

# BLLENHEIM DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

June 2011 Newsletter

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

## Principal's News

The 2010 – 2011 school year is now behind us and what a year it was! We were deeply involved in the District Review process at BDHS this year. This involves the staff in setting well-defined learning and improvement goals for themselves to enhance student learning.

One of our main goals was to increase the use of 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology. We had teachers attend multiple sessions on differentiated instruction to help fashion curriculum into an approach that appeals to the students' different learning styles. We also in-serviced teachers on the use of Smartboard and on-line technology resources. We have purchased and installed no less than 17 Smartboards this year, including one in the learning centre to help students who may be more visual or kinesthetic learners. The Program Department at the central school board level was instrumental in supporting us in this process.

We moved to an earlier date for both our Interim Reports (for students whose credit might be at risk) and our Parent /Teacher Interviews. These changes were well received and we will retain them for next year. Another big change was our moving to a Spring Commencement on June 29<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all the local award donors and scholarship contributors who graciously supported us twice this year to make the changeover happen so smoothly.

Results-wise our School OSSLT remained strong at an 81% pass rate on first attempt. On the sports front we had success with both the Girls Rugby, Girls Senior Volleyball, and Boys Junior Volleyball being Kent Champions. We are painting and re-vitalizing the weight training and fitness room over the summer so stay tuned. We have numerous building projects underway this year including a whole scale replacement of the last single pane windows in the building which will make us more energy efficient and greener.

Staff-wise we say goodbye to a couple of our long term occasional teachers- Mr. Goodall, our targeted literacy coach, and Mr. Bunning, our student success teacher. They will be assuming new roles come the fall. Miss Miner returns this coming year to continue her efforts with the Math and Science departments.

Please have a safe and enjoyable summer. We look forward to seeing everyone back for another exciting and productive year in September. Graduates – go forth, spread the Bobcat word and maintain the value of Excellence in all your undertakings.

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 18 to Friday, August 19**

## Registration

**All students are asked to please register at the school on  
Tuesday, August 30, 2011  
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.

### 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](http://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](http://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.

## Student Council

The following students were part of Student Council for the 2010-2011 school year at Blenheim District High School:

Kate Clendenning	Lawren Maris	Nikkole Guttridge	Erin Massender
Rachel Nauta	Jodie Ball	Loralie Pollard	Shae Duquette
Jen Lansue	Taylor Zeller-Newman	Heather Jack	Melissa Lansue
Kendra Lee	Melissa Langis	Jeff Patterson	Megan Fleming

This year's 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 2011-2012 school year!

Thank you, Mrs. Lansens!

## Athletic Banquet

The annual Athletic Banquet was held on Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> 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	- Alec Mailing, Bowdie Gardiner, Andrea DeBrouwer
Program Award	- Alana Vandersluis, Jade Aitken
Athletic Excellence	- Breanne Nicholas
Junior Athletes of the Year	- Blayne Oliver, Sarah DeBrouwer
Senior Athletes of the Year	- Alana Vandersluis, Ryan Brooke

## Bobcat Athletics

Congratulations to Ryan Brooke and Alana Vandersluis 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 4 Kent Championships, and we sent one track athlete 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.

Great job this year, Bobcats!

## Notes from the Music Dept.



On May 2, MUSIC MONDAY, the BDHS School of Jazz Band performed with 750 high school musicians from other schools across the board at the RBC Centre in Sarnia.

The students performed a rousing rendition of "In the Midnight Hour" getting the entire audience clapping to their beat. It was a great time. Students were able to perform with other students but also got a chance to hear other groups.

The students were: Michael Berry, Korey Egan, Mary Barber, Bree-Anne O'Hara, Alana Wevers, Sarah Preston, Beth Harnock, Brendan Rogers, Zack and Isaiah Musyj



We're Small but We're Mighty!!!!

## Yearbook News

Please place your order for the 2011-2012 Bobcat Yearbook during registration for \$45.00. After registration, the price will be \$50.00.

The 2010-2011 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-served basis. Don't be disappointed – order your copy today.

## Dates to Remember

Aug. 30	Registration Day
Sept. 6	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of School
Sept. 16	Picture Day
Sept. 26	P A Day
Oct. 4	University Information @ JMSS
Oct. 10	Thanksgiving
Oct. 14	Interim Reports
Oct. 14-16	University Fair in Toronto
Oct. 19	Grad Information Night
Oct. 17	College Information @ St. Clair College
Oct. 21	P A Day
Oct. 25	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Nov. 2	Take Our Kids to Work
Nov. 11	Midterm Report Card
Nov. 25	P A Day



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