

BANGOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

801 W. Arlington Street, Bangor, Michigan 49013

VIKING PRESS

"Providing Educational Excellence as a Pathway to Success"



January 12th, 2014

MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOD DRIVE BATTLE

Bangor Middle School again held their annual Food Drive to support a local food pantry. The food drive was sponsored by the Middle School Student Council, led by Middle School teachers Cathy Kimbler, Hailey Fusco, and Adriel Morgan. To create enthusiasm for the drive, a battle between grade levels was held in which the first grade level to donate 300 items would be awarded a prize of an ice cream social. Early on, the 5th grade students led the way, but by the end of the drive the battle was neck-in-

neck with all grade levels vying to reach the 300 mark. In the end, the 7th grade class reached the 300 mark goal by donating 330



items. In all, the students at Bangor Middle School donated 947 items.

On Wednesday, December 18, the food items were brought to the St. Vincent DePaul Food pantry located at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Nancy Hoose, a representative with the pantry, was very thankful for the donation. She stated, "The need for food donations is greater than ever and the items from the Bangor Middle School food drive will definitely help many individuals and families in the Bangor community."

Great job to all of the students and staff at Bangor Middle School for your efforts in helping the people of our community!

High School Exams- Be Prepared!

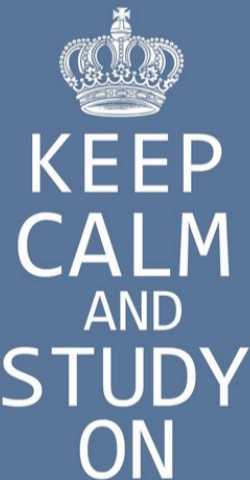
With the first semester of the 2013-14 school year quickly coming to a close. Bangor High School has announced

the exam schedule beginning Monday, January 20th, and commencing Wednesday, January 22. This schedule allows students to have only two exams per day and does not disrupt the schedule for the Technology Center students. Lunches will remain the same each day. If this schedule is interrupted by a snow day, any day - those exams move to the next day and the entire

schedule shifts forward into the next week. This allows students (and staff) to prepare for the same exam for the following day.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- January 20 — School Board Meeting 6:00 in the High School Library
- January 24 — Second Marking Period/Semester Ends
- January 31 — Winterfest
- February 20— Parent Teacher Conferences 1:00-4:00 and 5:00-8:00 No Students
- February 21 —No School
- February 24—No School
- April 4 thru 11— Spring Break!
- June 1— Graduation



Energy Savings Rebates from Consumers Energy

Pictured are Kurt Doroh, School Board President, and Ron Parker, Superintendent, happily receiving a check from Donna Densmore, Corporate Account Manager for Consumers Energy. This was the second check from Consumers awarded to Bangor Schools for energy savings and efficiency as a result from our recent bond construction. The total so far from Consumers Energy is over, \$38,000. We are very grateful to Consumers Energy for this generous financial reward to our district.

Want to know what's happening at school?

Visit www.bangorvikings.org

The Community Education Center at www.virtualvantage.org

On Facebook or Twitter at Bangor Public Schools

or

The student news station at BHVTV@bangorvikings.org.

WINTERFEST 2014!

Bangor High School students will celebrate Winterfest 2014, beginning on January 27th and concluding on February 1st. This year's theme will be "Winter Wonderland" and each grade level will be assigned a winter themed song to use as inspiration for the hallway decorating competition. Another popular contest between the classes is dress up days. Dress up days for the week are as follows; Monday - Pajama Day, Tuesday - Neon Day, Wednesday - Kid Day, Thursday - Favorite College Day, and Friday - Red and White Day. A pep assembly will be held in the gym on Friday afternoon with the classes again competing in games and spirit competitions. The varsity girls and boys basketball teams will be hosting Martin beginning at 5:30. This year's Winterfest court will be crowned between the basketball games that same evening. The fun concludes on Saturday with a dance where this year's king and queen will reign.

MIDDLE SCHOOL HOST ANNUAL SPELLING BEE

On January 16, 2014, Bangor Middle School will host its annual Spelling Bee. This event will take place in the Middle School Media Center at 6:30 P.M. and admission is free. Participating students include: Cameron London, Victoria London, Le'onna Wallace, Madison Perry, Emelie Allred, and Nick Hoots. These students have been preparing for this spelling bee since November. Study sessions were held after school to familiarize the students with the words. They were given a booklet of words from the Scripps National Spelling Bee program that contains words from many different language origins. Students learn the language patterns for these words so they are able to correctly spell them.

