



# Speaking of the Bison...

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- BHS Parent/Teacher Conferences are Monday, October 12 from 5-8 p.m.
- Picture Day for DL students only is October 9 from 12:30 - 2:30 pm.
- BHS Senior pictures are due Monday, October 19. Visit [bhs.cc](http://bhs.cc) for details.
- BHS picture retake days are October 21st (Group A) and 22nd (Group B). Both days are available for DL students.

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BUFFALO HIGH SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2020

## Mr. Mischke's Message

**"Doing What's Best for ALL Kids"** is the mission of Buffalo High School. It has been, and will continue to be the driving force behind the work we do everyday at BHS. As things will look different this year for students, staff and families, our mission remains the same. We realize that we are in a historically challenging time as we work to provide the best educational experience possible for our students, and we know that we will need to work together to overcome these challenges. In order for us to work together it is essential that we continuously communicate how we are working to reach our mission of "Doing What's Best for ALL Kids" at BHS. We believe that our work starts with the focus of building connections with our students and helping them to build connections with each other. This work is reflected in our two main building goals.

### Buffalo High School Goals:

**Goal #1:** 100% of our students report that they have an adult that they can go to if they have a problem.

*\*2019-20 BHS results: 93% - National results: 54%*

**Goal #2:** 100% of our students report that they feel supported by other students at BHS.

*\*2019-20 BHS results: 87% - National results: 33%*

We survey our students every spring and have gathered results annually over the last 13 years. The results from last spring were the **highest percentages we have ever achieved**. Thank you to our staff for their tireless efforts in connecting with our students, and thank you as parents/guardians for your work to keep your student connected to school. We truly believe that in order for students to be successful they need to feel connected to our staff and each other.

As you look at comparisons to what other students are saying across the nation, you can see the work is now more important than ever. We will need your help as parents/guardians in taking the next steps in reaching 100%. Please stay connected to your student and your student's teachers. We realize making these connections will look different this year, as compared to the past. Our staff will need to rely on both in-person and virtual connections with students and their parents/guardians. We ask that you continue to be proactive in supporting those connections with our staff.

Our BHS staff are committed to making this year a success for our students, and they will put the time, energy and effort in to make it happen. We know that school looks different this fall, and may be more challenging than ever for your student. Just know our staff are doing their best to reinvent how they teach so they can be effective in our new virtual environment. We know that patience will be essential for all of us and we will work together to make this happen. With your help, even in the uniquely challenging times we are in, we believe we can reach our goal of "Doing What's Best for ALL Kids".

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 serve as the Principal at BHS.

Sincerely,

Mark Mischke  
Buffalo High School Principal  
763.682.8101 | [mmischke@bhmschools.org](mailto:mmischke@bhmschools.org)

# Counselor's Corner

## Welcome Back BHS Students and Staff!

Upcoming ACT Test dates will be communicated directly from the Student Services Office.

### Transcripts

All official high school transcripts must be sent using an online transcript ordering service at [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com). Students create a profile and request to send official transcripts to any of the college or scholarship organizations needed. The cost is \$3.33 per transcript, per destination. Students that qualify for Free and Reduced lunch qualify for transcript fee waiver.

### School Counselors

School Counselors work with students in a variety of areas throughout their time at Buffalo High School. Students are still able to schedule appointments with school counselors during this semester's Hybrid and Distance Learning models. School Counselors are connecting with students through in-person and virtual appointments, giving students flexibility for when and how we meet. To make an appointment, students can stop in to Student Services and request one, or they can reach out directly to their school counselor using their choice of contact information below. Each of the counselors has an office phone number for voice calls as well as a Google Voice phone number for phone calls or texting with students/families.

### Contact Information

**Mark Jones (A-F Counselor)**  
**mjones@bhmschools.org**  
**763-682-8107,**  
**Google Voice: 763-220-0896**

**Shanlee Braun (G-K Counselor)**  
**ssbraun@bhmschools.org**  
**763-682-8054,**  
**Google Voice: 763-220-0920**

**Christina Cox (L-Rn Counselor)**  
**ccox@bhmschools.org**  
**763-682-8075,**  
**Google Voice: 763-220-0341**

**Jennifer Blair (Ro-Z Counselor)**  
**jblair@bhmschools.org**  
**763-682-8139,**  
**Google Voice: 763-220-2316**

**Kim Young**  
**(Student Services Secretary)**  
**kyoung@bhmschools.org**  
**763-682-8067**

### Remind

New students and 9th grade students are encouraged to join Remind with Student Services. It is free for the student to sign up and it gives us the ability to send out reminder text messages for when a student has an appointment with their school counselor. The message also serves as a pass to come to their appointment while at BHS. Students can sign up for Remind by texting to the number 81010 and in the subject line type: @BHS2APPT



### Fall Communication

The school counselors will be sending out communication to students and families through email and Campus messenger. Please continue to watch your email for information from Student Services regarding fall events, additional resources, testing information, and other updates. A great starting point when looking for resources and supporting your students' high school journey is our [Student Services Website](#).

