education.

--Zaria Thomas,
Class of 2023



Mars students made “remarkable strides” in literacy and math through innovative instructional strategies & dedicated teachers

By Ryan Pesce
Principal of Mars
Elementary

Mars Elementary School achieved great success during the 2022-2023 school year, making remarkable strides in early literacy development and math instruction. With a dedicated team of educators, innovative teaching strategies, and a supportive learning environment, Mars Elementary students have shown great academic achievement.

Mars staff recognized the critical importance of literacy skills in the overall academic development of students. With this in mind, the teachers implemented a new comprehensive literacy program that focused on building strong foundations in reading, writing, and communication.

Using evidence-based instructional techniques, our teachers utilized interactive reading lessons to foster a love for books. Students participated in small, guided reading groups with an emphasis on reading comprehension that incorporated phonics instruction and vocabulary-building activities.

Recognizing the signifi-

cance of numeracy skills in everyday life, Mars Elementary staff placed equal emphasis on enhancing math instruction. The staff implemented innovative teaching methodologies, fostering a conceptual understanding of mathematical concepts, and encouraging problem-solving abilities.

Teachers utilized hands-on activities, manipulatives, and real-life examples to make math engaging and relatable. By employing visual aids and interactive games, students developed a deeper understanding of mathematical principles, improving their ability to apply them in practical scenarios.

The collective efforts of the teachers to implement and reflect on quality literacy and math practices yielded good results, as evidenced by the significant improvements in students and test scores throughout the year. The school saw a substantial increase in both literacy and math growth.

Mars' achievements this year are a testament to its unwavering commitment to providing an exceptional education to its students. Through



Principal Ryan Pesce celebrated the end of a successful academic school year with *Field Day* for all of his students at Mars Elementary. Principal Pesce is shown with students Slater Schemenaur and Connor Johnson as they participated in the sack races together during *Field Day*.

engaging and robust literacy and math instruction in a nurturing learning environment, the staff has fostered a culture of academic excellence. The impressive improvements

in test scores speak volumes about the effectiveness of the school's programs, emphasizing the positive impact they have had on students' overall academic growth.

VIRTUAL ACADEMY

Accelerated learning opportunities produce Math and Science Center Achievements at the Virtual Academy

By Valerie Carr
Director of Virtual
Academy

The Virtual Academy is a multifaceted program. Although the Berrien Springs Virtual Academy (BSVA) supports families who prefer full time virtual learning, the school also provides opportunities for on-campus students who primarily attend the middle and high school. During a specific class period, students walk from their respective building to take a scheduled course offering. Students can also take

a course as a 9th hour since the BSVA stays open until 3:30 p.m.

Numerous families make this decision because the student wants an accelerated version of a class, the student is hoping to graduate early, the student wants to open up space in their schedule, or because a unique or career specific class is not offered at the middle or high school that we can offer through virtual coursework (i.e. American Sign Language).

One creative situation that should be highlighted is the

positive relationship between the Berrien Springs Virtual Academy and Berrien Springs Middle School. Academically, all students must complete Algebra 1 as an eighth grade student and receive an eligibility score on the SAT. In order to prepare students for eighth grade Algebra, middle school students have participated in their math courses at the middle school along with an accelerated math course at the BSVA for Shamrock Hour 6 and Shamrock Hour 7 in order to prepare students for 8th grade Algebra fully at the

BSVA. During the past 2021-2022 school year, all eighth grade students who participated in this approach that applied to the Math and Science Center were welcomed into the program.

This year, we congratulate the achievements of four more Shamrocks, **Joshua Anderson, Anna Seo, Edwin Seo, and Ethan Mugambi**, who were invited to attend the Math and Science Center, along with Mr. Jim Richards who has supported their endeavors over the course of their middle school career.

Fifth grade team focused on advancing students' scores in reading and math to reach NWEA and M-STEP goals

By Amy Williams
Principal of Sylvester
Elementary

At the start of each school year, our Sylvester scholars take the NWEA MAP benchmark assessment in both reading and math. These assessment scores are mostly used to determine students' areas of strength and areas in which they might benefit from additional instruction and practice.

