



# Speaking of the Bison...

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **BHS Parent/Teacher Conferences are on Monday, December 9 from 5-8 p.m. in the cafeteria**
- **BHS Students will begin the 2020-2021 class registration process in January 2020**
- **BHS ACT Testing Date Set for April 7**

## INSIDE:

- **Counselors Corner** 2
- **'Day of an Educator' @ SCSU** 3
- **NHS Blood Drive**
- **New Faces in the BHS Kitchen** 4
- **Exercise Phys. Field Trip**
- **Toys for Tots** 5
- **Choir Concert**
- **Cap & Gown** 6
- **Upcoming Events**

BUFFALO HIGH SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2019

## Mr. Mischke's Message

*Thankful!* As we reflect on the great things that have happened so far this school year, it is important to take time to say thank you to the people that helped to make them a reality. It is also a time to highlight things yet to come from the students and staff at BHS as we work to support our community beyond the walls of Buffalo High School.

On November 5th, we, as a district, asked our community to support a school levy, and you did! A levy that allows us to maintain the high quality programs and services that we currently have in place for our students. We avoided cutting roughly five of our BHS teaching staff, and four of our BHS activities. We are able to continue to run Phoenix Learning Center, our district's only alternative program for BHS students, and our alternative to suspension program called wRight Choice. We want to thank our parents and families for the support you have shown our school district. Your involvement and actions have truly made a difference. We know this was a difficult decision for many, but again we thank you for your support and for making Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose Schools the place for our students to dream, believe and achieve!

On November 11th, we had a chance to honor the veterans in our community with a Veterans Day program at BHS. We had over 2,000 students, staff and veterans join us in paying tribute to the people that have served our country. A special thank you to Dean, Jeanie, Nick and Greg Guida for sharing with us what being a veteran means to them and to their family. We were joined by Mr. Jack McCallister, a 93 year old WWII veteran and US Senator Tina Smith. Our BHS Concert Band was amazing as they led us through the ceremony with a variety of great songs including the Armed Forces Salute. We heard from BHS students Sam Backes, Lucy Johnson and Amanda Krinke. The Buffalo American Legion Post #270 opened the ceremony with the presentation of colors and closed our program by retiring the colors. It was an amazing day!

We are thankful for Ms. Janelle Welch, Speech-Language Pathologist teacher at Buffalo High School and PRIDE. This fall, she received the 2019-20 Leadership in Educational Excellence Award for BHS. Each year we have the opportunity to nominate one staff member from Buffalo High School for this prestigious award. Ms. Welch was an outstanding candidate. She is an amazing educator who cares deeply about making connections with all students. Congratulations Ms. Welch!

Giving has become a foundational component of a student's education at Buffalo High School. We believe it is important to try and have every student at BHS experience the impact giving can have on both the recipient and the giver themselves. We have a wide variety of opportunities for our students and staff to give. *Educators Rising* - Hat and Mitten drive, *BounceBack Committee* - JEANEROSITY and self-care gift bags, *AVID 10 and 11 elective classes* - creating fleece blankets for the Children's Hospital, *AVID Leadership group* - donating time at Feed My Starving Children, *Student Council* - donating funds raised during homecoming to Toys for Tots, and ringing bells for the Salvation Army, *National Honor Society* - Toys for Tots Drive and their multiple Red Cross Blood Drives each year, and *BHS Jazz I* - donating proceeds from concerts to the Buffalo Area Food Shelf. These are just a few of the many chances that our students and staff have to make a difference and give to others in our community.

Our winter **Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Monday, December 9th from 5:00-8:00 p.m.** in the BHS cafeteria. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to connect in person with your student's teachers and advisors to make sure your student is on the right track.

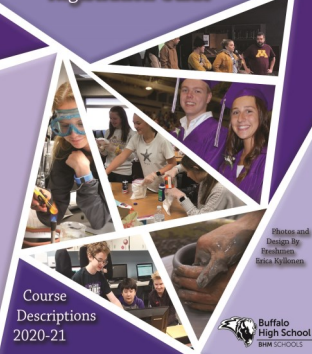
As a parent, community member and educator I am so proud of the work we are able to do everyday, and I am honored to have the opportunity to continue to serve as the Principal at BHS.

We hope to see you on December 9th.

Sincerely,

Mark Mischke  
BHS Principal  
[mmischke@bhmschools.org](mailto:mmischke@bhmschools.org)  
763.682.8101

## Buffalo High School Registration Guide



**Class registration for the 2020-2021 school year begins in January.**

### BHS Counselors:

**Mark Jones (A-F)**

**763.682.8107**

**Kristen Lane (G-K)**

**763.682.8054**

**Christina Cox (L-P)**

**763.682.8075**

**Jennifer Blair (Q-Z)**

**763.682.8139**

### Transcripts:

All official Buffalo High School transcripts must be requested and sent using an online transcript ordering service at [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com). More information can be found on Buffalo High School website under the Student Services link in the Requesting Transcripts section.

# Counselor's Corner

## Did you miss our Financial Aid Night?

If senior families were unable to attend our FAFSA completion night on Monday, October 8 and still need some assistance, there are additional FAFSA completion nights in other communities that you may attend. To find out more, [click here](#).

