



# Speaking of the Bison...

BUFFALO HIGH SCHOOL

APRIL 2020

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Virtual Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held Tues - Fri, 5/5 - 5/8 between 3-8 pm.**
- **No instruction on May 1 and May 4 due to Teacher Workshops.**

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## Mr. Mischke's Message

Mr. Mischke will be sending out a video message to all students and families tomorrow, May 1st. He is waiting on additional details to include that were not available at the time of newsletter publication. Please watch your emails for this message!



There is a lot of good news, information, and updates within our April newsletter.  
Enjoy!

# Counselor's Corner

## BHS Counselors:

### Mark Jones (A-F)

mjones@bhmschools.org

763.682.8107

### Shanlee Braun (G-K)

ssbraun@bhmschools.org

763.682.8054

### Christina Cox (L-Rn)

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763.682.8075

### Jennifer Blair (Ro-Z)

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## Student Services Resources & Support During Distance Learning

School Counselors are available for student appointments every day from 9am-3pm. Email Student Services Secretary, Emily Burrell, at [eburrell@bhmschools.org](mailto:eburrell@bhmschools.org) to schedule a time that works.

During distance learning we have put together [links to support students and families](#) with a variety of topics including self-care and important college and career exploration opportunities. Virtual college fairs, NCAA updates, college admission testing info, and resources in times of stress are all included. We encourage you to check out the link from time to time as we update it with new information as it becomes available.

## Tips to Help Students Stay Organized During Distance Learning

1. **Create a routine:** Set a time to rise and shine daily, with specific hours devoted to academics, activities, and breaks. Set a schedule and stick to it.
2. **Set up a personal work space:** Find an area of the home that is comfortable and quiet to focus on school work and keep it clean.
3. **Keep distractions to a minimum:** Avoid social media, turn off the TV, and keep school work the only open tab in your browser.
4. **Use a system to organize your course work:** Determine your best organization methods whether that be electronic folders, a binder, or separate notebooks for each course. Customize your Google Classroom notifications in

Settings if you struggle to filter your email inbox.  
4. **Check and work in Google**

**Classrooms daily:** Use the To Do link for easy access to a list of assignments or assessments that are needing your attention. Set goals each day.

5. **Use your teachers:** Reach out to teachers for course-specific help. It's okay if this happens multiple times each day. Use google chat and google hangout features for quick and easy communication.

6. **Access your school supports:** School counselors, social workers, case managers, and REACH teachers are here to help you problem-solve and advocate. Let them know what you need.

7. **Complete progress checks:** Have a family member or friend check your progress each day to keep you accountable.  
8. **Maintain a positive mindset:** Remind yourself that you can be successful during distance learning- you've got this!

## ACT prep resources

Now more than ever we strongly encourage both our class of 2021 and 2022 to begin their ACT prep. There are many FREE options available for students and we hope that they take advantage of them! All BHS students can utilize timed practice tests available through the [Minnesota Career Information System](#). Students can login to their MCIS account by using their school username and school password (capitalize the first letter of your password).

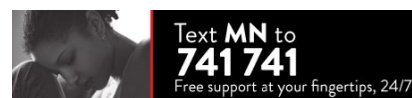
Other ACT prep options include:

- [ACT Academy](#): free online prep from ACT
- [Union Test Prep](#): for other free test prep, practice tests, study guides and more!
- [The Critical Reader](#): grammar & punctuation prep
- [Khan Academy](#): general math video lessons, also available as an app
- [Ready 4 ACT](#): free app with lessons, flashcards, customized practice tests

- [Magoosh ACT Flashcards](#): free app for English, math, & science

## Mental Health Month

May is Mental Health Month. Naturally, during a global pandemic, stress levels are high and crisis situations arise. We wanted to provide you with some quick information and resources. In the state of Minnesota, anyone can utilize the Crisis Text Line, a text-based suicide prevention service. To use, text **MN to 741741**. This will connect the person to a trained counselor to defuse the crisis and relay local resources. The Text Line is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



If you are looking for local resources to support mental health needs, reach out to your student's BHS School Counselor. Wright County and Partnership for Youth Families has also created extensive resource guides for family use including [Children's Wright County Resource Guide](#) and [Adult Mental Health Resource Guide](#).

