

In This Issue: Trip to Hershey / Mr. Murgo knows Science / Special Olympics 2015

Red Raider

MAGAZINE

BELLEFONTE AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

SPRING
2015

GRADUATION 2015



Red Raider MAGAZINE SPRING 2015

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Administration Building

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Bellefonte Area Middle School.....	355-5466
Bellefonte Area High School	355-4833
Web Site	www.basd.net

Discrimination Policy

The Bellefonte Area School District will not discriminate in its educational programs, activities or employment practices based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, ancestry or any other legally protected classification. This policy is in accordance with state and federal laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act. Information relative to special accommodations, grievance procedure, and designated responsible official for compliance with Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504 may be obtained by contacting Dr. Michelle Saylor at 355-4814, Ext. 3005.



Cover photo & additional graduation photos -
Photographer: Tim Weight



Dear Parents and Guardians,

The 2014-2015 school year was a busy and productive year for everyone. We have accomplished many things. Here are some of the Bellefonte Area School District highlights from this year:

- Kindergarten through twelfth grade Science curriculum maps were developed and written.
- Elementary and Secondary music curriculum maps were completed this year.
- Elementary guidance curriculum maps were developed and written.
- English Language Learner (ELL) curriculum maps are being developed and written.
- Spanish, French and Chinese curriculum maps were developed and written.
- Kindergarten through second grade was upgraded to the Common Core Edition of the 2014 Everyday Math series.
- Project Lead the Way programs were expanded to add additional courses for students at the high school.
- Chinese and Spanish World Language programs were expanded into first grade.
- Several of our High School students traveled to China this year and spent time with host families and in our Sister School.
- All Bellefonte Area School District schools added additional Chrome Book carts to allow for more access to technology.
- Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program was started this year at the High School.
- We enhanced the ability to provide feedback in our Customer Satisfaction Survey by giving access to the community on our School Website.
- The Math Camp Enrichment program will be offer again in August 2015.
- A World Language Camp will be offered again in July 2015
- Student ID badges with barcodes were implemented that allowed students to scan their codes to allow access to their lunch accounts and library accounts.
- All six (6) of our schools were recognized by Pennsylvania Department of Education as being Banner Schools for the School-Wide Positive Support Behavior Program. We are the first district in the state to receive this status.

Our Administration and Staff continue to work diligently to ensure that many great things are happening in our school district! As we move forward, we will continue to look for ways to make Bellefonte Area School District an even better district for our most valuable asset – our students!

Have a great and relaxing summer!

Warm regards,

Dr. Cheryl A. Potteiger
Bellefonte Area School District Superintendent

Welcome to
the 2015
Spring Edition of
Red Raider Magazine

Dear Graduates and Parents/Guardians of a 2015 Graduate:

I would like to offer my heartfelt congratulations to the families of the Class of 2015. Parents and Guardians, as we all say, we can't believe how fast time has gone. Most importantly, to the Class of 2015, your moment is here. The years of hard work have paid off and you will be blessing society with the accomplishments you will very soon achieve.

As you move to the next adventure in your life, you will have many obstacles to overcome, decisions to make, many beliefs upon which you will hold dear. During your adventure, stay true to yourself, stay focused and get up after a fall. Your adventure is yours alone, your aspirations are uniquely yours.

Best wishes to each graduate as you leave Bellefonte Area High School on a new adventure; your presence will be greatly missed in our hallways.

Warmest wishes,
Mrs. Jennifer Brown, Principal BAHS



HIGH SCHOOL



"Don't Cry Because It's Over, Smile Because It Happened."

Dr. Seuss

LIP DUB PROJECT

On March 18, 2015, the Bellefonte Area High School choreographed their first lip dub. It was created and organized by the Visual Media Arts teacher, Miss Carla Weaver, and her Advanced Video Production students.

The project began back in late January. The students and staff were provided basic information about what a lip dub is: a lip dub is a lip sync event that involves the whole school. There are certain individuals that lip sync and then the rest of the school lines the hallways, dresses up in costume, and cheers/dances along with the music. The students determined what their groups' themes would be, and we made plans to bring it all together in March. On March 17, we held our practice round. On the following day, we filmed. All of the students and staff involved enjoyed the experience and the resulting product looks great.

