

BLLENHEIM DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

June 2010 Newsletter

Principal: Mr. Mark Sherman
Vice-Principal: Mr. Murray Hunt

Principal's News

The 2009-2010 school year has flown by and the administration team would like to thank all those parents who came out to the various school activities and events to support our staff and young people.

Our School OSSLT results were down a bit from our record high point last year, but we did see the boys pass rate hit 90% which is a first for BDHS – and high compared to most school across the province. Once again, at 97% our participation rate was among the highest in the whole province, proving that the vast majority of our students are well prepared to show up and complete the tasks set before them.

Other highlights of the year were continuing with our hallway art installations thanks to the talents of our volunteer artist, Marilyn Hearn. We have two major Bobcat Head boards being readied for the cafeteria and newly painted tech hallway – hopefully to be installed before students return to school. Field renovations are currently underway and our next major project, the athletic and front hallway renewals, are drawn up, materials chosen and heading out to cost quotes - so we hope to get started during the summer with this major reconstruction.

For the truly ambitious this year we had not one but two Sears Drama entries. The *Antigone in Warsaw* and *Any Body for Tea* was both extremely well received, with “Tea” receiving both an award for Set Design and Construction and for Visual Presentation. Students Carly Atkinson and Steven DeLaet won individual performance awards for their efforts. Thanks to all the students and staff who worked so tirelessly behind the scenes.

On the sports front, it was a year for the record books, simply an outstandingly strong and consistent athletic performance from students and coaches resulting in:

Junior Boys Basketball – Kent Champions
Senior Girls Basketball - Kent Champions
Junior Boys Volleyball – SWOSSAA Champions
Girls Rugby – OFSAA Consolation Champions

Senior Boys Basketball – Kent Champions
Junior Girls Volleyball - SWOSSAA Champions
Senior Football – Kent Champions

Thanks to all the coaches and the players for their efforts.

Retiring this year from Bobcat Country were Mr. Bureau, Mrs. LeClair and Mrs. Asher. We thank them for their long service and outstanding efforts with us on the behalf of young people. May their new endeavours bring them as many rewards as their fruitful careers in education did. While we have a number of returning long term and occasional staff for September, we would like to thank Karen Bourassa and Karyn Kominek (both moving on to placements in other schools) for their efforts in and out of the classroom. We would also like to thank our occasional teachers Peter Jacques and Kelly Evoy, whose placements are coming to an end, for their time and efforts at BDHS.

Please have a safe and enjoyable summer. We look forward to welcoming students back for another action-packed year in September. Graduates, good luck, keep the Bobcat Spirit of Excellence alive, and we will see you at commencement in the fall.

M. Sherman
Principal

Summer Hours

Open Monday – Thursday 7:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Closed Fridays
Lunch (closed) 11:00 – 11:30 p.m.
Main Office & Guidance closed from
Monday, July 12 to Friday, August 19

Registration

**All students are asked to please register at the school on
Tuesday, August 31, 2010
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

Timetables will be available at the times noted above. Students who do not register will not be guaranteed places in the classes. If unable to register on this date, please phone 519-676-5485.

Guidance Office

Farewell to our Grads. We wish you well in your future endeavours.

Not Returning

If your son or daughter does not plan to return this fall, please telephone us immediately so that we may update our records (519-676-5485).

Commencement

This year we will hold Commencement on Friday evening prior to Thanksgiving. Our 84th Commencement Ceremony will be held on Friday, October 8, 2010 at 7:00 pm in Gilchrist Hall. Please mark this date on your calendar.

Valedictorian

Our 2009/2010 Valedictorian is Erica Nauta. Congratulations Erica.

Awards

Any graduates who receive entrance scholarships or other awards should advise the Guidance Department as soon as possible so that the information can be included in the Commencement Program.

Campus Tours

Senior students who will be applying to post secondary schools are encouraged to book campus tours over the summer.

These tours are conducted throughout the summer months on a regular basis. The experience of becoming familiar with a campus, checking out the residence facilities and speaking with a counselor are critical in making informed post-secondary choices.

Pathways Planning

With a little spare time on your hands over the summer, we encourage all students and parents to check out the Pathways website at www.step4step.ca to investigate career and post secondary plans based on students' interests and skills. Many students have also created a planner on www.myblueprint.ca. If so, you may wish to update it with next year's course choices and/or explore the other features on the website.