## Advanced Placement Testing

Students that have taken Advanced Placement (AP) classes have been gearing up for their comprehensive test(s) that will take place in the first couple weeks of May. Testing this year is all online, as CollegeBoard has reformatted the exams to support distance learning. For information on the AP program, you can visit [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). Student's scores will be available online this summer.

## 877 Foundation Scholarship

The 877 Foundation Scholarship began in 1983. All senior students are encouraged to fill out the application. There are 90+ scholarships from a variety of community businesses linked to this one application. All post high school education plans are given equal opportunity. The application was emailed out to all students in their BHM emails as a Google Form. **The application is due May 8th by 4:00pm, no exceptions.**



(Counselor's Corner Continued...)

### Decision Day

May 1st is traditionally National College Signing Day for high school seniors across the United States. At Buffalo High School, we will be hosting our own Decision Day virtually this year. Look for the Decision Day video on BHS Facebook and BHSBison Twitter, showcasing the class of 2020 declaring their post high school plans and shout outs from a few notable people.

It is important to note that college signing day is also a time for students who have been accepted to more than one college, to start notifying colleges of their decision to attend or not attend. Their decision could be holding a spot at the college for a student on their waitlist. Oftentimes early May, is the deadline for students to make deposits--be sure your student reads the fine print before they sign or pay for anything!

Best wishes as the seniors transition into the next chapter of their lives!

### Final BHS Transcript + CIS Transcripts

Seniors planning to attend college in the fall must send their final high school transcript to the college of their choice. Students should access their account at [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com) to complete the order. A small fee is required. Students that are eligible for Free & Reduced lunch should contact their school counselor regarding the fee waiver process. Final transcripts will be ready to send by **June 15, 2020**.



Senior students who earned college credits through CIS coursework must also provide their college of choice with their existing CIS college transcripts. Students are encouraged to verify their college transcripts are correct before ordering/sending the transcripts to their new college. Both transcript verification and ordering is done by visiting the respective college's websites from which they earned credit. Check out the [Registration](#)

[Guide](#) (pg 8 & 9) on the Student Services website to determine which CIS course is linked to which college.

[Hennepin Technical College](#)  
[North Hennepin Community College](#)  
[University of Minnesota](#)  
[St. Cloud State University](#)  
[Southwest Minnesota State University](#)

**Virtual Minnesota State Week**  
 Monday, June 22 - Friday, June 26, 2020



Start the journey to your future with a virtual visit to one or more of Minnesota's 30 state colleges or seven state universities during Minnesota State Week and apply for **FREE** any time that week!

Across our great state, the 54 campuses of Minnesota State are strategically located to provide exceptional education where you need it to be, all with **LOWEST TUITION** in Minnesota. Experience life in our classrooms, labs, libraries, and bleachers all from your phone or laptop. Talk to admissions staff and financial aid counselors and apply for **FREE**!

### 10th & 11th Grade Families

Buffalo HS is partnering with national expert Cozy Wittman from College Inside Track to host a must-see online event to provide guidance and answer your questions.

[Join us](#) Thursday, May 7th at 6:30pm, to learn up-to-date info on topics such as:

- What can I do if the college has canceled all tours?
- What is happening with the ACT/ SAT test?
- What are ways I can reduce the cost of college?

If you are the parent of a HS student in grades 10-11, this is incredibly important info you will not want to miss. [Register today!](#)

## BHS Health Office Updates

Over the last few weeks we have all been dealing with a lot of change! We hope you and your family are staying healthy and taking care of yourself during this unusual time! We have a few items we would like to highlight this spring.

1. During times of sudden change and stress, it is important to be mindful of self care for your overall health and wellbeing. We'd like to encourage you to consider doing a few [self-care activities daily as listed here](#).
  2. Another resource pertaining to mental health is listed on the Buffalo High School website titled "[BHM Mental Health Resource Guide](#)". This is a comprehensive list of resources for students and families.
  3. In the coming days more information will be sent out regarding medication pick up. If your student has any medication in the health office we ask that you pick it up prior to summer break on the designated days.
  4. If you need your student's school immunization record please contact the Health Office/School Nurse or go to Parent Portal and click on Health and then Immunizations. Also, check with your student's clinic as they may have additional immunizations listed.
- \*Please contact the High School Attendance line at (763)682-8181 if your student is sick. If you have questions or concerns about student health, illness, or injury please call or email our School Nurse at (763)682-8120 or [kschultz@bhmschools.org](mailto:kschultz@bhmschools.org)

Thank you!

