



# Bett Pride

Bettendorf Community School District  
Community Newsletter  
V. 21 No. 1 October 2021  
www.bettendorf.k12.ia.us

Passion  
Purpose  
Pride!

## Superintendent's Message

Dr. Michelle Morse



We're off to a fantastic start to the 2021-2022 school year! Our incredible BCSD staff continues to step up and adapt to the varied challenges and are going above and beyond to ensure our students have access to high-quality learning opportunities. We have passionate parents who look out for the interests of their students: working diligently to support their students' classrooms, extracurricular activities and their schools. We also have students who are strong learners, working hard to grow their minds, challenge themselves and support each other.

Like many districts, we've faced some challenges in student behaviors in our schools. We are dedicated to providing students and staff with a safe learning environment. Staff are helping all students to succeed in school and prepare them for a successful future. We are continuing to work to support the social-emotional needs of all our students.

At the elementary level, we have adopted a district-wide K-5 math curriculum, Illustrative Math (IM). IM ensures a research-based and highly rated, guaranteed and viable curriculum that encourages all students. Grades K, 1, and 5 have adopted a new science curriculum, Amplify. Grades 2, 3, and 4 will implement Amplify in the 2021-2022 school year. A committee of teachers, instructional coaches, and administrators will begin identifying PreK-5 English Language Arts curriculum to pilot in the 2022-2023 school year with implementation in the 2023-2024 school year.

At Bettendorf Middle School our focus continues to be on social-emotional and behavioral well-being for all of our students and staff. We are collaborating with the Mississippi Bend AEA and Family Resources to provide additional staffing, training, and support in the areas of social-emotional and behavioral health.

At Bettendorf High School, we are expanding opportunities in the trades, increasing our dual credit course offerings, and offering a new CTE (Career and Technical Education) pathway in Allied Health. Beginning second semester, students will have the option to pursue a CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) certification. BHS has started an aviation club in partnership with North Scott and Pleasant Valley for students interested in airplanes.

COVID continues to impact our community and families. We are continuing our enhanced cleaning protocols. Many of our staff are vaccinated. BCSD is following the required mandate of masking on district transportation, and facial coverings continue to be highly encouraged for students, staff, and visitors.

On November 2nd, three seats in the Bettendorf Board of Education are up for election. We invite our community to get to know the candidates and engage in their right to vote.

In addition, the district is working with Hanover Research to gather perspectives of parents, staff, students, and community members to develop a road map to lead the district to a strategic future of excellence in education and preparing our students for a bright future.

Thank you for your continued support of the Bettendorf Community School District. One thing is certain. We are building a path to success in the interests of all our students. We are definitely BETTter Together!

## Student Recognition

### BHS Students Recognized by National Merit Scholarship

BETTENDORF HIGH SCHOOL  
2021  
NATIONAL MERIT

Matthew Dorang Semifinalist  
Aidan Hamner Semifinalist  
Carolyn Kress Commended  
Preston Martens Semifinalist  
Noah Raso Semifinalist  
Nicholas Theuerkauf Semifinalist

#BetterTogether  
PASSION PURPOSE PRIDE!

Six Bettendorf High School students were recently recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program:

**Commended:** Carolyn Kress

**Semifinalists:** Matthew Dorang, Aidan Hamner, Preston Martens, Noah Raso, and Nicholas Theuerkauf.

All of the students are seniors at Bettendorf High School except Matthew Dorang. Matthew graduated a year early and is currently attending Iowa State.

"BHS prides itself on a relevant and rigorous curriculum, including honors, advanced placement courses, and dual credit courses," said Principal Robert Boley. "We are immensely proud of Aidan, Carolyn, Matthew, Nicholas, Noah, and Preston, as well as all previously recognized students and the teachers who prepared them. With this level of achievement, these students and staff exemplify determination and excellence."

To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, Semifinalists must advance to the finalist level of the competition by fulfilling several requirements. About 90 percent of the Semifinalists are expected to attain Finalist standing, and approximately half of the Finalists will be selected as Merit Scholarship winners, earning the Merit Scholar® title.

## School Board Election- Nov. 2 2021 School Board Candidates

Andrew Champion    Analicia Gomes    Adam Holland    Traci Huskey    Richard Lynch    Linda Smithson    Melissa Sundome

Serving on a school board is a challenging job that requires leadership, vision and dedication. A school board member is entrusted with one of the most important responsibilities that can be assigned to a citizen: ensuring that schools help students reach high levels of educational achievement.

The Bettendorf Board of Education has seven candidates running for three open seats.

