

RED RANGER



magazine

2016 SPRING ISSUE

- Graduation 2016
- Special Olympics
- Bellefonte District Champions!



BELLEFONTE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

RED RAIDER magazine

A Message from

Dr. Michelle Saylor

Interim Superintendent



Welcome to the Spring/Summer edition of our Red Raider Magazine

It is always beneficial to take a moment to reflect upon what we have accomplished. The 2015-16 school year was brimming with opportunities for our students, and we would like to share a few of this year's highlights with you.

We continued with reviewing and writing curriculum - this year physical education and health, fine arts, life skills, and our technology education and engineering departments began this process.

Chinese and Spanish World Language programs were expanded into second grade. We began developing our Interconnected Systems - the next step in our School Wide Positive Behavior Support program.

We implemented an elementary technology and business curriculum enabling our youngest learners to benefit from best practices in technology instruction.

Our Guidance Counselors developed what we call our 339 plan. This plan provides for additional curricular support and student learning opportunities with career exploration K-12.

Our math teachers began a collaborative project with Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science and Technology to develop shared strategies, vocabulary, and 'real world' models in mathematics. This will enable our students to see the relevancy

within what they are learning.

Our new science curriculum and resources were implemented; take a moment to ask your child if he/she enjoyed his/her learning experience. I'm sure he/she will be excited to share!

Departmentalization went into effect in grades 4 and 5.

Additional Chromebooks were added in each building to increase access to technology.

We began a weekend backpack program in collaboration with the YMCA.

The Facilities Committee initiated a district wide assessment for all facilities. The first phase of Rogers Stadium upgrades has begun with the installation of an ADA parking lot this summer.

We received a grant from the Department of Environmental Protection to develop gardens through our agricultural science classes.

We began our RED Talk series; take time to check out the speakers at <https://sites.google.com/a/basd.net/red-talks/>

Summer is also a great time to delve into a good book (or two or three...). We would like to share some resources that can help your child continue to gain valuable reading skills over the summer while enjoying the process. Some resources our Literacy Coaches recommend include: Reading Rockets

(<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/>

summer-reading-tips-parents)
Scholastic Summer Reading Program (<http://www.scholastic.com/readingcampaign/downloads/src-book-list-all-ages.pdf?linkId=24872140>)
Collaborative Summer Library Program <http://www.cslpreads.org/summer-reading-benefits/family-literacy/parents-summer-reading/>

Of course, you can visit our Centre County Libraries - both Bellefonte and Schlow in State College. Our school libraries will be open Tuesdays from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM at the Middle School, Tuesdays from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Benner Elementary, Wednesdays from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM at Bellefonte Elementary, and Wednesdays from 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM at Marion-Walker. We hope to see you there.

We intend to work tirelessly this summer to ensure your children return to school in August with a host of opportunities. We will continue to explore ways to provide our students with rigorous and engaging learning options.

We hope you have a fun and relaxing summer - enjoy!

Michelle Saylor
Interim Superintendent of Schools
Bellefonte Area School District

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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: Andrew Weigold

How to Reach Us

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Benner Elementary355-2812
Marion-Walker Elementary.....357-2425
Pleasant Gap Elementary359-2739
Bellefonte Middle School.....355-5466
Bellefonte High School.....355-4833
Web Site.....www.basd.net

HIGH SCHOOL

International Food Day

The International Club hosted the Annual International Food Day on March 10th in the High School mailroom. The club members collaborated with BAHS's ELL students, students in Chinese and Spanish classes, as well as students in Foods Around the World class to put together a global food event. Pairs of students researched and made dishes from a variety of cultures plus made informational posters about their chosen country. Countries represented at Food Day included Vietnam, Italy, Greece, The Gambia, Ukraine, Hungary, Brazil, Japan, Native America, Cuba, Egypt, and many more. Throughout the whole day, classes were invited to visit and taste foods from around the globe and answer cultural trivia questions for a prize. The event was a lot of fun; the participants and guests all enjoyed the educational and delicious event!



The Key Club's latest community service project at the YMCA daycare included reading to the kids, Valentines' crafts, and giving out free books and literacy materials to them. This school year, Key Club International has an initiative focused on early childhood literacy. Therefore, Key Clubs all over the nation are doing service projects with this focus. BAHS Key Club has visited several local daycares and read to local kids and handed out free (donated) books to each child to take home. Literacy materials are also provided to parents/guardians with information about the importance of early learning and lots of fun ideas to promote early literacy in everything from reading and math to health and socialization for all ages from birth through age 5. It has been a lot of fun for everyone involved, and we love the idea that we are putting books and other resources into the hands of kids and families in our own community.