It takes many, many hours both in the study sessions and at home for students to learn all of these words. "I tell students to pay attention to how words are spelled, especially words they encounter every day, including longer, more difficult words, so they become familiar with spelling them. Spelling words correctly is an important skill to have and, in my opinion, is one that can never get taught enough." (Cathy Kimbler)

The top three winners of our school spelling bee will represent Bangor at the Regional Cloverleaf Spelling Bee at Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor on Tuesday, February 11, at 8:30 A.M.

Bangor Community Education

What Do We Offer?

Online Cyber Students

The Virtual Academy is a free "Online" High School allowing students to attend school "ANYTIME, ANY PLACE, AT ANY PLACE".

Homeschoolers

This is a free program paid for by your tax dollars and generously provided and supported by Bangor Public Schools (a "school of choice"). Our Homeschool Partnership is available to homeschool families from Allegan, Berrien, Cass, Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties. Our program is based on the philosophy that homeschooling parents know best how to educate their children and that our role is one of support.

Early College Students

Our Early/Middle College Program is a collaborative project between Bangor Public Schools and Lake Michigan College. Our program combines the best elements of high school and college. It is a five year program, and each student receives both their high school diploma and a college degree!

Alternative and Adult Education Options

Our Alternative Education and Adult Education programs offer students the flexibility to succeed on their own terms. Students are able to graduate and receive their high school diploma despite the daily challenges they may face.

Our Typical Students

We don't have a typical student at Virtual Vantage Academy. Every student's needs and situations are different. We are proud to serve students including:

- Traditional Junior & Senior High School Students
 - Homeschool Families
 - Accelerated Learners
 - Credit Recovery
 - Homebound Students
 - High School/College Dual Enrolled Students
 - High School/Middle College Students
 - Non-Traditional Students
 - Alternative Learning Styles
 - Students who struggle in a traditional school environment
 - TAP students and students with children
- Students where a traditional on-campus school is not an option

What We Provide

The Virtual Vantage Cyber-Academy fits your lifestyle with online courses that are available 24 hours a day from anywhere you have internet access. Students continue to be exposed to curriculum and content presented by highly-qualified instructors and will complete all high school graduation requirements for the State of Michigan and participate in the MME (Michigan Merit Exam). Our Virtual Vantage Cyber-Academy program allows our students to receive a regular high school diploma without the traditional "seat time" requirement (where a student must be physically present in a school building to earn credit).

Each student is partnered with a "Mentor Teacher" from Virtual Vantage Academy. Mentors are certified teachers available on campus and through e-mail communications. Our Mentors are there to help you progress through your courses successfully. This is the 21st century schooling model, finally available to Southwest Michigan students!

Contact Us Today To Begin Your Adventure! -

www.virtualvantage.org

or call

(269)427-6800 extension 2100

to schedule an appointment.

Choose Your Path to Success



OPERATION SCRIBBLE

It began with a box. . .

The idea started in 2001, when Matt and Emily Leinwand joined their father, then a pediatric surgeon in California, for his weekend rounds in a local hospital. The 5 and 6 year old children witnessed how sad and unhappy the young patients were and asked what they could do to help. Children who stayed at the hospital needed activities to occupy their time and cheer them up, his two children concluded. They put a cardboard box on their porch and asked family members who visited to bring crayons and coloring books to fill the box.

Operation Scribble, a non-profit organization that distributes toys, games, stuffed animals, and movies to children staying in the hospital has grown, reaching children in Kalamazoo, Los Angeles, Boston, and Philadelphia. As of last December, the organization had collected more than 115,000 new crayons, 10,000 coloring books and more than 5,700 games and toys.

For the last 4 years, members of the Bangor Middle School Boys 7th and 8th grade basketball teams have participated in this annual drive to support Operation Scribble. This year the team members collected over 400 items!

On the morning of December 12, 2013, Coaches Dan Thorbjornsen and Angel Rosales met representatives of the Bangor Middle School 7th and 8th grade boys basketball teams before the school day began and drove them to the Dunkin' Doughnuts on Westnedge. There the team delivered the items that had been collected. Radio station 103.3 was hosting a live broadcast at that time and team members Zack Gargus, Michael Pobuda, Seth Fogg, Thomas Bowen, and manager Madison McGuire were interviewed on live radio.

Coaches Thorbjornsen and Rosales would like to thank all who helped in the drive and to the team representatives who got out of bed early to make the 6:00 a.m. drive to Kalamazoo to support the Operation Scribble drive.