Carla Weaver and her Advanced Video Production students spent most of February and March preparing for the big day. Miss Weaver and her students had to compile the lists of all of the groups, place them within the route, match up lyrics with the lip sync participants, and simply organize the chaos. It was quite an endeavor, but the end product made the whole experience worth it. If you have a smartphone, check out the QR code to view the video or find it on YouTube at Bellefonte Area High School Lip Dub 2015.



Bellefonte Area High School FBLA Ends Year with Great Successes!



The Bellefonte chapter of Future Business Leaders of America, once again, has represented our district well by participating in the annual State Leadership Conference and by holding its annual powder puff game for March of Dimes. Both events were opportunities for our students to expand their knowledge through competition, workshops, business sessions, and community involvement.

At this year's State Leadership Conference, students traveled to Hershey to compete in a wide-range of events including Accounting I, Digital Video Production, Introduction to Business, Business Calculations, Business Math, and Networking Concepts. All students performed well, especially those who competed in Accounting I, Digital Video Production, Networking Concepts, and Introduction to Business. Gage Tressler (senior) placed 7th in Digital Video Production for his creation of a video on increasing FBLA membership, Ashley Morris (senior) earned 5th place in Accounting I, and Ryan Diers (senior) earned 2nd place in Networking Concepts. This is Ryan's second year qualifying for the National Leadership Conference through his incredible knowledge of computers. An honorable mention goes to Madison Marucci (sophomore) for placing 16th out of 93 competitors in Introduction to Business. As can be seen by these results, we have every right to be incredibly proud of the hard work of our students! Beyond the opportunity to compete, students participated in a wide-range of workshops, business meetings, and in elections for the state-level officer team. This allowed them to have a well-rounded experience while representing Bellefonte.

After winning big at the State Leadership Conference, our students continued to achieve excellence by hosting the annual powder puff game for March of Dimes. This year, over 50 students were given the opportunity to play, coach, or be cheerleaders at this year's event. Not only was it a great game, but FBLA was able to raise over \$960 for the March of Dimes organization. Through hard work and dedication, Bellefonte FBLA has accepted the challenge and succeeded with flying colors!

EMPTY BOWLS

BAHS Art Club Fights Hunger with Pottery
By Matthew Feldman, BAHS Senior

HIGH SCHOOL



What started as a roundtable discussion at the beginning of the school year became one of the most successful philanthropic art events Bellefonte has seen in a long time. Created to benefit the Centre County Food Bank and held at the Bellefonte Area High School on March 27, the Empty Bowls dinner run by the BAHS Art Club raised over \$2,800 for charity in a single night.

"We just started with a small kernel of an idea. We knew we wanted a charity event, and it made sense to do it for the food bank," Art Club advisor and art teacher Ms. Heather Fry said.

The bowls must be thrown (spun on a wheel and crafted), fired in a kiln, glazed, and then fired again, this process took months. By the end of the six month process, the club and Ms. Fry had crafted all of the bowls.

According to Art Club member and senior Tyler Rudloff, a grand total of 219 bowls were made, and most of them got distributed to the public on the night of the dinner.

Ms. Barbara Eckley, the director of food services at Bellefonte, volunteered her time to help coordinate the delivery, production, and service of the soup. "My role was to coordinate the food aspect of this event. I worked with Ms. Fry to see what donations were coming in, and understand how much we needed to serve the 200 people. Lunch staff also donated all of the desserts," Ms. Eckley said.

Other lunch staff volunteers included Barb Young, Lori Bartley, Donna Rowles, and Beth Perryman. Barb's son, Matthew, and Donna's son, Kyle, also came out to help.

On the day of the dinner, Ms. Fry and other volunteers began setting up. They put large black sheets of paper on each table, accompanied by crayons, and even included a student-crafted pottery centerpiece.

Local restaurants and businesses donated dozens of gallons of soup and items to raffle as well.

Volunteer lunch staff members were on site to help out with the occasion, as well as students and Art Club volunteers that assisted in serving, cleaning silverware, and distributing drinks and desserts. Volunteer Lori Bartley spoke very highly of the event. "I think it was a fabulous idea to do this. I hope they do it again," Lori said.