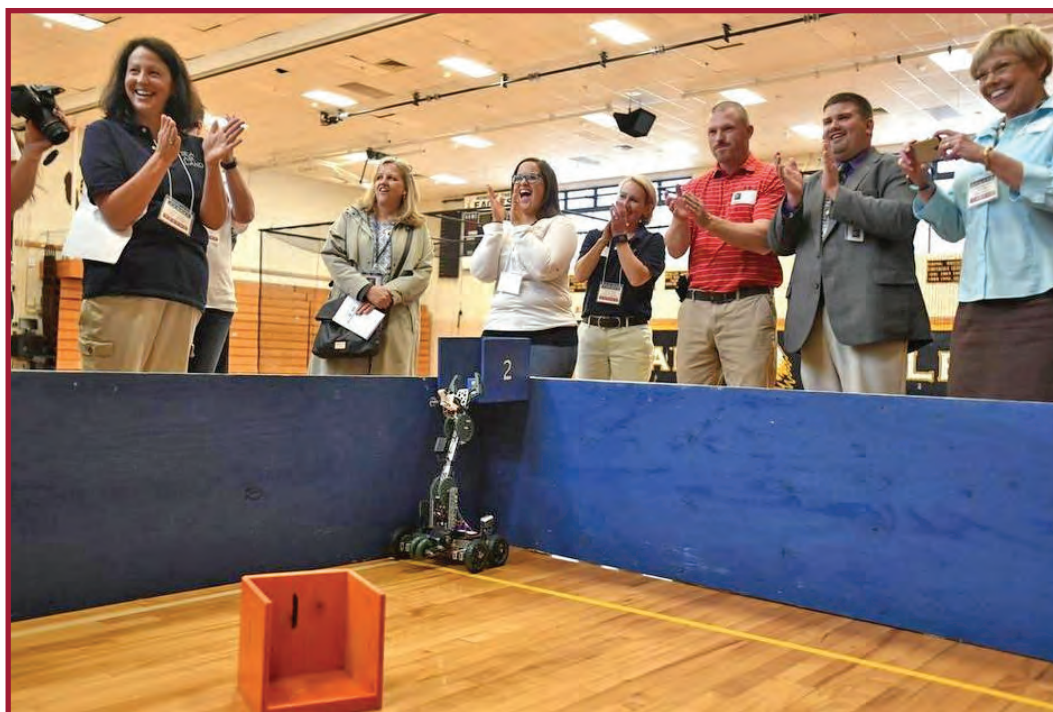
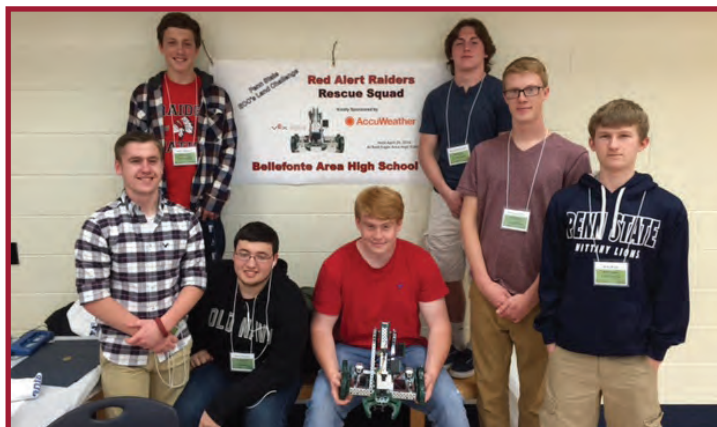


HIGH SCHOOL

SEA, AIR & LAND

Penn State teamed up with Centre County area schools to host a Sea, Air and Land challenge that promotes engineering projects similar to those used at the Department of Defense. The students designed and built a robot that would be able to complete military-based challenges.

The team worked since February to do this. Once built, they had to program the robot and camera. Finn Nixdorf drove the robot at the challenge. He was not looking directly at the course, but only saw by using the camera mounted on the "bot" which was programmed to a small monitor. He had to find the numbered blocks, pick them up, and deliver them to the corresponding dropbox....all in under 10 minutes. This was our first year at the event, and we won 1st place!





HIGH SCHOOL

GRADUATION 2016



HIGH SCHOOL



The Pennsylvania Association of Student Councils offer year-round opportunities for middle level and high school students and their advisors to develop and apply leadership and life skills in order to improve themselves, their schools, and communities. Six members of the BAHS Student Council attended the PASC District 6 Conference on May 4th. The theme for this year's conference was "Star Wars."