Bangor Public Schools and the Bangor Athletic Department would like to tell our 7th and 8th grade boys basketball players how proud we are of you and of Coach Rosales and Coach Thorbjornsen. Thank you for doing such a great job!!

MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL First Trimester

5th Grade- Noemi Arevalo, Lucas Artis, Ariana Birkhead, Mayra Calvillo, Genesis Dixon, Emilie Fillmore, Sammy Glidden-Fry, Jasmin Gomez, Elijah Griffioen, * Michael Hardester, Collin Householder, * Carter Hull, Joseph Hunt, Jaedon Jones, Stephanie Knight, Keith Kueny, Olivia Kuiper, Olivia Ledezma, Dylan Little, Cameron London, Blanca Martinez, Hannah Mellinger, * Abby Moench, Rolando Munoz, * Zachary Polk, * Leonardo Puga, Malaya Raybourn, Lupe Reyna, Zach Rukas, Cecelia Salomon, * Kali Schneider, A J Stigler,

6th Grade- Emelie Allred, Jesus Aragon, Noah Baldwin, Dirk Brunt, * Andrew Cervantes, * Grace Ford, Jennifer Garcia, Tirzah Gennrich, Alondra Gutierrez, * Audrey Hay, Sarah Hicks, * Hannah Householder, Hannah Jaco, Ke'aruis Jennings, Elizabeth Lopez, Hunter Lynch, Lisandro Magana, Alvaro Martinez, Mason Jay, Colby Petranek, Krea Pittman, Emily Pop, Jennifer Quinones, Shelby Ray, Isaiah Sparks, Hailee Stone, Summer Torres, Ariel Wescott, Eric Wheeler,

7th Grade- Yareli Betancourt, Savannah Brown, Lily Cannin, Marilin Carrillo, Shawn Cox, Lauryn Crandall, Alyssa Eisner, Carter Finch, Seth Fogg, Jose Gallegos, Emerald Gardner, * Grace Gleason, Elena Guel, Joey Hardester, Abigail Helms, Adriana Hernandez, Connor Hoots, * Ehliza Kelly, * Jamie Latterner, Victoria London, Marycruz Lopez-Murillo, Jose Marin-Hernandez, Jason McKinney, Jenny Medina, Demetrio, Ivan Mejia, Alex Moench, Anise Montoya, * Olivia Price, Kylie Sisson, * Jack Stormont, Marshall Weber, Brandon Westbrooks, Joshua Zordan

January is School Board Appreciation Month

On behalf of the Bangor staff, students, and the community, I want to thank the Bangor Board of Education for their commitment and leadership to our district.

I want to emphasize "commitment" because being a Board member takes a lot of personal time and effort. In addition to regular monthly meetings, numerous individual and committee meetings are required. I want to emphasize leadership because that is what I have seen from our Board as we dig ourselves out of a negative financial situation, created to a great extent by the economic conditions of the State that were dropped on the schools. We are reaching that goal without layoffs or loss of student programming, and that is due to the leadership and commitment of our Board of Education. We have also completed a Bond construction program, passed by the community, that has made our facilities safer and more energy efficient, more attractive, and allows us to operate more efficiently and at a much higher level. I have been a part of the Board team that has been involved with this project from start to finish, and I can assure the Bangor Community that this Board of Education is a great steward of the Bangor School District finances. Please join me in thanking your Board members. They are:

- Kurt Doroh, President
- Doug Watkins, Vice President
- Dwight Click, Secretary
- Mike Hescott, Treasurer
- Sue Bray, Trustee
- Ruth Fuentes, Trustee
- Sarah Gray, Trustee

They are doing the job you entrusted them to do, and doing it very well.

Ronald G. Parker, Superintendent
Bangor Public Schools

Apple Tree Preschool

Above- Mrs. Remington and Mrs. Ruano's class celebrated the last day of school for 2013 by wearing pajamas and using shaving cream to practice writing letters, numbers and their names.



Below- Mrs. Remington and Mrs. Shafer's classes walked to the CEC Gym to use the parachute for some fun activities.