Tyler agrees with Lori, and can't wait to see where this dinner goes in the future. "It's really



cool to get the artwork out there in the community, and it benefits a good cause. Ms. Fry brought this idea to the school, and I think it will stay for a long time," Tyler said.

The money will be used to buy new food for the bank as stock starts running low after the holidays. The spring and summer months are scarce times at the food bank, and, according to Ms. Fry, it only seemed right to help out those in need.

To see an art project turning into such an amazing event was a truly valuable experience for the students of the Art Club. Many a man can turn clay into bowls, but only a select few can turn that clay into cold, hard cash. Over \$2,800 in cash, that is, all headed to the local food bank to benefit Centre County citizens in need. That's ingenuity.



Video Classes Tour



In April, the video production classes had the chance to tour the WTaj studio in Altoona, PA. The general manager, Phil Dubrow, gave us the tour. The students learned about the sales area of the station, toured the various control and equipment rooms, and experienced first hand the two studio areas in the building. Some of the students even had the chance to pretend to be weathmen. Many of the students enjoyed the trip and were impressed with the technical equipment available for conducting the news.





“I want adventure
in the great wide
somewhere.”

Belle



Senior Institute: Working Together Serving Others

HIGH SCHOOL

As the school year flew by, the Senior Institute (SI) Class at Bellefonte Area High School took much of their time to raise money for a needy member of the community.

This class, taught by English teacher, Mrs. Jessica Lloyd and art teacher, Mrs. Meg Barton, worked diligently throughout the year on both their academics and a charity project. Since the beginning of the year, SI held a number of fundraisers to raise money for 11 year-old Brandon Conaway from Pleasant Gap. Brandon suffers from many health problems, including gastrointestinal issues and autism. He requires many long term hospital trips and constant care from his parents. The SI class set a goal to raise \$11,000 to help Brandon and his family offset some of the medical costs.

"The students worked hard to organize a variety of fundraisers since the first day of school to make this charity a success. This year, the students were really charming and motivated, which makes the charity run smoother and makes it fun," Mrs. Lloyd said. While some of the fundraisers throughout the year were not successful, others quickly helped the class reach their \$11,000 goal.

The dinner at Faith United Methodist Church on April 27 marked the biggest fundraiser of the year for SI. Hosting an All-American picnic dinner, complete with pulled pork, hamburgers, hotdogs, and a variety of sides, the class raised around \$4,000 in one evening.

"The students go through a long process that begins with deciding what food to have at the dinner. Then they contact businesses in the community to see what food we can get



donated. The actual planning takes months," Mrs. Lloyd said.

All of the SI students worked collaboratively together as a group on the high-paced evening that they spent the previous few months planning. "It is a great feeling to be involved in the SI dinner. It was really nice to see everyone working hard for a great family," Morgan Taylor said.

The guest of honor, Brandon, and his parents attended the dinner and were astonished at how many people came out to support their family.

"I think the dinner went amazing. I'm overwhelmed by the amount of people that came out and supported it us. The SI kids have been amazing. Mrs. Lloyd has been amazing; she's kept in contact not just about this, but to see how Brandon's been doing as well, and it's all just been amazing what you've all been able to do for us," said Heather Conaway, Brandon's mom.

During the course of the year, each member

of SI is affected in his or her own way. "My favorite part of the dinner was when Brandon's mom walked in and was so overwhelmed that she just started crying. At that moment, I realized how much we were impacting Brandon and his family," Morgan said.

The last week of the year left the SI class sitting about \$800 short of their goal. However, by holding a last minute Pizza Hut fundraiser and through a hefty donation from the senior class parent group, their goal became a reality.

"Organizing a charity of this capacity doesn't necessarily get easier with each year. We rely on the awesome community members of Bellefonte to make it happen again and again. Once the students see the impact that they can have on the families receiving the money, it makes every second worthwhile," Mrs. Lloyd said.

A Message from the Bellefonte Area High School Administrative Team:

It is our pleasure to congratulate the class of 2015.

High school graduation is one of the major milestones in all of our lives. In our culture, it is a rite of passage, a way of proving you can finish what you started, and, ultimately, a starting point for what will be our life's work.

In this particular Bellefonte Area High School class of 2015, we have many unique, talented, and innovative students who are undoubtedly destined to achieve great things throughout the remainder of their lives.