EMPTY BOWLS



On April 29th, the Bellefonte High School Art Club hosted the second annual Empty Bowls dinner in the BAHS cafeteria. The Empty Bowls Project was developed to raise both money and awareness for a local non-profit service organization. This year, the students voted to send the proceeds to the Centre County Women's Research Center. This wonderful community-wide event served soup in bowls created by the students. Food was provided by students, staff and local businesses. Talented students and local community members provided entertainment for the event.



MIDDLE SCHOOL SLAY THE DRAGON



The BAMS Slay the Dragon team brought home a first-place trophy from their competition -- the first time in BAMS history!

Slay the Dragon is a jeopardy-type game that takes place once a year at the Nittany Mall. It is hosted by Centre County Youth Service Bureau and Centre Chemical People. The purpose of the game is to promote drug and alcohol awareness. The students are quizzed on different topics in this area. They prepare for this competition throughout the school year and devote much hard work to their studies. There are other high school and middle school teams from across the area that compete for this trophy.

We would like to congratulate Mrs. Carra and her team on their first place win.

Team members include:

Lindsay Dillon - 8th grade
Keeli Pighetti - 8th grade
Jaelyn Smith - 8th grade
Bella Corman - 7th grade
Hana Rados - 6th grade
Caitlyn Bechdel - 6th grade



Band Fest



Seven students from Bellefonte Middle School attended the annual 6th Grade Band Fest this year on Friday, May 6th. This year, the festival took place at Glendale High School. Bellefonte students who participated met once a week for the past few months in order to prepare their music for this event. The event itself was a full-day fest. Students rehearsed all day and then performed an evening concert for friends, family, and community members. This was a great opportunity for some of our hardest-working musicians to meet and make music with excellent musicians from approximately thirty different school districts. Congratulations to this group of students on all of their hard work!



Kent Fest



Special Olympics

The BAMS Life Skill Support class rolled into Geri Ryan Track Meet on Thursday, April 14, 2016. The team competed in athletic competition at Penn State Multi-Sports Complex. The student coaches worked with athletes during tutorial time. The events that the students participated in were the 50 meter run, 100 and 200 meter run, 50 meter walk, 100 meter walk, standing long jump, and softball throw. The class also ran the 4x100 relay. Each student participated in 3 events. All the students won medals or ribbons for their effort.

Students that participated:

Kevin Doyle	3rd 100M run, 1st standing long jump, 2nd softball throw
Kayla Bruss	4th 100M run, 1st standing long jump, silver softball throw
Jesse Conklin	1st 50M walk, gold standing long jump, bronze softball throw
Kevin Wright	4th 50M run, bronze softball throw, silver standing long jump
Kenny Russo	4th 50M run, silver 100M walk, 4th softball throw
Rheya Lott	6th 50M run, 2nd standing long jump, 3rd softball throw
Quinton Reed	4th 50M run, silver standing long jump, silver softball throw
Alexa Steiner	2nd 50M run, 2nd standing long jump, 2nd softball throw
Eden Guizar	3rd 50M run, 2nd standing long jump, 3rd softball throw



A special thanks to our student coaches:

Selah Brown, Sarah Conner, Jasmine Kozel, Madison Steiner, Emma Astore, Lia Miner, Trae Bauman, Gunner Fravel, Evan Lemons, and Kyle Rowles





LACROSSE

Lacrosse is one of the fastest growing sports in America and is currently being offered for both boys and girls at the junior high (Grades 6-8) and senior high level (Grade 9-12) right here in the Bellefonte Area School District. Bellefonte Red Raider Lacrosse is a school affiliated, self-funded, club sport. At the varsity level, Bellefonte Red Raider Lacrosse is a PIAA sport that plays varsity high school lacrosse opponents also in the PIAA. Three years ago, the club expanded to include a middle school program open to boys and girls. This year, there was enough interest at the middle school level to field a middle school boys team and a middle school girls team. We are proud to say that the Bellefonte Area School District lacrosse program is one of the front-runners in the area, and we are currently the only school affiliated, middle school lacrosse program in Centre County and in much of the surrounding area. We are excited to be a part of the movement to expand this very action-packed sport in the area and hope that more districts follow our lead! The boys varsity, boys middle school, and girls middle school teams all had an awesome time playing a full schedule of games this spring season. We had a lot of new players that discovered how fun the sport is! We are always looking for new players and fully anticipate fielding four teams next year; boys and girls middle school and boys and girls varsity high school. Roll On Raiders!



BELLEFONTE ELEMENTARY HERO PROJECT



The 3rd grade at Bellefonte Elementary researched famous heroes during their Hero Unit. As their Inquiry Projects, the students wrote reports and created models of these heroes.

