

Cardinal Connection



Serving the Communities of
Bloomington, Grand Junction & Pullman

Publication of Bloomington Public Schools

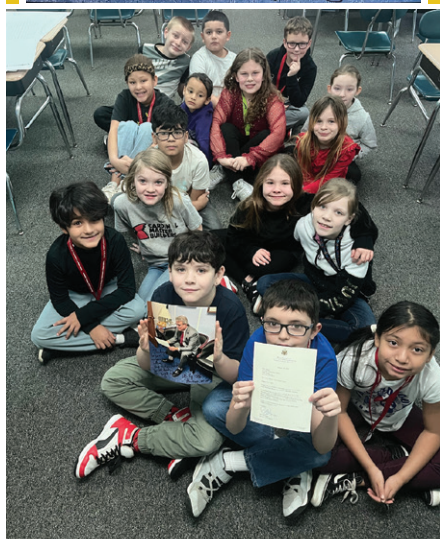
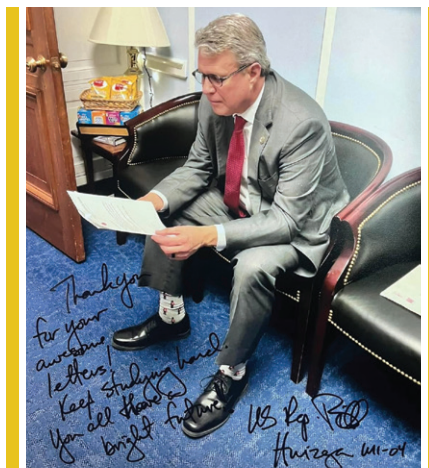
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PULLMAN ELEMENTARY

US Representative Huizenga Responds

After learning about Congress and the Constitution of the United States of America, Mrs. Harris' 3rd grade class wrote letters to U.S. Representative Bill Huizenga with some ideas for a bill. Representative Huizenga responded to the class with a letter and a picture of himself reading the letters. Great job Mrs. Harris' class!



BILL HUIZENGA
UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
FOURTH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

January 18, 2024

Mrs. Harris
Pullman Elementary School
5580 South Ave.
Pullman, MI 49450

Dear Mrs. Harris' Third Grade Class,

Happy New Year!

I want to thank you for all the letters you sent me. I always enjoy hearing from my constituents, especially students.

I understand that you have been learning about how a bill becomes a law. It is important for everyone to be engaged in the law making process and you have done a great job reaching out to my office. I hope this is the start of your lifelong involvement in government.

I wish you good luck for the remainder of the school year! Thanks for writing to me!

Sincerely,

Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress

Lego Club

Pullman Elementary's Cardinal Master Builders: FIRST LEGO Explore Team works together to build and code with LEGO. This season they are showcasing interests and hobbies. Keep up the great work!



SMART Goal

All of the students at Pullman Elementary are working toward meeting their SMART goal. Once they have met their goal, they put a bee on the poster and set a new goal. Look at all the goals that have been met!



PRIDE points

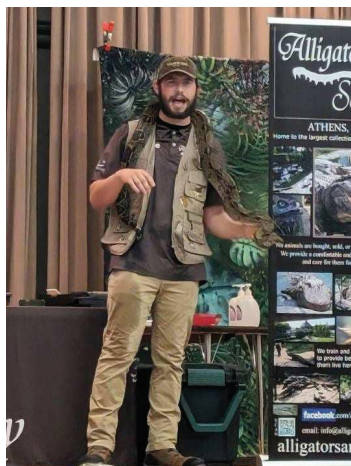
Mrs. Corbin's and Mrs. Hunsley's Kindergarten class at Pullman Elementary earned enough PRIDE points to get an ice cream party! Great job!!



BLOOMINGTON ELEMENTARY

Bloomington Elementary Science Night!

The Critchlow Alligator Sanctuary put on a 45-minute presentation and our students put on a presentation of their own. The objective of the science night was for students and their families to create an animal out of recycled materials that could be real or imaginary. The project included an informational sheet with the background and habitat of their creation.