After each administration of the NWEA, we can make an early prediction for the percentage of students that will likely ACHIEVE proficiency expectations on the M-STEP.

This year the Fifth Grade Teaching Team decided to focus their attention on increasing the percentage of students predicted to ACHIEVE proficiency on the M-STEP as determined by the Winter to Spring scores.

The team devised a multi-pronged approach to achieve this goal. First, they reviewed the math and reading NWEA data, identifying each student that was already projected to be proficient on the M-STEP in reading, math, or both subjects.

The next step was to iden-

tify for each of these students;

1. If they had passed the M-STEP as a Fourth Grader.

2. Current Reading and Math IXL scores

It was important to the team that a plan was put in place to keep these students on track to proficiency. The team also wanted to remind these students of their previous successes with taking the M-STEP or, if the student had not passed previously, to work with the student on building their confidence. The teachers used data taken from IXL, a skill builder tool students use regularly, to create individualized skill development plans. The teachers also met with students weekly to evaluate their progress and maintained detailed records of their progress throughout the weeks leading up to M-STEP.

The teachers also reviewed which students had passed the M-STEP as a Fourth Grader, but were not on track to pass the M-STEP as a fifth grader. These students were also pulled into the group of students who were provided with additional direction and support for skill development in IXL.

The teachers hosted a spe-

cial family meeting to help parents and guardians better understand IXL and how it could be used to help their student fill in any skill gaps and gain extra practice and confidence before taking the M-STEP assessment.

The official scores from the M-STEP administered to fifth grade students in early April will be embargoed until the start of the 23-24 school year. However, the fifth grade teachers wanted to celebrate with our Fifth Grade Sylvester Scholars who reached their NWEA goals in Reading and Math before the students transitioned over to the Middle School.

The students who met their NWEA goals were provided with extra recess time to celebrate their accomplishments. As part of this recess, the students thoroughly enjoyed "Jumping for Joy" on two large inflatables to celebrate their successes.

Congratulations to the following fifth grade students who met their NWEA goals and are predicted to ACHIEVE proficiency or advanced proficiency on M-STEP in Math: Jiyong Kwon, Kolya Borkowski, Simone

Neal, Rebel Renbarger, Shihoo Park, Omari Smith, and Caleb VanBladeren.

Congratulations to the following fifth grade students who met their NWEA goals and are predicted to ACHIEVE proficiency or advanced proficiency on M-STEP in Reading: Molly Buursma, Davyle Korave, Nathaniel Patsika, Natalia Baptist, Isabel Ehrhardt, Riley Sturm, Samuel Costa Nogueira Barbosa, Hayes Dreibelbis, Austen Kruger, Natasha Langat, Nandipha Muzira, Synnai Osei-Mensuo, Xander Smith, Tahlya Deverson, Volund Ewalt, Mia Harris, Chloe Hunter, Knox Jacob, Maley Miller, and Aiden Wetzel.

Congratulations to the following fifth grade students who met their NWEA goals in BOTH Reading and Math and are predicted to ACHIEVE proficiency or advanced proficiency on the M-STEP in both areas: Seeley Morton, Eli Spenner, Paisley Peters, Jeremy Ealy, Dayana Martinez-Mejia, Vincent Khaula, Darrius Fio, Ellie Saroni, Eli Gordon, Liliana Tuesta-Rodriguez, Riley Klee, Ellasyn Wiley, Charlotte Clevenger, and Roberto Lorenzo.

BERRIEN SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL

15,087 UROCKS were given out to middle school students for positive behavior this year!

By Micah Lambert
Middle School
Assistant Principal

Berrien Springs Middle School wrapped up the 2022-2023 school year with a celebration of positive student behavior! In partnership with the middle school Student Senate, we were able to create a fun and exciting atmosphere for students. Throughout the year, students earned **UROCKS** for their positive

behavior. The categories for earning **UROCKS** are **Respect** (for myself and others), **Ownership** (for my actions), **Compassion** (for all students), **Knowledge** (of what is expected), and **Success** (demonstrated in and out of the classroom). This year, 15,087 **UROCKS** were given out to students.