When I grow up, I'm going to be...



Grade 4 and 5 had the opportunity to visit Central Pennsylvania Institute of Science & Technology. Each grade visited 9 shops for hands-on activities or demos. The teachers and students were gushing about how cool it was.



Reading to Seniors



Students from Bellefonte Elementary School had the opportunity to share their love of reading with seniors at the Bellefonte Senior Center.



*"Today a reader,
tomorrow a
leader."*

Margaret Fuller

BELLEFONTE ELEMENTARY

LEARNING TO SERVE

Every spring, Mr. Klein teaches his students about giving back and doing service for others. He takes them outside and they talk about what they can do to improve the landscaping of their school, Bellefonte Elementary. Then later in the week, the children weed and trim and clean up around the flagpole memorial area. Thank you for teaching our students about service.



Special guests at this year's field day were local rock band Velveeta! A wet and wild field day filled with dunk tanks, slip 'n' slides, a 12 foot beach ball and water transfers turned EPIC when Velveeta came and played personal concerts for the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade classes. Sounds of fantastic rock music vibrated through downtown Bellefonte as locals came walking by to witness the band's electric show being put on for the Elementary students. A big thank you to the band for taking your time to help make our field day one to remember.

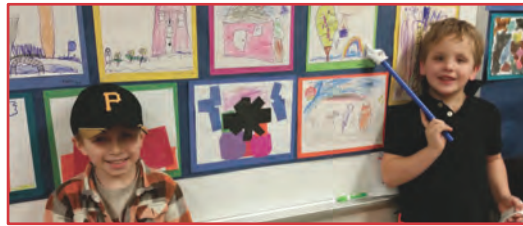
Mrs. Kling's Kindergarten during Field Day. The students enjoyed their fun-filled day!



Fourth graders exploring at Millbrook Marsh



Whirlwind of Activities at Benner



The first Friday night in March brought a whirlwind of activity to Benner Elementary school as students and their families gathered to celebrate Read Across America week and Dr. Seuss's Birthday with pizza and birthday cake! They were also able to shop at the Book Fair, and each student had at least one piece of artwork on display for all to see! They also played bingo for books. Families were able to enjoy fine arts, food, fun, and fellowship on this exciting night.



Students at Benner Elementary conducted a science experiment: Investigating Sensory Systems. In the pictures, the students are using a falling cup to investigate the time that elapses between a visual stimulus and a response.

The Benner Bears work hard to follow the school wide Benner Bear Necessities as part of the School Wide Positive Behavior Program. Throughout the year, students could earn monthly whole-school rewards. The March, April, and May rewards gave the students opportunities to choose a station. Stations included arts and crafts, technology, extra PE, a dance party, board games, and popcorn and movies. Good job, Benner Bears!



Mrs. Ananteswaran's Class learned about planting seeds, bees and pollination, and checking plant growth in the Second Grade Science Unit- Plant, Growth & Development.

MARION - WALKER

Imagine entering the **Marion-Walker** cafeteria and seeing the entire room full of presenters lining the perimeter of the room with games, activities, powerpoint and video presentations, and other country-related stations! Thirty-two stations representing 24 different countries in all! The PSU Global Connections program, coordinated by Sarah DuFour, teamed up with the 4 kindergarten teachers, (Patty Correll, Melissa Hockenberry, Jill Geyer, and Cheryl DeCusati) to make the afternoon a day of cultural learning and fun for us all. With 12 countries from PSU and twelve countries that the kindergarten teachers developed, the 78 students got to dress up at a photo booth, play field hockey for Canada, write their name in Arabic, play African instruments, and make German hats, to name just a few stations. Countries represented were Algeria, Afghanistan, Australia, Belize, Canada, China, France, Egypt, El Salvador, England, France, Germany, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and the USA.

Local businesses showed their amazing support with the Bellefonte Wok giving 100 fortune cookies, Philly Pretzel Factory at the Benner Pike Walmart contributing 50 large pretzel sticks, and Brother's Pizza of Bald Eagle and Bellefonte donating 8 large pizzas--all for our International Foods Tasting Table. The 100 paint sticks from Lowe's of State College was the handle for the Kenyan masks, the 4 carpet rolls from Carpet One of State College was for the

palm trees at the Egyptian Archeological Dig Site, and the 100 bags from the Blonde Bistro restaurant of Bellefonte made it easy to collect all our artwork made at the centers. What generosity and support of education in our community!!