Learn more about our 2021 candidates  
<http://bettendorf.k12.ia.us/board>

Absentee Ballot Request Forms  
Requests forms must be received by Oct. 18  
<http://www.scottcountyjowa.com/auditor/early-voting>

Scott County Election Information  
<https://www.scottcountyjowa.com/auditor>



## Board Candidate Forum

Thursday, October 14

5 - 5:45 pm - Social

6 pm - Candidate Forum

KWQC-TV6 will moderate and broadcast the forum.

Every candidate will be given the opportunity to answer each question posed by the moderator. Anyone who would like to submit a question for consideration to be asked can email [news@kwqc.com](mailto:news@kwqc.com). Please put "Bettendorf School Board Forum" in the subject line.

TV6 will air the forum live on COZI 6.3 and its digital platforms, including [kwqc.com](http://kwqc.com), the KWQC News App, AppleTV, FireTV, Roku, VUit, NBC, hulu, YoutubeTV, fuboTV, and NewsON.

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The Pride community newsletter is sent to all residents of the Bettendorf Community School District without charge. Comments and suggestions from patrons are welcome. Contact Celeste R. Miller, Director of Communications, (563) 359-3681 or email [cmiller@bettendorf.k12.ia.us](mailto:cmiller@bettendorf.k12.ia.us).

Dr. Michelle Morse, Superintendent  
[www.bettendorf.k12.ia.us](http://www.bettendorf.k12.ia.us)

**Investing in Our Facilities  
Herbert Hoover \$3.2K  
Addition & Renovation**



Herbert Hoover Elementary is in the middle of a \$3.2K addition and renovation. The 7,500 SF addition added a secure entrance, school office, student instruction support spaces, and educator support spaces. The project also included improved playground surfaces and the parking lot entry. The project is being paid with Sales Tax Bond as well as PPEL (Physical Plant & Equipment Levy) and SAVE (one cent sales tax) funds.



**Therapy Dog Program  
Welcome to McGarrett**

McGarrett, a 1-year-old English black lab, recently joined the Herbert Hoover Elementary staff and district therapy dog team. Fifth grade teacher Courtney Torie is his handler. McGarrett was able to join our team thanks to funding from the Bettendorf Community School Foundation and the Herbert Hoover PTO.



**Keeping Informed  
Bett District Update**

Keep informed about what's happening in the Bettendorf Community School District. Sign up for the Bett District Update, an electronic newsletter e-mailed to parents, staff and community members each Friday during the school year. Community members can subscribe to Bett District Update by sending an email to [cmiller@bettendorf.k12.ia.us](mailto:cmiller@bettendorf.k12.ia.us).



**Nondiscrimination Notice**

It is the policy of the Bettendorf Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination.

If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy contact the Curriculum & Affirmative Action Coordinator, District Administration Center 3311 18 St., Bettendorf, (563) 359-3681.

**Parent Learning Opportunity  
Elementary Curriculum Night**



On Monday, September 27, district elementary parents had the opportunity to learn about elementary curriculum and meet school staff during Elementary Curriculum Night.

"It's a fun way to come into the buildings and see what are children do all day. Without these opportunities, you send them to school but you really don't know what they are doing and how they are doing things. It's really nice to see the how and why and putting it all together."

Sherri Johnson  
Parent, Paul Norton Elementary

"I like to come in and play all the games, and show my parents who my teacher is and what I'm doing."

Ben Pisel  
3rd Grade Student  
Herbert Hoover Elementary

**Student Leadership  
Student Council Interviews**

On September 30th, Bettendorf Middle School student council representative were interviewing 6th grade student council candidates prior to the election.

"I've been in student council since I was in 6th grade. It's fun to see who is going to join student council."

Claire Franzman  
8th Grade student  
Bettendorf Middle School



**Developing Student Mathematicians  
District Elementaries Adopt Illustrative Math**

Last year, Bettendorf Community School District piloted two high quality elementary math curriculums in elementary grade level across the district. This year, Illustrative Math is being adopted across the district elementary schools. The program is reasearch-based. The authors of the curriculum are also the authors of the Iowa Core - the learning standards required for student by state law.

Illustrative Math is a hands-on problem-based curriculum. It's different than the traditional math - encouraging kids to have more discourse and talk about how they've come up with answer and their thinking.

"It encourages students to think like mathematicians," said Jillian Dotson, Director of Curriculum Instruction & Assessment. "The instruction goes beyond procedural and moves more into a conceptual understanding of the math. It's really been successful."

The majority of classes at Paul Norton Elementary piloted Illustrative Math last year. The classes had really good results with high scores including a classroom achieving 100% proficiency.