Here's the [link to the FAFSA](#) to get started and a [brief video overview on what you need](#) and where to start.

## Course Registration for 2020-21

Registration meetings will take place with school counselors in January; timing of the meetings will be dependent on students' required social studies class. Counselors will be providing classroom presentations about graduation requirements, new courses, and the class registration process. Students are encouraged to have conversations with their teachers regarding future courses in their subject area. Students can begin to review their course plans in the Multi-Year Academic Planner (MYAP) through their student portal. MYAP is accessible now through the registration deadline in February.

Further details regarding registration will be emailed and posted to our [Student Services website](#) in early January. Please feel free to contact your student's counselor if you would like

to meet and talk about the registration process.

## Pre-ACT Test

Students in 10th grade completed the Pre-ACT assessment on November 25th and 26th. The Pre-ACT assessed students on English, mathematics, reading, and science. The Pre-ACT helps 10th grade students build a solid foundation for future academic and career success and provides a comprehensive guidance resource that helps students measure their current academic development, explore career/training options, and make plans for the remaining years of high school and post-graduation years. The Pre-ACT also provides a predictive ACT composite score. If results are back in time, they will be shared prior to registration in order to support decision making for class selection.

## PSAT

For students who took the PSAT in October, scores will be released the week of December 9<sup>th</sup>. It is recommended that students sign up for the December 17<sup>th</sup> BASE time interpretation session. Students that do not pick up their score reports prior to the 17<sup>th</sup> will be assigned to the interpretation BASE time.

## College Knowledge Month Recap

In October, we celebrated College Knowledge Month. Each week we had

several representatives here for students to meet with regarding post high school planning. The 39 different representatives included 2-year public colleges, 4-year public colleges, 4-year private colleges, out-of-state colleges, and military branches. Students were also able to participate in trivia related to the colleges that visited each week to win great prizes! A photo from one visit is included on page 2.



## ACT State Testing

The ACT Plus Writing college entrance exam will be given at Buffalo High School to current 11th grade students during the school day on **Tuesday, April 7th, 2020**. There will be **no cost** to students for this exam and scores may be used for college admission testing requirements (at individual college's discretion). Students will register for the test during the school day and **should not sign up on the ACT website** to take the **April 7th** test at BHS. There will not be a make-up test date for this exam.

## ACT Test Prep

Students have been preparing for the ACT throughout their education and will be tested in the areas of English, math, reading, science, and writing. Some students may wish to do extra preparation before taking the ACT Plus Writing, if they have specific score goals. Preparation materials can be found through multiple vendors and publishers as well as at most public libraries.

- Free online prep course and 3 timed practice tests

available through the Minnesota Career Information System ([www.mncis.intocareers.org](http://www.mncis.intocareers.org)) for all BHS students. See your counselor for details.

- Flash cards, tips and strategies, and 7 timed practice tests available through March 2 Success ([www.march2success.com](http://www.march2success.com)).
- Free ACT prep guides in the Student Services Office
- Test prep courses through **BHM Community Ed** for a fee. Please contact **BHM Community Education** to find out more information on classes, dates, and fees.

### Upcoming National ACT Test Dates

Some students may wish to take the ACT test more than once. If your student wishes to take an additional ACT test, they must sign up for a national test date.

**For national testing only, students sign up at:**

<http://www.act.org/>

**Buffalo High School code:  
240-345**

**February 8, 2020** - Register by 1/10/20

**April 4, 2020** - Register by 2/28/20

**June 13, 2020** - Register by 5/8/20

**July 18, 2020** - Register by 6/19/20

Students were given the opportunity to visit with various College Reps each Tuesday during lunches throughout October.



## Friday, December 6 - NHS Blood Drive

Give Blood - Give Life. The BHS National Honor Society will be hosting an American Red Cross blood drive on Friday, December 6, from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm. Students ages 17 and over (or 16 with parental permission) that meet all donor requirements will be allowed to sign up to give blood.

Student registration and appointment scheduling will happen at school, but the community is welcome to donate here as well. If you are interested in donating, please go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and type in "Buffalo High School". That will direct you to a page where you can schedule your own appointment. Save a life! Sign up to donate!



## "Day of an Educator" at St. Cloud State

BHS students interested in the field of Education and/or who are interested in attending St. Cloud State University enjoyed a day on campus attending a variety of small

group sessions, a campus tour, a time for questions and answers with a panel of current SCSU students, and a wonderful lunch!





# New Things Cooking in the BHS Kitchen

You may have noticed a new face in the BHS Kitchen recently. On October 21st, Troy Mahoney joined the BHS Kitchen and will be our resident chef until mid-January.

Chef Troy has many years of cooking experience in the restaurant industry and he has been teaching the Nutrition Services staff new and different techniques in food preparation. He was also



instrumental in adding some new equipment to the BHS Kitchen including a brazier, which is similar to a giant frying pan. Some of the foods prepared in the brazier that you may be familiar with as you enjoy food from the BHS Kitchen are sautéed vegetables, fried rice, lo mein, and hamburgers to name a few. A new oven was also brought in which allows us to bake more products at the same time.