Learning Centre

Exams are a busy time for the learning centre. Students make use of the quiet work space to review and clarify all that they've learned this semester. Many students make use of assistive technology to facilitate their success.

A draft copy of the IEP will be sent home in early October for review. If you wish to know more about your student's programming, feel free to contact the Resource Teacher any time during the semester.

Those students who are graduating and plan on attending post-secondary school should have picked up their personal information packages from the learning centre. Grads are encouraged to register with the Resource Centre or equivalent at the university or college that they are attending. Continued support is available for most identified students. If you have not picked up your copies of documentation, please contact Mr. Goodall. Good luck as you transition into the workplace, university, or college.

Student Success Initiative

This semester, many initiatives have been put in practice to support school-wide Student Success. A number of students participated in Credit Recovery and semester end Credit Rescue. These students, through additional work were still able to receive their credit with repeating the course. An "At Risk" co-operative education program continued to allow students to earn credits in a workplace setting. After school Literacy Support classes assisted "at risk" students with extra preparation for the grade 10 literacy test (OSSLT). The "Back on Track" after school program assisted grade 9 and grade 10 students with subject support and exam preparation.

Student Success

This semester, many initiatives have been put into practice to support school wide Student Success. Grade 9 mentoring of "At Risk" students continued and was determined to be a worthwhile program by both mentors and mentees. Credit Recovery recovered 10 credits and semester-end Credit Rescue assisted another 10 students, who missed a few expectations, from having to repeat an entire course. An "At-Risk" co-operative education program continued to allow 10 students to earn credits (up to four this semester) in a workplace setting. After School Literacy Support classes assisted "at risk" students with extra preparation for the grade 10 literacy test (OSSLT). The "Back on Track" after school program assisted grade 9 and 10 students with subject support and exam preparation.

Ontario Scholars

These 38 students have an aggregate mark of 480 earning them an overall 80% average for their best 6 courses.

Riley Aitken	Jessica Guenther	Jeff O'Brien
Carly Atkinson	Lauren Hebblethwaite	Matt Price
Karen Ball	Amanda Houze	Courtney Rayment
Katelyn Bartlett	Shelby Huffman	Nathan Richards-Velinou
Carley Blunn	Daniel Knight	Chelsea Russell
Kelvin Bokor	Graydon Koehler	Susan Snobelen
Stephanie Campbell	Jacob Lane	Johanna Thompson
Rachel Capeling	Jesse Loveday	Erin Tope
Justin Day	Matthew McNear	Cora Vandehogen
Quinn DeBrouwer	Erin Mifflin	Robert Vandersluis
Jaime French	Katie Montgomery	Katharine Wieler
Lily Gallagher	Erica Nauta	Alicja Wolanski
Skye Gladstone	Kayla Nicholson	

Mathematics Contests

Each year, the University of Waterloo sponsors a series of Mathematics contests for high school students. Again, in 2009-2010, a number of Bobcats chose to take on the challenge of participating in one or more of these competitions. The Mathematics Department would like to recognize Emma Koehler, Taylor Pardo, Brodie VanBoxtel, Michael Berry, Lawren Maris, Tyler Payne, Dalton Loveday, Travis Fochuk, Jeff Patterson, and Nathan Richards-Velinou for their efforts.

Special congratulations go out to the four Bobcats who earned Certificates of Distinction. Certificates are awarded to students who score in the top 25% of all competitors in any contest. They were:

- ∞ Nathan Richards-Velinou - Canadian Open Mathematics Competition
- Grade 12 Euclid contest.
- ∞ Travis Fochuk - Grade 11 Fermat contest
- ∞ Lawren Maris - Grade 10 Cayley contest
- ∞ Emma Koehler - Grade 9 Pascal contest



Special congratulations go out to Nathan, whose score in the Euclid contest placed him in the top 400 of over 16 000 participants!

These four students are pictured sporting their competition medals, awarded to the top student in the school in each contest.