**Hands-On Opportunities for Students  
BHS Piloting Aviation Club Consortium**

Bettendorf High School is piloting an Aviation Club this school year. The club will work closely with the local Experimental Aircraft Association and their mentors to build an actual working airplane from the ground up. BHS will be a part of a consortium with North Scott and Pleasant Valley School Districts. STEAM Leader Chris Like and Performing Arts Center Manager Chris Howard have volunteered to be the adult sponsors for this club. After building the plane, the students will sell the plane and the profits would be reinvested to purchase another aircraft for building. Students will not be flying the plane.

**Improving Educational Opportunities  
K-12 Computer Science Grant**

We have been awarded funds from The Iowa Department of Education to attend training that will assist our District in developing our K-12 Computer Science framework and plan ahead of a July 1, 2022 deadline.

HF 2629, passed by the state in 2020, now requires all Iowa school districts and nonpublic schools to develop a K-12 computer science plan. This grant funding is available thanks to a portion of a 2007 court-approved settlement of a class-action antitrust lawsuit filed against Microsoft Corp. being designated for K-12 computer science curriculum for students and training for teachers.

We will have a team of 9 teachers, instructional coaches, and administrators attend the MBAEA SCRIPT (Strategic, Resource, and Implementation Planning Tool) workshop on November 3rd. This will be the first step in developing BCSD's Computer Science plan.

## Community Involvement School Improvement Advisory Committee

The Bettendorf Community School District is looking for community volunteers for its 2021-2023 School Improvement Advisory Committee. The purpose of the group is to make recommendations to the school board and administration for major educational needs, student learning goals, improvement goals, and character education.

The district is required to have a committee that is representative of the district and its community and have balanced representation with regard to race, gender, national origin, and disability. We are also interested in a group that is made up of a diverse group of representatives from the community and the school district.

The 2021-2022 SIAC Meetings will be 5 - 7 pm  
 Monday, November 8      Monday, March 28  
 Tuesday, January 18      Tuesday, May 17

Our 2021-2022 SIAC Meetings will focus on work with Hanover Research in the development of a district strategic plan to achieve organizational alignment, engage stakeholders, and address improvement areas.

### Meeting Schedule

- Quick District Update (5-10 minutes)
- Topic Presentation & Discussion (1 hour)
- Recommendations/Thoughts (10 minutes)

If you are interested in serving on the BCSD 2021-2023 SIAC Committee (two year commitment, attendance at all meetings) please fill out the form available at <https://bit.ly/21-23Bett-SIAC>

## Help Supporting Students in Need Looking for Silent Angels

When our students can show up to school with their needs at home met, we know they are more likely to be happy and successful in the classroom and on the playground. We have a strong history of a generous and collaborative community to assist families and students who could use a hand up. One way you can contribute is to sign up for the Silent Angel Network through the Bettendorf Schools Outreach Program.

Parents tell us all the time how much it means to them to have this kind of support. If you would like to join or have any questions, please email [outreach@bettendorf.k12.ia.us](mailto:outreach@bettendorf.k12.ia.us). Thank you for all you do every day to support and inspire kids to make a positive difference!

## Assisting Families in Need 2021-2022 Mobile Food Pantry Dates

The Bettendorf Community School District Outreach Program works with the River Bend Foodbank to offer a Mobile Food Pantry throughout the school year.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming food pantry dates: October 26, January 18, February 15, March 22, April 19, and May 17.

The food pantry is held at Mark Twain Elementary School, 1620 Lincoln Rd. Please do not arrive before 5:30 pm. The distribution will be a park and pick-up style.



### 2021-2022 Foundation Board

Chris Krieg - President | Kelsey Hartog - Treasurer | Betsy Matt Turner - Secretary.

**Trustees:** Jim Farber | Anne Dunbar | Scott Gullickson | Stephanie Maiers | Claire Smick-Kuhn | Christine Zimmerman

Michelle LeMoine - Dir. of Administration and Outreach  
 (563) 359-3681 - [foundation@bettendorf.k12.ia.us](mailto:foundation@bettendorf.k12.ia.us)  
 Website - [foundation.bettendorf.k12.ia.us](http://foundation.bettendorf.k12.ia.us)

## Supporting Students in Bettendorf & Pleasant Valley School Districts Run with Carl 2021 - Annual Labor Day Event



Run with Carl 2021 was an amazing success!

We were thrilled to see so many runners enjoying the beautiful day and want to thank all of our sponsors and volunteers.

Established in 1995, the annual Labor Day "Run with Carl" was the primary funding vehicle for the Carl D. Schillig Memorial Fund. In the fall of 2014, the Bettendorf Community Schools Foundation and the Pleasant Valley Educational Foundation joined together to continue the race. Money raised funds grants and scholarships for area students. Learn more about Run with Carl at [www.runwithcarl.com](http://www.runwithcarl.com).