Karen Schultz RN, LSN  
 District Nurse Grades 6-12





JACK LANNERS



JACK LEIPHOLTZ



BRANDON MAATZ



DAMI OMOLE



LUKE LICHTENBERG



## BUFFALO HIGH SCHOOL HALL OF FAME 2020 NOMINEES



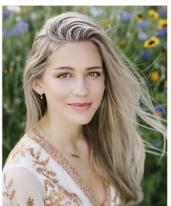
MAGGIE HERMANSON



VICTORIA HERDA



AMANDA KRINKE



LUCY JOHNSON



MYA TIERNAN

## 2020 marks the 35th annual selection of our Hall of Fame Award winners.

This award is determined by the faculty and goes to one senior girl and one senior boy. Some of the characteristics considered when nominating the finalists and winners include having a positive impact on the school, integrity, leadership, and their contribution to the learning of others. Winners are typically announced at the Academic Excellence program held each Spring. Congratulations to our nominees!

## Buffalo FFA at the Capital

On March 3rd, three students from the Buffalo FFA chapter participated in the FFA day at the Capital in Saint Paul.

They met with Senator Bruce Anderson, toured the capital, and got to sit in on an agricultural issue committee hearing.

Pictured left to right are freshman Kyler Hettwer, and juniors Rena Johnson, and Lily Spike.



## ACT District Testing

ACT District testing will not be occurring at BHS this spring, as we previously communicated. BHS is exploring if there are other possible options for a district test and if an option becomes available that will be communicated to families.

ACT is running some nationwide tests; information on this can be found on their website: [act.org](https://act.org). Do also note that ACT is offering some free test preparation resources that are also available on their website.



**Congratulations**  
TO THE 2020  
**POWERADE**  
**ATHLETE of the YEAR**  
**WINNERS!!**

## Nick Oak: POWERADE Athlete of the Year

Congratulations to BHS Senior Nick Oak! Nick was a part of the top 50 in the Athlete of the Year contest sponsored by Viking Coca-Cola Bottling



Company. The contest wrapped up on April 18 and Nick finished in the top 5 which awarded him \$1,000 toward next level education. Congrats again, Nick! And thanks to the community for voting!





# BHS Seniors

## All Night Grad Party:

The committee is sorry to announce that the All Night Grad Party has been canceled for the Class of 2020.

Registration fees and donations will be refunded. If you have any questions, please email [buffaloangp@hotmail.com](mailto:buffaloangp@hotmail.com).

*Class of 2020*

## Graduation Gowns:

Every senior submitted their cap and gown measurements in January. Caps, gowns, and cords (as applicable) are provided to our seniors at no cost. Once we have a plan in place regarding distribution of these items, we will notify senior students and families. The same goes for a plan regarding how BHS will celebrate The Class of 2020's graduation. Stay tuned!

## CIS Literature Students Tour the U



CIS Literature students attended the University of Minnesota Field Day on March 10. BHS students met with other CIS Lit classes from the Twin Cities area, attended the performance of a guest poet, walked the campus, and explored the West Bank community.