Prior to the celebration, students were able to use the **UROCKS** they saved through-

out the year and purchase tickets for activities and/or food. Pete Anderson, former Dean of the middle school, came back to help cook hot dogs and wings for the students. Along with the wings and hot dogs, students could also purchase ice cream and popcorn passes with their **UROCKS**. In addition to the food, bounce houses and outdoor activities were available for student enjoyment. One

event, the *Screamer Slide*, which was 43' tall, was exclusively for students who earned enough **UROCKS** to purchase a wristband or *Screamer Slide* pass. This slide was sponsored by the student senate and was a big hit! Both students and staff enjoyed the day as the weather was perfect and the students enjoyed a day of celebrating good behavior throughout the year.





Congratulations to the graduates of the Discovery Academy operated by Berrien Springs Public Schools in Berrien Springs! The spring graduation ceremony was held on May 24, 2023, and marked a momentous occasion as 14 students successfully completed their academic journey. Pictured are, front row: JaiShonna Allen, Eduardo Pedroza, Elizabeth Christians, Hosanna Thiele, Amaraha Stone, Fiona Davis, Miranda Latsch, Kyndall Garrison, and Dakota Hettinger; and back row: Director Bill Bergan, teacher Frank Gonzalez, WorkForce Coordinator Devonté Jones, graduates Nathan Wendzel, An'taja Taylor, Anthony Brumfield, and Tyler Sawyer; and teacher Andrew Radenbaugh, secretary Shayla Williams, teacher Gail Lovelady, teacher Eunice Triantafilo-Varga, and Express owner Afiya Latham.



Job Genius graduates earn high school diplomas and Workforce certificates at Discovery Academy. Workforce Coordinator Devonte' Jones congratulated the following Discovery Academy graduates: Kyndall Garrison, Fiona Davis, Jai'Shonna Allen, An'taja Taylor, Anthony Brumfield, Amaraha Stone, Hosanna Thiele, and Express owner Afiya Latham.

LINK LEARNING, WMV, AND SUCCESS VLC



West Michigan Virtual Academy: West Michigan Virtual Academy graduated 56 students this school year. West Michigan Virtual Academy is an educational institution in Battle Creek, MI. Educators service students in grades 6-12. The academy focuses on personalized learning, allowing students to progress at their own pace and tailor their education to their needs and interests.



Success Virtual Learning Centers of Michigan: Success VLC proudly graduated 315 students this spring. This picture highlights the graduates of the Monroe location. Success VLC operates 11 different sites statewide and continues to exemplify its commitment to students in academic excellence and personal growth.



Link Learning: Three Rivers/Schoolcraft Location. Link Learning celebrated graduation ceremonies across the state. The program graduated 405 students this spring, and the picture above showcases the proud Three Rivers/Schoolcraft graduates and dedicated staff members.



Beth Ferry



Queen Tutson



Frank Gonzalez



Larry Jackson



Ryan Pesce

Retiring Shamrocks honored along with Shamrock Service Award and Shamrock Way Award winners

Berrien Springs Public Schools held its annual **End of the Year Staff Celebration** on June 5 at Sylvester Stadium. The event served as a special occasion to recognize and commend our staff members' outstanding dedication, commitment, and accomplishments. It was a time to honor those who had devoted years of service, bid farewell to retiring colleagues, and honor the *Shamrock Way* Award recipients for this school year.

The following individuals were recognized and celebrated with Shamrock Service Awards during the event:

5 Years of Service: Shelly Archer, Heather Blevins, Samantha Daily, John File, Laura Gonzalez, Laurel Rochefort, Melydia Rogers, Shenise Roots, Bill Schmidt, Amy Scott, Teresa Simmons, Jamie Spenner, Ashley Tilly, Tom Townsend, Dee Voss, Kate Weigand, Catherine Wilcoxon, and Amber Zebell; **10 Years of Service:** Greg Ewalt, Tia Flie, Laurel Gacek, Brian Terry, and Queen Tutson.; **15 Years of Service:** Kristen Dow, Jill Garcia, Diana LaValley, Cara Rumer, and Kristy Saroni; **20 Years of Service:** Holly Rago; **25 Years of Service:** Emma Haygood, Alexandria Luttkke, Lynn Shafer, Sarah Shembarger, Kendra Smith, and Keri Ann Wishart; and **35 Years of Service:** Ellen Hasse.