Number Corner

At Bloomington Elementary, students are using a hands-on approach for building mathematical skills. Number Corner is a skill-building program revolving around the classroom calendar. It provides daily practice as well as continual encounters with broader mathematical concepts in 15-20 minutes of engaging instruction daily.



Bloomington Elementary Activity Party

As a way to celebrate positive behavior in our school, students who received zero office referrals for the marking period were able to participate in an activity party. The activity party gave students the choice of a lego room, chromebooks, art time, physical education, or outdoor sledding. It was a great way to recognize all of the students' hard work!



Kindergarten Round up

Bloomington Elementary will be holding our Kindergarten Round-Up on April 16, 2024. We will have our health department here for vision, hearing, and dental screening, as well as teachers on hand to do some brief assessments with our incoming Cardinals!



BLOOMINGTON MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

Congratulations to Alan Bobalik and Matt Swier!!! They were awarded Midwest Energy & Communications (MEC) "Strengthening Schools" grants in total of \$4,100. Alan Bobalik was awarded a grant of \$1,900 and Matt Swier was awarded a grant of \$2,200. Midwest Energy & Communications award grants to support local educators and schools in their efforts to bring new and exciting learning opportunities to students, and this year MEC received 80 applications totaling over \$138,000 in requested funding. Alan and Swier were two of 24 grants awarded.



Personal Finance Class Practise Interview Skills

Each year in the Personal Finance class during the chapter on Career Readiness, we spend some time learning and practicing interview skills. To that end, we try to "interview" a number of candidates. Listed below are this year's interview candidates, along with comments from the students following their interview:



Kathleen Kroll:

Applied for the position of Diagnostic Teacher Consultant

- Good sense of humor
- Loves to work with kids
- Passionate about what she does
- Very prepared
- Showed confidence
- Goal-oriented



Brandon Lukes:

Applied for the position of High School Principal

- Interviews - one to show how NOT to behave at an interview and then one to show how to impress at an interview ...
- From the BAD interview:
 - Arrived late
 - Wearing sunglasses during the interview
- Used lots of slang
- Said his palms needed to be greased - wanted a big salary
- Claimed to have no weaknesses, no areas that needed improvement
- "Disseminated" a student's handshake and the bottle of water offered to him
- Took a phone call during the interview
- Has no prior job or work experience
- Appeared to be confused, possibly on drugs
- Was rude to members of the interview panel



From the EXCELLENT interview:

- Experienced with behavioral issues and with differentiating instruction
- Confident
- Eloquent
- Committed to excellence
- Values collaboration and partnering with others
- Good energy
- Fun but also respectful
- Good work ethic
- Motivated
- Professional and personable
- Willing to adapt
- Wants to help others accomplish their goals



Kevin Farmer:

Applied for High School Math Teacher

- Very passionate about students being motivated
- Strong leadership skills
- In education for 30 years
- Received 3 Educator of the Year Awards
- Smiles a lot, good sense of humor
- Involves students in the learning process
- Values relationships and respect with his students



Torrey Wenger:

Applied for the position of Science teacher

- Acted and dressed professionally
- 20+ years of relevant experience
- Uses AI tool to help differentiate instruction for varying reading levels
- Good communication skills
- Gave good feedback on how she would address her weaknesses
- Very dedicated to the community



Hannah Felty:

Applied for the position of School Counselor, Middle and High School

- Flexible and willing to collaborate
- Empathetic
- Organized
- Committed to helping students
- Very passionate about the position
- Well prepared



February is Black History Month

"Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom."

—George Washington Carver

Cardinal Connection

Serving the Communities of Bloomingdale, Grand Junction & Pullman >>> website: www.bdalecards.com

EXTRA!



Bloomingdale Middle and High School
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Bloomingdale Public Schools

Cultivating a Community of Lifelong Learners

2024 BOND PROPOSALS INFORMATION

Bloomingdale Community:

On Tuesday, May 7, 2024, the Bloomingdale Public Schools community will be asked to consider two bond proposals to help the district fund facility upgrades and improvements. These proposals were developed with input from the Board of Education, professional construction personnel, and Bloomingdale students, staff, and community members. If approved, these proposals would allow the district to provide future-ready learning updates to aging academic spaces for all Bloomingdale students and, most importantly, keep students **warm, safe, and dry!**

Proposal 1 could generate \$17 million for facility improvements focused on repairing student learning environments and improving safety around district buildings with no increase to the current tax rate.