### A Special Thank You to Our Sponsors!

<b>Title Sponsor</b>	Ascentra Credit Union
<b>Platinum \$3000</b>	KWQC-TV6, Fleet Feet, Rock Valley Physical Therapy
<b>Gold \$1000</b>	Bettendorf Rotary, Lovell Fence and Deck, Kwik Star, Tinsman Families of Twin State, Inc.
<b>Bronze \$500</b>	Brooks Law Firm, Eye Surgeons Associates, Green State Credit Union, Hightech Signs, K&K True Value Hardware, McGinnis-Chambers Funeral Home, Orange Theory - Davenport, Quad City Bank and Trust, ReMax River Cities - Jennifer Peter, United Health Care

### Innovative Grants

## Dan Milburn & Colleen Gould Receive 2021 Finnessy Award

Bettendorf High School Industrial Technology Teacher Dan Milburn and Neil Armstrong Elementary Librarian Colleen Gould were selected for the 2021 Finnessy Awards. Each received \$500 to extend their wonderful grants.

Dan Milburn - Clear Vision Grant for auto darkening welding helmets.

Colleen Gould - One School, One Book: Wishtree Grant for funds to purchase a copy of Wishtree for each student and staff, as well as a tree.

There is over \$28,000 available this school year for teachers and staff who submit grant applications for initiatives that enhance the education of their students. They may submit grant applications throughout the school year for consideration.

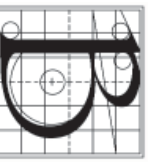
The Finnessy Award was started to honor Dr. John Finnessy. Grants from the previous school year submit a grant reflection to be considered for the Finnessy Award. The BCSF trustees review the reflections and select the grant that has made a strong impact.



### Accepting Donations

Please consider helping us provide funds for innovative classroom opportunities and scholarships for our students.

Donate through PayPal at  
<https://bit.ly/BettSchoolsFoundation-Donate>



**Bettendorf Community School District**  
 Administration Center  
 3311 18th St.  
 Bettendorf, IA 52722

www.bettendorf.k12.ia.us  
 Dr. Michelle Morse Superintendent

Board of Education  
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 Adam Holland, Vice President  
 Andrew Champion  
 Paul Castro  
 Joanna Doerder  
 Richard Lynch  
 Michael Pyevich

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### BHS Inducts Four Alumni into the Hall of Honor

On Friday, September 10th, Bettendorf High School honored Heather Ames, Patrick McNally, Keri Neblett, and Michael Rutledge as new members of the school's Hall of Honor.

Bettendorf High School established the "Hall of Honor" recognition program in 1992 to honor graduates who have achieved a notably high level of performance in career or profession, influenced the lives of others in some positive manner, and achieved a place of distinction in the area of public or community service.

Learn more about their accomplishments at <https://bit.ly/BHS-Hall-of-Honor>



Dr. Heather Ames  
Class of 1998



Patrick McNally  
Class of 1984



Keri Neblett  
Class of 1988



Michael Rutledge  
Class of 1989

### Piasecki Named the Iowa World Language Association Educator of the Year



Congratulation to Bettendorf High School French Teacher Sheila Piasecki for being selected at the Iowa World Language Association (IWLA) Educator of the Year. The state award is given to the individual who exemplifies the best in teaching at his/her particular level and who has provided outstanding service to the profession in the state of Iowa, in addition to the IWLA as an organization.

The award was presented to Sheila at the Iowa World Language Association Virtual Conference on Friday, October 1. Sheila started her career teaching French at Bettendorf High School in 2009. She has been on staff for 13 years.

### Burroughs Names Iowa Student Council Advisor of the Year



Congratulation to Christina Burroughs for being named 2021 Warren E. Shull High School Advisor of the Year by the Iowa Association of Student Councils. She was selected for her many positive contributions as a student council advisor and as one who cares about our state's youth. Christina will receive the award during the Iowa Student Leadership Conference in Des Moines on Sunday, October 24, 2021.

### Heather Wiley Participates in Iowa STEM Externship at QC Metallurgical Lab

BHS Science Teacher Heather Wiley was one of 70 participants in the 2021 Iowa STEM Teacher Externships program. She invested over 200 hours of professional growth at QC Metallurgical Lab!



### Bettendorf Board of Education

Front row (left to right) - Joanna Doerder, Andrew Champion and Rebecca Eastman. Back row - Richard Lynch, Adam Holland, Michael Pyevich, and Paul Castro. Learn more about the Bettendorf School Board @ [bettendorf.k12.ia.us/board](http://bettendorf.k12.ia.us/board)