Chef Troy is a BHM Schools alumnus and was excited to join the Nutrition

Services Department to during this instrumental time with new equipment.

He will be spending time at all of the schools in the district. Please greet Troy when you see him and feel free to offer suggestions to him for the menus. Don't forget to follow us on Instagram: @bhmnutritionservices.



## CIS Exercise Physiology Visits SCSU



Ms. Ortmann's CIS Exercise Physiology class traveled to St. Cloud State University to learn about the importance of being active and what occurs in our bodies when we are active. The students participated in a Strike workout class, which is a full body workout and a lot of fun!



## Culinary Foods 2 celebrates "Friendsgiving"

Students in Culinary Foods 2 celebrated with a Friendsgiving potluck. Each kitchen group chose a recipe to create and share with others. Students dined on baked mac & cheese, queso & chips, deviled eggs, apple crisp, cheesy potatoes, & Philly cheesesteak sliders. The meal was a cell phone free zone full of good conversation and laughter. A great way to leave before break!



## Price Increase

Please note, BHS and Stadium concession stands will be raising prices on several products starting this Winter season.

Candy, popcorn, and cookies will increase to \$1.50 per item. All other items will remain the same. Thank you.



# Celebrating World Kindness!



Ms. Jonasson's CIS Early Childhood Education class celebrated World Kindness Day in November by wearing cardigans in honor of Mr. Rogers.

# Toys for Tots Donations



Buffalo High School will be collecting toys and monetary donations this December for our local Toys for Tots collection. The donations will need to be turned in by Friday, December 20th. We are encouraging each student to bring at least one toy to donate, with a \$3 donation equivalent to one toy. Buffalo's National Honor Society will be encouraging donations through an Advisory competition for the most toys!



# BHS 2020 Testing Dates

Test Name	Student Group	Dates
MCA Math	11th Grade Students	March 4, 5, 6
MCA Science	All students taking Biology in 2019-20	March 17, 18, 19, and May 5-8
ACT Test	11th Grade Students (No school for 9th & 12th graders and those 11th graders not opting in)	April 7
MCA Reading	10th Grade Students	April 7
MCA Math & Reading Make-up	11th & 10th graders absent on testing days	April 30
EL (ACCESS)	EL students	February 11, 12, 13, 19, 20

# Sounds of the Season Choir Concert

This year's *Sounds of the Season* Concert will feature music performed by several ensembles in the vocal music department. Students have been working hard on their music and we can't wait to share it on December 13th and 16th at 7:30pm.

If you have not made it to a *Sounds of the Season* concert yet, we hope you'll plan to attend this BHS tradition. Tickets are \$4/ adults \$2/senior adults/students.

Gold card and activity passes are accepted. Purchasing tickets in advance is encouraged. Tickets may be purchased at Gartner's Hallmark in Buffalo, the BHS Activities Office or at the door. Checks should be made payable to BHS.

We look forward to seeing you at *Sounds of the Season*!



# 2019-2020 Yearbook Sales

**There's still time left to order your BHS yearbook!**

Prices go up at the end of the month. 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. The Buffalo High School yearbook was named the best yearbook in Minnesota for the seventh consecutive year. It's produced to celebrate and save memories for a lifetime.

Questions? Email [yearbook@bhs.cc](mailto:yearbook@bhs.cc)



**Buffalo High School**  
**877 Bison Blvd.**  
**Buffalo, MN 55313**

## Seniors: Jostens Cap and Gown Ordering



Senior students will submit their measurements during Advisory on Friday, January 3. Representatives from Jostens will be at BHS on Thursday, January 23 during all lunches to answer any cap and gown questions from students and show items available for purchase. If your senior is not present on 1/3 or 1/23, a website and/or link will be shared in the forthcoming December graduation letter for those to submit their measurements and/or purchase Jostens items.

## Upcoming Events

- 12/5 Fall Orchestra Concert - PAC, 7:30 pm
- 12/9 Parent/Teacher Conferences - Cafeteria, 5-8 pm
- 12/10 Concert Orchestra & BCMS Grade 8 Orchestra  
Concert - PAC, 7:30 pm
- 12/13, 12/16 *Sounds of the Season* Choir Concert  
PAC, 7:30 pm
- 12/23-1/1/20 Winter Break, No School K-12
- 1/14 Arts Magnet Foundations Showcase  
Gallery, 7 pm  
Performance - PAC, 7:30 pm

### Find us online!

[www.bhmschools.org/schools/buffalo-high](http://www.bhmschools.org/schools/buffalo-high)

- 1/20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
End of Term 2, Teacher Workshop  
No School K-12
- 1/23 Jostens Visit During all Lunches
- 1/30 One-Act Public Performance  
PAC, 7:30 pm
- 2/3 Winter Band Concert - PAC, 7:30 pm
- 2/15 Winter Drumline Show - Gym, 6:30 pm
- 2/17 Presidents' Day - No School K-12
- 2/18 BHS/BCMS *Jazzin' It Up* Concert  
(Grades 7-12) - PAC, 7:30 pm