Student Council

The following students were part of Student Council for the 2009-2010 school year at Blenheim District High School:

Susan Snoblen	Emily Van Ray	Kate Clendenning	Lawren Maris
Katelynn Bartlett	Raina DeBrouwer	Riley Aitken	Jodie Ball
Amanda Faubert	Nikkole Guttridge	Amanda Houze	Sarah Howell
Erin Masender	Erica Nauta	Jeff O'Brien	Rachel Nauta
Anna Richards-Velinou	Megan Fleming	Dallas Pokornik	Kendra Lee
Skye Gladstone	Melissa Langis		

This years' Student Council was very successful. A fundraiser, special days, dances and charities were planned and implemented this year. The students this year were positive and receptive to new ideas and opportunities. BDHS students and staff appreciated their hard work and effort! We are looking forward to new and exciting events for the 2010-2011 school year!

Athletic Banquet

The annual Athletic Banquet was held on Wednesday, June 9th at Glad Tidings Church. Once again the athletes looked great all dressed up! The night started with a great meal and even better desserts. We then moved into the sanctuary for the part of the evening that the athletes had been waiting for.... the awards. Finally, thank you to all members of the SAA for putting on another excellent evening.

Major Athletic Award Winners in 2009 – 2010

Dave Connon Award	- Rob Vandersluis, Carley Blunn, Erin Mifflin
Program Award	- Jake Lane
Athletic Excellence	- Breanne Nicholas
Athletes of the Year	- Alana Vandersluis, Zach Shuian, Spencer King

Bobcat Athletics

Congratulations to Rob Vandersluis and Carley Blunn who represented B.D.H.S. at this year's Dr. Jack Parry gala. They are both great student athletes and we are proud that they are Bobcats.

Overall it was an excellent year for Bobcat Athletics. Teams brought home seven Kent Championships, two SWOSSAA titles, one OFSAA consolation championship, and we sent two track athletes to the SWOSSAA regionals.

A big thank you needs to go out to all coaches, community volunteers, sponsors and people around BDHS who make our athletic program a success.

A special thank you goes out to Apollo Contracting and Apollo Express for sponsoring the Girls rugby team kits, and the Bobcat Booster Club for covering the cost of sending the team to OFSAA this year.

Great job this year Bobcats!

Drama

There is yet to be a student who regrets being involved in drama. It offers not only a unique and culturally diverse experience, but provides students with the opportunity to explore and expand their confidence and emotions, as well as develop numerous life-enhancing skills, such as leadership, theatre technology, organizational, co-operative and social.

In February 2010 we staged two plays: *The Antigone in Warsaw*, a drama about optimism in a time of poverty and desperate circumstances, directed by student Erica Nauta; and *Any Body for Tea?*, a quirky comedy of murderous old ladies, directed by Susan Snobelen. Both had strong casts (fifteen students are actively involved on stage), and acting awards were won by Carly Atkinson in *The Antigone in Warsaw*, and Steven DeLaet in *Any Body for Tea?*, which also won Visual Presentation and Set Design & Construction awards. The construction work was done by Mr. J. Johnston's wood-shop students, and the cast put it all together with many meters of fabric, hundreds of staples, and a few pieces of old furniture.

Unfortunately, there may not be a Sears Drama Festival entry from BDHS next year, as Mrs. McPeake is taking a break. Hopefully, another teacher will be able to take it on.

Auditions

Calling on all actors – Auditions for the musical will be on Wednesday, September 8 and Thursday, September 9th at lunch in Room 44. This year's musical is SCHOOL HOUSE ROCK LIVE.

LIBRARY NEWS

The BDHS Library has been put to much use, both by classes and individual students. It offers a quiet and warm atmosphere in which students can not only do research and type up assignments, but can quietly meet to go over work together, do group work, read magazines, or just use the computers. We have many new books to the collection this year, including many classic graphic novels.

The Teacher Librarian is only in the library before school, after school, and in Period One, when the facilities are available to the general population of the school. It is also accessible during lunch-time, when a teacher supervisor is on duty. The rest of the day the library is only for the use of teachers with their classes, or Grade 12 students doing online courses.

543 classes used the library this year, and approximately 3,000 items were checked out in the same period.

Teacher Librarian, Mrs. McPeake, would like to thank Library Clerk, Mrs. Lynn Lavoie, as well as student volunteer Bree-Anne Pratt, for their help in keeping the library running smoothly. We are also grateful for book donations by Mrs. Laurie Young and magazine donations by Mr. Neil Wood and Mr. Garry Lambert, and the welcome annual donation by the Randolph Churchill Chapter IODE, Blenheim Legion.