Families of junior & senior students: an email was sent to survey these students regarding post high school plans. Please encourage your student to complete it if they have not already done so. Counselors will use the information to provide specific post secondary resources (colleges, scholarship, vocational placements, etc).

# From the Library Learning Commons

Chad the Bison welcomes you back to the BHS Library Learning Commons!



This year has brought much change as we work to take care of ourselves, each other, and the world during a global pandemic. In addition to anchoring to personal and community safety, the Library Learning Commons values six pillars of wellbeing:

- Optimism: Fostering creativity and innovation
- Mindfulness: Being fully engaged
- Authenticity: Being able to show up truly as yourself
- Belonging: Connecting to others
- Meaning: Having a sense of purpose
- Vitality: Energizing your get-up-and-go

We hope to connect all learners—staff and student—to these pillars whether you are stopping in for a book, for

technology, to research, or to collaborate. New for this year are virtual book match making, YouTube Sparks talks Books-- you can subscribe to "Amy Sparks" on YouTube, and online book browsing and holds. For more information checkout our Library website - [www.BisonLibraryLearning.wordpress.com](http://www.BisonLibraryLearning.wordpress.com).

All are welcome in the BHS Library Learning Commons.

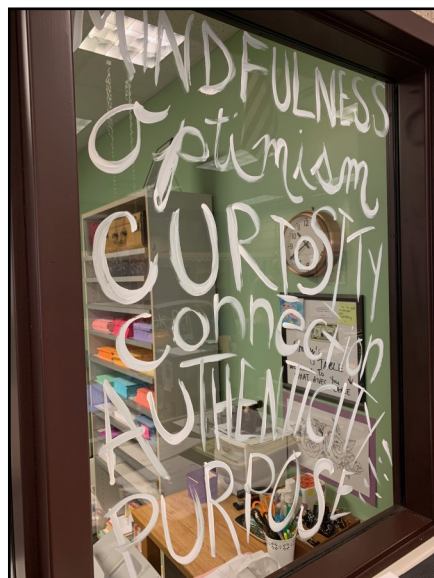
## From the BHS Advisory Program

The purpose of the BHS Advisory program is to create a community environment of learners where students and staff experience belonging, foster healthy relationships, develop academic skills, and enhance school culture. The core values of the program are belonging, personal connections, academic growth, and a safe environment.

Although this year Advisory will look a little different as we meet together in a virtual space, we hope learners will feel welcome and

included, engaged in relevant discussions, and optimistic about an uncertain future.

Together we will be navigating together lifelong learning



skills. These include what it means to be self-aware (knowing your strengths, values, and passions), to be socially aware (acknowledging our impact and the impact of others), to be able to self manage (agency - the opposite of helplessness), to build relationship skills, and to make responsible decisions (weighing pros and cons, and learning from our mistakes and the mistakes of others).

Students need more than just technical knowledge to secure a job in today's workplace. Employers agree that the most important employee skills are based on relationship-building, problem-solving, collaboration, and assertiveness.

It is our hope that through our Buffalo High School Advisory program, *all* students will discover:

- a connection to a caring staff member and peer group
- an awareness of their academic and graduation progress
- growth in skills that are applicable to school and life
- a viable post-secondary plan before students graduate

"We are not out here alone, we don't achieve or thrive, or survive or get by, on our own."

- Mia Birdsong,  
*How We Show Up*

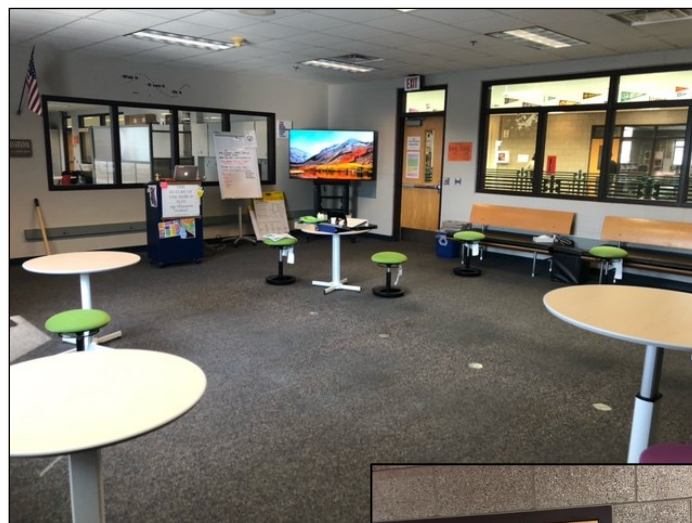


# Phoenix Learning Center Moves to BHS!

We are excited to share that Phoenix Learning Center, our small alternative learning program in the BHM school district, has moved from 8th Street in Buffalo onto the BHS campus on Bison Boulevard.