Some of those great things will include completing a post-secondary education program, gaining employment in the field of his or her choice, starting and caring for a family, giving back to their community, and otherwise making a positive impact on those with whom they come into contact.

The class of 2015 has writers, scientists, mathematicians, entrepreneurs, musicians, farmers, and a seemingly endless array of talented graduates. It will be a great pleasure to see where these students go and to take account of the lives they pursue. If their lives in any way mirror their accomplishments and personalities during their years at Bellefonte Area School District, the world is in for a treat.

It has been our pleasure to serve those here in Bellefonte. All of the employees in the BASD have cared about and worked tirelessly to make sure we are giving our students a world class education. Now, it is time to go out and pursue the next phase of their dreams, whatever they may be.

Our advice to our graduates is to live the life that will lead to your personal happiness and the happiness of those around you. Work hard, take care of your loved ones, give back to your community, and, most importantly, have fun.

Congratulations, Class of 2015. You did it!

Mrs. Jennifer Brown, Principal
Mr. Michael Fedisson, Vice-Principal
Mr. Daniel Park, Vice-Principal

Eighth Grade Graduation



Bellefonte Area Middle School Chain Reaction Club and the American Red Cross Team Up for Success



Bellefonte Area Middle School's Chain Reaction Club is about spreading kindness throughout the school and community. On March 6, 2015, they did their best to spread the most important type of kindness--the gift of blood.

The Chain Reaction Club teamed up with The American Red Cross to sponsor a blood drive at the middle school. Students organized the drive by sending flyers home with their classmates, collecting response cards and creating a schedule, bringing in food to "reenergize" donors, and by working the drive. Students were greeters, escorts, and canteen workers in addition to donning the Red Cross blood hound

and blood droplet costumes to direct and entertain donors! From 2:00-7:00 pm, parents, teachers, administrators, and community members came to donate blood. The goal was 27 productive units of blood. When you add in the 4 units we received from 2 double red donors, we ended up with 37 units, or 137% of the goal!

A big THANK YOU to Laura Merritt, Donor Recruitment Representative of the American Red Cross, who made this a valuable and enjoyable

learning experience for the kids! And, a REALLY BIG THANKS to the community members, including parents, elementary, middle school, and high school teachers, and administrators, who came out to donate the gift of life!

The Chain Reaction Club plans to have two blood drives next year, one in the fall and another in the spring. We are more than an anti-bullying club; we want to start chain reactions of kindness throughout our school and our community.

The club is an offshoot of "Rachel's Challenge." For more information, check out www.rachelschallenge.org.



Fish Hatchery Fun

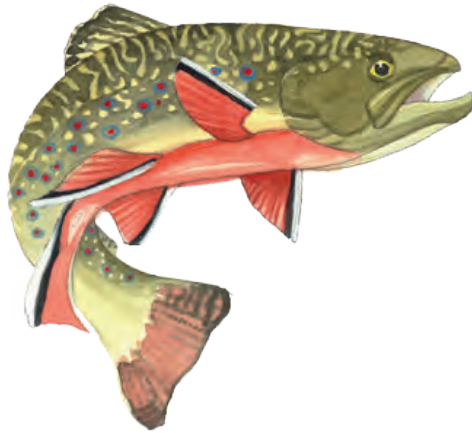
MIDDLE SCHOOL



The BAMS Life Skill Support students went fishing at the Lamar Federal Fish Hatchery on June 4th. The class had fun fishing with the BAHS LSS class, PG LSS class, Ms. Sterbanks class, and students from Central Mountain LSS classrooms.

Trout in the Classroom!