We also recognized three

outstanding retirees who made significant contributions at Berrien Springs Public Schools. These individuals were celebrated for their unwavering dedication and the positive impact they had on our school district. Their commitment to education and tireless efforts will be remembered and cherished by all. Thank you to **Superintendent Dave Eichberg** and **Parent Engagement and Attendance Coordinator Dee Voss.** Both retired in June 2023. **Business Manager Ellen Hasse** was also recognized for retirement. Her last day with the school district is October 31, 2023.

The **Shamrock Way Awards** were created to recognize staff and volunteers who go above and beyond the mission and vision of our district, *"Together, inspiring students to think, learn, achieve and care in a global community."* These awards are given out yearly, and the categories for



Anna VanDerbeck, Brittany Mercier, Samantha Malstrom

the 2022-2023 school year are **Team of the Year**, **Volunteer of the Year**, **Support Staff of the Year**, **Instructional Support Staff of the Year**, **Teacher of the Year**, and the **Shamrock Emerald Award**.

Berrien Spring Public Schools extends its congratulations to the exceptional individuals who have been honored with a *Shamrock Way* Award this year: **Emerald Shamrock of the Year:** Ryan Pesce, Mars Elemen-

tary Principal; **Teacher of the Year**, Larry Jackson, CTE Construction Trades Teacher; **Team of the Year**, Brittany Mercier Sylvester Elementary Resource Room Teacher, Paraprofessionals Samantha Malstrom, and Anna VanDerbeck; **Support Staff of the Year**, Queen Tutson, Transportation Driver; **Instructional Support Staff of the Year**, Frank Gonzalez, Discovery Academy Proctor; and **Volunteer of the Year**, Beth Ferry.



Dave Eichberg



Ellen Hasse



Dee Voss

Shamrocks finish spring sports season with numerous awards, and All-Conference and All-State titles

By Joe Stephens
BSHS Athletic
Director

Berrien Springs athletes put on quite a display this season, which should come as no surprise when “spring” is in our name.

The Lady Shamrocks’ **SOC-CER** team had its best season in school history recording all sorts of program firsts. The Lady Rocks Soccer won their first Conference Championship in school history; they went undefeated in the Lakeland Conference. The ladies also had the first winning season in program history with a 13-7 record. The girls got hot in May, going 7-1, and then the team reached the district championship game for the first time. Their magical run was put to an end by a solid Three Rivers team. On their way to that game, the Shamrocks defeated the #1 seeded team from South Haven, 1-0.

The Shamrock **BASEBALL** team won its first Conference Championship since 2007. The Shamrocks rode the arm of Garrett Brewer to a 7-1 conference record and a 19-12 overall mark. The team played three opponents this season that made it to the state quarterfinals or farther, but they still found a way to string plenty of wins together all season. The boys’ season ended in a 3-1 loss to Niles in the District semi-final game.

The Lady Shamrocks’ **TENNIS** program had a total turnaround. In 2022, they won no dual matches, but this season they finished third in a very tough SAC/Lakeland combined conference. At regionals, the girls finished only one point away from qualifying for the state team finals. The team returns nine of its 12 starters for next season. In a very short time, they have become one of the most prolific tennis teams in the area.

The Lady Shamrocks **SOFT-BALL** team is a young group.



Shamrock Jake Machiniak won the state title in the 100m dash with a school record time of 10.52.

We had so many young players that this was the first time in over ten years that the program fielded a junior varsity team. The varsity team had a different success record-wise than the other teams had, as they finished 10-23 and 4th in the Lakeland Conference. With only ten wins, there was still some serious late-season success. The Shamrock softball team defeated two ranked teams in Division 4 on their final tournament weekend, and this included a 7-6 victory over No. 8 Decatur and a 12-2 win over No. 7 River Valley. To close their year, the softball team fell to No. 5 Lakeshore 6-0 in the pre-district.