Honor Roll Continued-

8th Grade- Estefania Alcaraz-Flores, Jamie Allen, Javier Alvarado, Skyler Baldwin, Jacob Brink, Faviola Diaz, Romeo Diaz Deleon, Alex Ealy, Karyssa Gallegos-Cuevas, Mario Garcia, Zack Gargus, Austin Gennrich, Mariha Hastings, Grice Higgins, Elisabeth Jackson, Anissa Keh, * Madison Kueny, Madison McGuire, Breanna McNett, Harley Miller, Epiphany Parker, Jackie Perry, Joshua Petranek, * Michael Pobuda, Nina Ring, Brett Robertson, Alma Rodriguez, Emily Roe, Angelia Ross, Katlyn Sanchez, Ernesto Saucedo, Oralia Segura, Chevy Smith, Megan Sprague, Olivia Stockford, Jonathan Strampel, Diana Villalobos, Gerardo Villanueva, Alex Vorva, Quentin Walantyn, Ted Wesaw, and Samantha Zordan
* Denotes All A's

South Walnut Elementary

December Student of the Month Winners

Miss Byrd-**Martin Gutierrez-Escamilla** - Nominated for demonstrating great STAR behavior, great attendance, always being respectful of others, following classroom and school rules, and showing responsibility through completing his schoolwork.

Mrs. Phillips-**Kylie Withey** - Nominated for being a good friend to others. She is always helpful and nice in class. Kylie shares and plays well with the other students in class. She also takes pride in the classroom and is always helping to clean up after herself and others.

Trap Abbott - Trap loves to learn. He is full of ideas and always participates in class discussions. He is polite to others and an excellent helper in the classroom. He makes teaching fun!

Mrs. Szczyzka-**Zameria Ware** - Zameria stays safe by picking up items off of the floor and putting them where they belong. She takes pride and finishes her work on time. She acts responsible by listening to and following directions. She respects everyone by helping her classmates and working quietly around them.

Mrs. Tapper-**Serentiy Desantiago** - Serenity is a STAR in the classroom and a role model for all of her peers. She always takes her time with her work and does her best. She is kind, caring, and always willing to help others. Every day she comes to school with her best attitude ready to learn.

Mrs. Cowles-**Liam Mortensen** - Liam is a great student. He tries very hard and has really improved in all areas. Liam has a great sense of humor. He is always eager to help others out. He is truly a pleasure to have in class.

Mrs. Goodrich-**Keagan Beebe** - Keagan works hard while at school. He follows the school and classroom rules. He is always very respectful to everyone and we love having him in class.

Mrs. Moench-**Yelitza Mercado** - Yelitza is an amazing young lady. She is very responsible and works hard to do well in school. Yelitza is always bringing her AR books to be read and tested on.

Mrs. Vassar-**Aubrey Noe** - Aubrey is a hard-working, soft spoken student. She follows STAR expectations and treats her classmates with respect.

Mrs. Hardester-**Jasmine Avino** - Jasmine is an excellent addition to our classroom. She is a very hard worker. Jasmine is well liked by her classmates. We are very happy to have her with us.

Mrs. Ricca-**Yrral Campbell** - Yrral is a delightful student. He is always going the extra mile to help other people. Yrral is always right there to help pitch in on projects. He is very attentive and completes his work on time.

Mrs. Ward-**Thomas Smith** - In the classroom Thomas shows tremendous respect and effort. His STAR behavior is constant every day. Thomas is always working hard and does his best on his assignments. He is a great friend to everyone in class.

Miss McNally-**Ethan Abbott** - Ethan has made a lot of progress this year. He always turns his work in on time. Ethan reads during his free choice time in order to meet his AR goals. He is a 2nd grade student completing 3rd grade math. Great job Ethan!

Mrs. Artis-**Abel Munoz** - Abel earned student of the month because of his great improvements in class. He has met his AR goal and is showing great effort and grades in every subject.

Mrs. Christensen-**Maya Rodriguez** - Maya is a great example of a STAR student. She always has her work done on time and shows 100% effort on everything that she completes. She is kind and helpful to the teacher and her peers. When there is a substitute teacher in the classroom, she is a perfect role model for others to follow.

Mrs. Mortensen-**Breanna Noe** - Breanna is a wonderful student to have in class. She is always prepared and ready to do any assignment. She is cheerful and happy. Breanna demonstrates great STAR behavior each and every day.

Mrs. Hoch-**Emma Allison** - Emma is a student that tries her best and shows great effort on every assignment. She is kind hearted and a great classmate to the other students in class.

Mr. Klebba-**Jacqueline Medrano** - Jacqueline is a great example of a STAR student. She is always looking for ways to help other students and staff. She studies very hard and always completes her work correctly and on time.

Miss Waite-**Siney Santiago** - Siney is a great student in the classroom. She is polite, respectful, and takes a lot of pride in everything that she does.