The eggs arrived in early November. Miss D'Ambrosia's 7th grade science class was now the proud parents of 149 Brook Trout eggs, entrusted in their care to grow. The project, called Trout in the Classroom, is run by the PA Fish and Boat Commission, with help for our classroom provided by the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited. We spent the year watching our trout grow and monitoring the water quality as we learned about the nitrogen cycle and bacteria's role in an ecosystem. We fed them each day and made sure the little ones got their share. They grew, and grew, and grew. Before we knew it, the time had come to set them free. On a beautiful Friday afternoon in the middle of May, along with our friends in the Life Skills Class, we netted our now 3-inch



trout and put them in aerator buckets for the journey to Bald Eagle Creek where they would be released. After a few water quality checks, each person got a cup full of Brook Trout to set free into the stream. We spent the rest of the afternoon doing a biotic survey of the stream. We looked at the macroinvertebrates that live there to see how good the water quality really is. Based on our data, we were confident we had put our trout in good water. We culminated the afternoon with an "organic" boat race making a boat out of the materials found around the stream and racing to find a winner. It was a pretty great end to a year-long project learning more about the cold water ecosystem right here in Bellefonte.



GRAND CHAMPION WINNERS!



Congratulations to the Literature Lightning Bolts of Bellefonte Elementary! These amazing readers competed against 33 teams of elementary readers to win the Grand Champion trophy! This is only the second time in BASD history that one of our teams earned more points than any other team to win the championship trophy!

Bellefonte Elementary School is very proud of this wonderful accomplishment.

A Sweet Experience

On May 12th, the 5th grade classes at Bellefonte Elementary School went to ZooAmerica and Hershey's Chocolate World. While they were there, they participated in the Chocolate Tasting Experience and created their own candy bar using factory equipment. They also went on the chocolate history tour and had the opportunity to shop in the gift shop. They had an awesome time!.



Bald Eagle State Park Adventure

On May 28th, the 5th grade classes at Bellefonte Elementary went to Bald Eagle State Park to participate in several activities. They made rope out of dog-bane, learned how to use a compass and find locations in the park, got to try out kayaking, and observed several pond animals they found in the pond.

Second Grade is Growing Their Own Salad



Mrs. Filipowicz's and Mrs. Wilson's Second Grade students visited the Bellefonte Children's Garden weekly. The Bellefonte Master Gardeners were our host. They provided a square plot for each student to plant lettuce, spinach, and radishes. The students were excited to visit the garden each week to check on their vegetables and learned to thin the plants out so they would have more room to grow.

While at the garden, the Master Gardeners presented various lessons to the students. Some of the lessons included: the water cycle, pollination, parts of a plant, presentation by a bee keeper, and other plant related activities.

The children look forward to the harvesting of their vegetables and enjoy a salad party with their own homegrown vegetables on the last visit to the garden in June.

It is great to see our students eating a healthy salad and asking for seconds and even thirds! We would like to thank the Master Gardeners for providing our students with such a special learning experience.

One flag, one land, one heart, one hand,
one nation evermore.

Oliver Wendell Homes



Mr. Klein's 4th grade class takes a short rest after cleaning, raking and mulching the outdoor area at Bellefonte Elementary School . Thank you for your service.

Second Grade State Spectacular!



Second grade students from Benner Elementary read Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown and mailed their own Flat Stanleys to friends and family across the country and abroad. Students then researched states creating Google Slide Presentations. They then held a "Second Grade State Spectacular" where parents and other students could visit their state presentation and learn from the second grade experts.



SCIENCE WITH MR. MURGO

Mr. Joe Murgio, chief meteorologist from WTAJ, visited the second grade classes at Benner Elementary in March as they wrapped up a reading unit on seasons and weather. Students enjoyed learning about how tornadoes are formed and also about air pressure, wind, and precipitation. Volunteers were called on to answer questions and participate in experiments.



Senator Jake Corman made a visit to Mrs. Kipp's class to speak about Pennsylvania government.

Grade Five End Of The Year Celebration



Exploring the Outdoors

Curriculum-based outdoor investigations and hands-on environmental activities were enjoyed by the Marion-Walker's first grade. They had a beautiful day to learn and explore!



END OF THE YEAR ACTIVITIES!



Science & Critical Thinking

Mrs. Jodon's third grade class from Pleasant Gap Elementary School. Mrs. Jodon is piloting the "Structures of Life" FOSS science module. The pictures are an example of the students using science and engineering practices to make a physical model of how seeds disperse from the parent plant. The students are designing a way to solve the problem and testing their model.



School-Wide Positive Behavior Support

The Pleasant Gap School was recognized during the PA Department of Education Conference held at the Hershey Lodge for implementing SWPBS. Pleasant Gap Faculty and administration received a letter of commendation and a banner to display at their school. Congratulations!