A section of classrooms will now house the program within BHS; the space is newly remodeled and focused on modern design and student collaboration. The move is welcomed by staff and students alike, as it promotes equity of access to the many resources BHS has to offer.



Phoenix Learning Center and BHS Assistant Principal Stephanie Ward stated, "Moving the program was the right thing to do for students. This allows them to experience all that PLC and BHS have to offer and forges a stronger partnership between these two excellent schools."

Welcome, PLC!



## Fall B Driver's Ed Begins November 2

Fall B Driver's Education class registration is open and ready for you to sign up!

This class will be held as Online Distance Learning. Students will access the Google Meet classroom using their BHM district issued email address. The instructor communicating the link will be John Gunderson.

Classes will take place on Mondays & Wednesdays.

The fee is \$360 which includes 30 hours of classroom instruction AND 6 hours of behind-the-wheel instruction.

Deadline to register is Wednesday, October 28 at 4pm or until the class is full. Please call Community Education at 763.682.8770 to see if space is still available.

Forms can be downloaded [online](#) or picked up at the Community Ed office, 301 2nd Ave NE, Buffalo; Monday through Friday, 8am-4pm.



*BHS THEATRE presents an original adaptation*

audition information coming soon



The theater team will be producing a radio show version of *A Christmas Carol* set to be broadcast in December. Watch for more information to come!

# Senior Photos Due Monday, October 19

Attention seniors and senior families! Senior photos are due Monday, October 19. Here is what you need to know when it comes to submitting your photo for the 2021 Tatanka Yearbook. Please review these requirements carefully, as failing to follow the guidelines may result in your photo being rejected.



1. Go to [bhs.cc](https://bhs.cc)
2. Click "Submit your Senior Photo"
3. Fill out the form to submit your senior photo and include

4. Name the image with the senior's last and first name (e.g. Doe, John.jpg)
  5. Click Submit!
- You should receive a confirmation email shortly after your photo is successfully uploaded.

If you do not receive an email within an hour, please retry submitting your photo or email [yearbook@bhs.cc](mailto:yearbook@bhs.cc)

Information for baby ads will be sent out in the near future. Stay tuned!

## Graduation Cap & Gown Ordering

On Friday, October 2, Senior BHS and PLC students received an email in their school accounts with a [link](#) to submit their cap and gown measurements (height and weight). With so many unknowns, Jostens has requested we gather this information sooner than normal to ensure on-time delivery for our graduates in the spring.



Additionally, Jostens is offering a special promotion for class rings and jewelry for sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Follow [this link](#). The deadline for this special offer is October 16.

## Emergency Test Message - October 8

BHM Schools wants to ensure that we are communicating with parents in the most effective way possible. On **Thursday, October 8, 2020, mid-morning, the district will send out a district-wide emergency test message to parents and guardians from our parent notification system.** You should receive a call, email and text messages (whatever information you have on file with your child's school). Especially with the upcoming winter months, we want to be sure parents/guardians don't miss any important messages from the school or the district about cancellations or delays. Remember this is **ONLY** a TEST and NO action will likely be necessary.



## Upcoming Events

- |             |   |             |  |
|-------------|---|-------------|--|
| 10/9        | Picture Day for Distance Learners ONLY, Library Learning Commons, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.               | 10/29       | Winter Sports meeting - PAC, 7 p.m.  |
| 10/12       | Parent/Teacher Conferences - Cafeteria, 5 - 8 p.m.<br><b>VIRTUAL EVENT - More details to come</b> | 11/7        | Veterans Day Swing Dance Jazz I & North Henn Comm Coll Big Band<br>BHS Cafeteria, 7 p.m. |
| 10/14-10/16 | Fall Break, NO SCHOOL K-12  | 11/13       | Teacher Workshop, End of Term 1<br>NO SCHOOL K-12  |
| 10/19       | Band and Orchestra Collaboration Concert<br>PAC, 7:30 p.m.  | 11/24       | Fall Band Concert - PAC, 7:30 p.m.   |
| 10/21       | Picture Retake Day for Hybrid Group A Students  | 11/25-11/27 | Thanksgiving Break, NO SCHOOL K-12   |
| 10/22       | Picture Retake Day for Hybrid Group B Students  | 11/30       | Fall Orchestra Concert - PAC, 7:30 p.m.  |
| 10/24       | All School Talent Show - PAC, 7:30 p.m.   | 12/4        | BCMS & BHS Band Connections Concert<br>PAC, 7:30 p.m.                                    |
| 10/26       | Major Work Choir Concert - PAC, 7:30 p.m.   |             |  |