Yearbook News

Please place your order for the 2010-2011 Bobcat Yearbook during registration for \$45.00. After registration, the price will be \$50.00.

The 2009-2010 Bobcat Yearbook will be distributed when it comes in from the publisher – which is usually early October. A few copies are still available for \$50.00. Call the school and reserve your copy at your earliest convenience. They will be sold on a first-come first-serve basis. Don't be disappointed – order your copy today.

Dates to Remember

Aug. 31	Registration Day
Sept. 7	1 st Day of School
Sept. 17	Picture Day
Sept 24/26	University Fair in Toronto
Sept 28	University Information @ JMSS
Oct 8	Commencement
Oct 11	Thanksgiving
Oct 14	Interim Reports
Oct 20	Grad Information Night
Oct 22	P A Day
Oct 27	College Information Program
Nov 3	Take Our Kids to Work
Nov 12	Midterm Report Card

Honour Roll

Honour Roll for the 2009/2010 second semester

Grade 9

Ben Bartlett	Colleen Hall	Emma Koehler	Brodie Van Boxtel
Mike Berry	Tricia Hamilton	Evan Nanni	Candice Walls
Kate Clendenning	Jared Hansen	Blayne Oliver	Dylan Webster
Raina DeBrouwer	Jordy Hope	Taylor Pardo	Josh Willemsen
Reiss DeBrouwer	Spencer James	Sarah Preston	Tegan Williams
Alex Gardiner	Nancy Knelsen	Heather Stone	

Grade 10

Dylon Allaire	Mike Guenther	Dalton Loveday	Tyler Payne
Stephanie Allison	Dominique Hamilton	Lawren Maris	Loralie Pollard
Jeff Authier	Aaron Hart	Erin Massender	Anna Richards-Velinou
Taylor Doyle	Matt Hebblethwaite	Guido McGuigan	Adam Skidmore
George Enns	Alyssa Huckle	Eric Montgomery	Alyssa Vandenhende
Ashley Evans	Heather Jack	Rachel Nauta	Alana Wevers
Atlanta Flook	Melissa Lansue	Amber Nicholas	
Olivia Flook	Kendra Lee	Avery Nicholson	

Grade 11

Jade Aitken	Savannah Greydanus	Amanda Major	Rebecca Sykes
Melanie Charbonneau	Eric Hoffman	Kaitlyn Morrison	Willy Unger
Andrea DeBrouwer	Nicole Houston	Jacquelyn Patterson	Janai Van Eerd
Charlotte DeBrouwer	Jaimee Huckle	Sammi Pickering	Emily Van Raay
Erika DeBrouwer	Jacob Jackman	Becky Pollard	Rachel Vandehogen
Brandon Fields	Jenny Ji	Jessica Randall	Alana Vandersluis
Bowdie Gardiner	Jean Kelly	Amanda Segeren	Zachary Willemsen
Victor Goertzen	Alec Mailing	Tina Simonton	Kristen Wszol
			Brittany Wysman

Grade 12

Riley Aitken	Erika Cayer	Dan Knight	Courtney Rayment
Carly Atkinson	Justin Day	Taylor Knowler-Stepniak	Nathan Richards-Velinou
Jodie Ball	Quinn DeBrouwer	Graydon Koehler	Chelsea Russell
Karen Ball	Kayley Dorssers	Jacob Lane	Eric Skidmore
Katelyn Bartlett	Morgan Farquharson	Henry Loewen	Susan Snobelen
Carley Blunn	Blake Fenton	Jesse Loveday	Nadin St. Lewis
Kelvin Bokor	Lily Gallagher	Nick McGuigan	Johanna Thompson
Erin Bowers	Jennifer Gardiner	Matt McNear	Erin Tope
Melanie Boylan	Skye Gladstone	Erin Mifflin	Cora Vandehogen
Toni Cameron	Jessica Guenther	Katie Montgomery	Robert Vandersluis
Brady Campbell	Lauren Hebblethwaite	Erica nauta	Oscar VanKeer
Stephanie Campbell	Amanda Houze	Kayla Nicholson	Katharina Wieler
Rachel Capeling	Caroline Howell	Jeff O'Brien	Alicja Wolanski
Shawn Cartier	Shelby Huffman	Megan Pepper	Taylor Zeller-Newman



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School Motto
Spero Bene Agere
Hope to do well

We're on the Web!
www.southkent.net/~bdhs