Fifth Grade End Of The Year Program



The Right Note



Fifth Grade Students from Mr. Bergman and Mrs. Zimmerman's music classes represented BASD at the PMEA district 4 Chorus Fest. The Fest was held on April 10th at Philipsburg-Osceola Area School District under the direction of Ms. Samantha M. Sitiner from Philadelphia. Students rehearsed with other students from district 4 during the day to prepare for the evenings concert that was open to the public. PMEA district 4 is comprised of Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, and Mifflin Counties.

CENTRAL OFFICE



Front row (left to right): Nicole Harris, Jennifer Ashcraft, Bridget Taylor, Susan Heimer, and Kathy Carra. Standing (left to right): Dale "Vern" Read, Barbara Potter, Jackie Wynkoop, Ashley Sterbank, Pamela Fike, Lisa Kowalczyk, Katina Pacella, and John Wilson.

District employees recognized at the April 7, 2015, school board meeting

The Bellefonte Area School District appreciates each employee for contributing to the success of our students. An Employee Recognition System was created to provide an opportunity to recognize employees. The Board of School Directors congratulated the following recipients of the Employee Recognition System award at the April 7, 2015, regular board meeting. Employees were nominated by their coworkers in their respective district buildings.

Excerpts of coworkers' nomination comments included: "... maintains a positive and flexible attitude...a great worker...caring and kind to

students and staff...professional and accommodating...willing to help anyone, students or staff...a team player who works hard... very caring toward her students and keeps them at the center of her planning and focus...works hard to provide a clean and safe environment for students and staff...her enthusiasm is contagious... goes above and beyond the call of duty...provides support to the teachers to help them be 'the best they can be'...an amazing person whose care for her students and team is second to none...gets the job done accurately and efficiently."

Congratulations!

Bellefonte Education Foundation Scholarship Dinner



Left to Right): Mary Lou Whitman, Lata Anantheswaran, Elizabeth King, Christian Olmsted, and Myken Poorman

April 11th, Bellefonte Education Foundation held it's annual Scholarship dinner. Celebrating great teaching, volunteerism and outstanding alumni.

BeLA

The Bellefonte E-Learning Academy (BeLA) is continuing to grow and provide new opportunities and alternatives for Bellefonte students. This year we had 33 students that were enrolled full-time in the program throughout the year and we had four Senior that graduated and participated in commencement at the high school. We are all very proud of these graduates and wish them the best of luck in this new and exciting chapter of their lives. Congratulation to all of the 2015 graduates!

We continue to look for ways to better accommodate all of our student learners and provide them with necessary supports for success. The Bellefonte E-Learning Academy currently provides instruction for students in grades 5-12. We are looking forward to a productive summer with new and exciting things to come in the fall.



Special Olympics

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader."

John Quincy Adams







"We didn't realize we were making memories, we just knew we were having fun."





Bellefonte

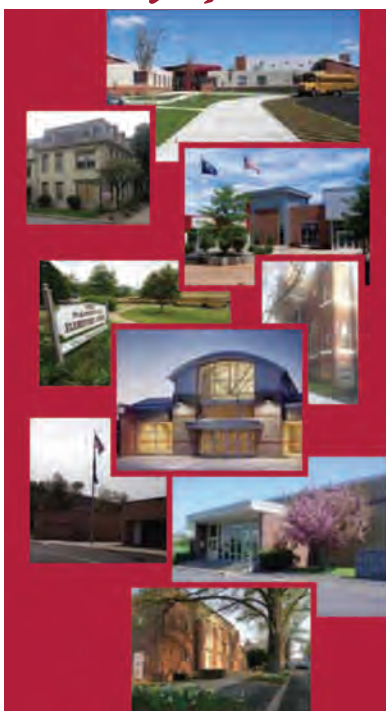
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Enjoy and have a Happy Summer!



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BE Involved
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BE llefonte

Advertise in the *Red Raider Magazine*, the official newsletter of the Bellefonte Area School District, with a readership of 10,000.
Contact Pam Vaiana for more details at 814-355-4814 x 3008 or email: pvaiana@basd.net

We're on the Web! www.basd.net

Red Raider Magazine Spring-Summer 2015