Proposal 2 could generate \$15.4 million for facility improvements requested by the community, including installing HVAC with cooling throughout the district, adding an auxiliary gym to Bloomingdale Elementary, relocating the bus garage at Pullman Elementary, and installing a playground. This can all be accomplished with a two (2) mill increase to the current tax rate. This increase would equate to approximately \$7.50 per month for the average home in our school district.

I will be leading building tours at each building to share more information about these bond proposals and how they could affect our district facilities.

- **Bloomingdale Elementary:** March 12th: Dinner at 5:30 p.m., Bond Tour at 6:00 p.m., followed by Family Night
- **Pullman Elementary:** March 20th: Dinner at 5:00 p.m., Bond Tour at 5:30 p.m., and Food Drive from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- **Middle/High School:** March 27th: Dinner at 5:30 p.m., Bond Tour at 6:00 pm, and Safety/College Night at 6:45 p.m.

We look forward to sharing more information with the community in the coming weeks. For information on how to register to vote, how to vote absentee, or how to find your polling location, please visit: michigan.gov/vote.

Thank you,
Dr. Deanna Dobbins
Bloomingdale Superintendent



VOTE ON BOTH PROPOSALS BY MAY 7!

Absentee Ballots Available by March 28

LEARN MORE AT [BDALECARDS-BOND.COM](https://www.bdalecards.com)

Bloomingdale 2024 Winter Sports

CARDINALS

Photo by Richard Strange

Varsity Girls Basketball

The Varsity Girls Basketball team hosted Decatur Tuesday night in a Southwest 10 matchup. The game was closely contested with the Cardinals taking a 2 point lead into the locker room at halftime. In the second half though, Bloomingdale pulled away and won the game by 10 points. Leading scorers for the Cardinals were seniors Andreyra Robinson and Yulissa Perales. Great job girls!



MS Girls Basketball

The Middle School Girls basketball teams put on another strong performance Wednesday night.

The 7th grade team hosted Comstock in the first game of the night. The Lady Cardinals dominated from the start and cruised to a 40-10 victory.

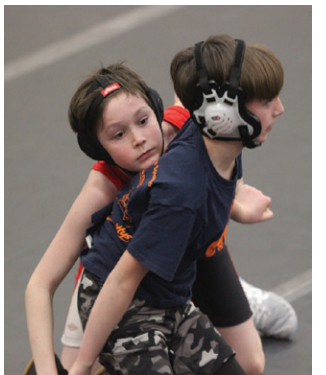
In game two, the 8th grade girls wouldn't be outdone as they took on Decatur. The 8th grade girls also dominated their game, winning 26-2. Great Job Girls!



Go Cardinals!
THANK YOU SPONSORS!

Middle School Wrestling

The middle school wrestling team had another stellar night of competition last night at Bangor. The team came home with 10 wins. Willie Bemis, Jonathan Guthrie, Aleric Schell VanOrder, Chase Clemons, Maverick Atkinson, Macyn Bishop, Corey Smalley-Harrison and Brennan Bradford all won matches. Great job Cardinal Wrestlers.



JOURNEY FAMILY CHURCH Sunday Services: 9am and 11am 514 W. Van Buren St. Gobles, MI 49055	Get 'em Cards! COUNTRY HOUSE FURNITURE 08337 M-140 Hwy. • South Haven, MI (269) 637-6135 www.countryhousefurniture.net	A&B LAWN CARE COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL SNOW PLOWING TOTAL LAWN CARE • TRIMMING CLEAN-UP • HAULING SR. DISCOUNTS • FREE ESTIMATES 492-4612	3WEST SALON 269-459-1322 6772 S. Westnedge Portage, MI 49002	NORTH SHORE DUST CONTROL INC. Andy Peterson 521-6462	CORNERSTONE HERNANDEZ HOME AGENCY SPECIALIZED RESIDENTIAL SERVICES We care for our Cardinals! 269-628-9099 Main Office in Downtown Gobles Bangor location opening soon.
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