## BUFFALO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OF EXCELLENCE



MAGGIE HERMANSON



LOGAN MILLER



LUKE MCGORRY



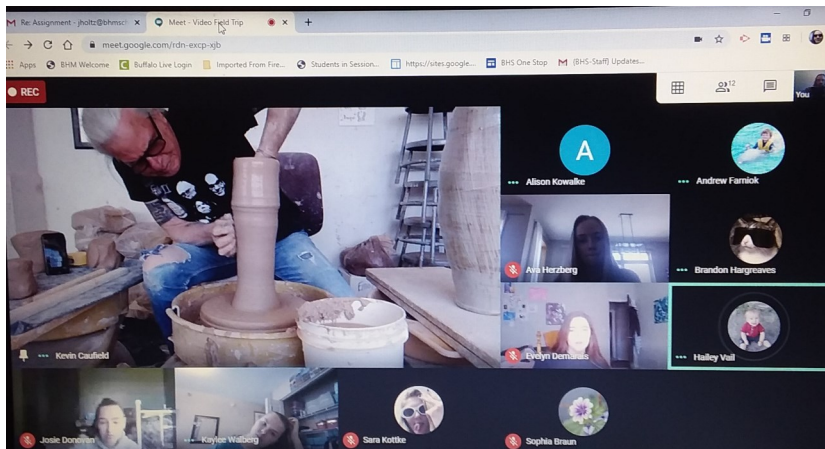
KILEY IRWIN

Each April, four BHS seniors are honored along with over 100 seniors from surrounding central Minnesota school districts. Resource Training and Solutions hosts a fantastic event to recognize the accomplishments of the region's top graduating seniors. Unfortunately, the 33rd Annual Students of Excellence Banquet and Recognition Ceremony typically held in St. Cloud was cancelled this year. In spite of this, we want to share these award winners with each of you and celebrate these seniors and all they have done for BHS and our BHM community. We're very proud of you Maggie, Logan, Luke, and Kiley!

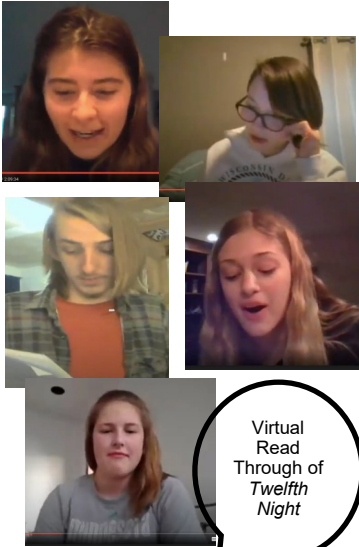
## Ceramics Goes Virtual

The class formerly know as Ceramics Two took their first ever Virtual Field Trip. Professional ceramic artist Kevin Caulfield did demonstrations from his studio in St. Paul for the students watching from home.

Mr. Holtz would normally load up his class and travel to the Northern Clay Center to see him demonstrate his work. When Distance Learning began, Kevin quickly adapted and offered to do this instead. It was a first for everyone! Much appreciation to Kevin!



## When the Show Can't Go On



Virtual  
Read  
Through of  
*Twelfth  
Night*



When the students began working on our Spring Play *Twelfth Night*, we had no idea how it would end. The play begins with a shipwreck on the shores of an imaginary island called Illyria. Little did we know that three weeks into rehearsals, we too would experience a shipwreck of sorts. All Spring activity participants have had to wrestle with the disappointment of having things they look so forward to canceled. As Directors, we (Ms. Bestland and Ms. Sparks) looked for some way to salvage the wreck and at least end with good memories. On what would have been opening night (Thursday April 16), students gathered through Google



Meet and we recorded a read through of the show. We laughed and made huge mistakes. A few parents ended up making their debut in the show and a few pets also got a piece of the limelight. The students enjoyed the event and the recording. It was a bit short of a full dress rehearsal, but

it met the requirement of being memorable and fun. And hopefully it helped ease the pain of cancellations and made for a season of hope.

Pictured are some of the cast members as they participated in the read through.

## 2019-2020 BHS Yearbook

Order your yearbook before they sell out again! Head to [bhs.cc](http://bhs.cc) or [balfour.com](http://balfour.com) to place your order now to guarantee that your child gets a yearbook.

Stayed tuned regarding how this year's yearbooks will be distributed. More info to come!

Email [yearbook@bhs.cc](mailto:yearbook@bhs.cc) with questions.

## 877 Endowment Pork Chop Dinner



The District's annual pork chop dinner typically held in early April was postponed. Please keep an eye out for a reschedule date if the organization is able to hold the event safely. In the meantime, find more information about what they do here: [877 Scholarship Foundation](http://877ScholarshipFoundation.org)

## Summer Drivers Education Classes

Community Education is hoping to bring Drivers Education classes to you this summer but, as we know, the future is uncertain. We are monitoring the COVID-19 situation and will follow the recommendation of the local public health department related to canceling or postponing classes. Visit [bhmschools.org/drivers-education](http://bhmschools.org/drivers-education) for updates or call Community Education at 763.682.8770 with any questions.

## BHS Upcoming Events

- 5/1 Teacher Workshop, NO INSTRUCTION K-12
- 5/4 Teacher Workshop, NO INSTRUCTION K-12
- 5/5 - 8 Virtual Parent/Teacher Conferences:  
Calls to Families Tues - Fri between 3 - 8pm
- 5/25 MEMORIAL DAY, NO INSTRUCTION K-12
- 6/4 Last Day of School