The boys’ and girls’ **TRACK** teams saw great success, as always, as both teams won their Conference Championships--this made it the 7th in a row for both programs. The boys’ team defended their regional championship, and the girls were the regional runners-up. Both teams qualified for the D2 MITCA Team State Meet, an invitational tournament for teams that must qualify by a set of power rankings that the Track Coaches Association sets up. Only the deepest teams in the state get a ticket to that meet. Our boys’ team finished 4th out

of 15 schools, and the girls finished 9th of 14. We were fortunate that MITCA chose us to host that large meet at Sylvester Stadium.

The Shamrocks put some MHSAA State Champions on the podium to wrap up their track season. Junior Jake Machiniak is the fastest man in Michigan. He won the 100 meters with a school record time of 10.52. The boys’ 4x200 team of Machinak, Zander White, Noah Jarvis, and Quimari Haskins were also state champions. To close the day, the girls’ 4X100 team of Zariyah Mance, Jasmin Williams, Kirsten Krause, and Grace Constable brought home a state title. That Lady Shamrocks’ relay team finished their entire season undefeated and shattered their school

record on multiple occasions.

This has been an exciting spring and school year. We have had numerous All-Conference and All-State athletes. Please check out our social media, website, and newspaper, *The Journal Era*, for lists of those athletes. We have also had so many people step up to work track meets, prepare our facilities for baseball and softball state tournaments, park cars, run scoreboards, fix fields, take tickets, drive buses, and do countless other jobs that help give our student-athletes a first-class experience. The athletic department cannot thank the Shamrock family enough for the time and effort all of you have given to the program.

We are looking forward to a great 2023-2024 season!

#shamrockpride #Achieve #Seniors



“During my high school career, I was able to take classes at different colleges through dual enrollment. One thing I am proud of achieving during my high school experience was being able to finish all eight of the prerequisite classes for the sonography program at LMC before graduating. This has allowed me to save money and be prepared for my future. I am now ready to apply for the program and begin my college experience.”

--Caitlin Gearhart,
Class of 2023



“I am loving the experience of learning at BSHS. Here I have a chance to do a lot of things. What makes me the happiest is learning in a light and practical way. Here the teachers are very patient and they do everything to pass on the knowledge they have in the best way. And surprisingly, I manage to keep these learnings in my mind. And I believe I will carry them with me for the rest of my life.”

--Deborah Genero,
Class of 2023

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 **SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER** 

Students' academic achievements are the main reason to celebrate 2022-23 school year

Data shows students made “significant progress” in reading and math NWEA growth scores

**By Dr. Tom Bruce
Superintendent**

As we close out the 2022-2023 school year, I find myself compelled to reflect on our students' and staff's countless accomplishments and achievements. We have many reasons for celebration, but the most significant is our students' academic achievements.

On June 14, 2023, the Board of Education and the Berrien Springs Public

Schools' leadership team held their annual retreat. During the retreat, we dedicated our discussions to student growth and its influence on achievement scores within the classroom districtwide. Our data shows significant progress in reading and math NWEA growth scores. Various factors have influenced these scores, and we are excited to see the progress of our students.

Our district takes great pride in serving a diverse



Dr. Tom Bruce

range of students and families from different backgrounds and life experiences across the state of Michigan. Some of our students and families confront daily obstacles on their path to success. Yet, despite these challenges, our students consistently thrive under the guidance and support of our dedicated and car-

ing staff. This year's focus has been engagement, achievement, and attendance, and our staff remains committed to providing our students with the necessary support and resources they need to succeed. They surpass what may seem impossible, exceed what can be attained, and achieve beyond the boundaries of their imagination.

We look forward to the continued success of our students, education journey in the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. This newsletter edition showcases a range of notable accomplishments and achievements from our district. Thank you to our students, staff, families, and community for being our partners in education. We are grateful for the invaluable contributions that you have made to the 2022-23 school year.

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