The line for the gondola ride was a visual affirmation that the children really liked taking turns being the gondolier or just sitting in the boat as passengers 'traveling down the Venetian canals' to the tune of Italian music. Children nearby could be seen working hard at the Egyptian Archeological Dig Site (the sand table) to find hidden scrolls and then interpret the messages according to a code chart. Children could visit the El Salvador station to get their forearms painted in pictures, spend time at the Chinese station to print their name in Chinese, or stop by the Algerian station to get their name printed in Arabic. Students who went to the stage got to shoot hockey goals at the Canada station. So many choices, so much to do!

With the long list of parents, high school students, and PSU Global Connections International students alike giving their afternoon to be there for the children, their efforts and heart went a long way to make the event such a success. Amazing enthusiasm all around! So much so that we can look forward to making this an annual event, and we can explore more of our big, wonderful world next year, and meet more friends, too!





MARION - WALKER

Family Reading Night



Bam! Pow! ZAP! Batman, Spiderman, Captain America, and many other superheroes came to Marion-Walker Elementary School on Thursday, April 7th. No, it wasn't to fight crime or evil villains. Instead, they came to help celebrate reading at the annual Family Reading Night. This year's superhero theme was a big hit for all the students and their families with a record-breaking turnout. Over 140 students, dressed in their own superhero costumes, and their families were able to take part in the many fun reading activities.

Great Scott! Each student was given a superhero bag and a free book about superheroes, as well as some freshly popped popcorn and a water bottle at the "fueling station." In the library, students read books, made sticker stories, and wrote their own superhero comic strips and stories. In the gym, they were able to explore various stations to work on their

own super powers of strength, agility, and literacy. Getting pictures taken with the superheroes in the photo booth was a big highlight for all the kids.

Shazam! All the activities and free gifts were made possible through a donation from the Marion-Walker PTO and a grant from the Bellefonte Education Foundation.

A special THANKS to the super heroes who thrilled the students by reading with them and getting their pictures taken with them. **Shhh!** The real identities of our superheroes are PSU students in a non-profit group called the Alliance of Heroic Hearts. They become superheroes for children events at schools and hospitals. What a Super night of reading fun with the Super heroes!



Energy Safe Kids

The National Energy Foundation presented an Energy Safe Kids program to the 4th graders at Marion-Walker Elementary School. They discussed natural gas, how underground pipes are represented with different colored flags that symbolize different pipes, and they also discussed how to stay safe if there was a natural gas leak in their house. Each student took a survey home to fill out with their parents so that they could learn more about how natural gas is used in their homes. Once they brought the survey back in, they received a flashing safety reflector.





PLEASANT GAP Hoop Shoot

Trevor Johnson, Mia Johnson, and Brady Wertz recently placed in the annual Elks Regional Hoop Shoot. Mia placed 2nd in the girls 12/13 age group, Trevor placed 3rd in the boys 10/11 age group, and Brady placed 2nd in the boys 8/9 age group..



Below, kindergarten students at Pleasant Gap doing "backpack math". The students weigh the backpacks. They also measure volume, width and height of their backpacks.



Royal Character Breakfast

Students in Mrs. Hendershot's Third Grade Class at Pleasant Gap Elementary recently hosted a Royal Character Breakfast, as a closing to their Fairy Tale writing unit. Every student chose a fairy tale of their choice and then adapted it. They celebrated by sharing their adapted fairy tales with many great visitors! Mrs. Hendershot's Class would like to thank all the parents and PG Staff that attended their celebration. They would also like to send out a special THANK YOU to Mrs. Zahuranec for her writing support and help!

Field Day Fun...



A Year In Review....



Congratulations BeLA Graduates!

The Bellefonte E-Learning Academy (BeLA) is continuing to grow and provides new opportunities and alternatives for Bellefonte students. We would like to congratulate the five Seniors that graduated from BeLA. We are very proud of these graduates and wish them the best of luck in this new and exciting chapter of their lives. Congratulations to all Bellefonte 2016 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 continually trying to improve the options available to all of our students and are looking forward to new and exciting opportunities to be offered in the fall.



TECHNOLOGY

The BAHS and BAMS Technology Student Association chapters competed in regionals at Penns Valley High School and states at Seven Springs Resort this past spring. This year, BAMS is sending its first competitor to Nationals!

Eighth grader Matt Heggenstaller earned the middle school its first TSA state trophy by placing third in CAD Foundations. He is headed to Nashville in June to represent BAMS at the national conference. Also, competing at states from the middle school was 8th grader Alex Doeblner. Together, these students competed in four events under the guidance of fourth-year adviser, Christian Olmsted.

At BAHS, this was the high school's inaugural TSA chapter. Freshmen Katie Morgante and Kayla Fleming led the campaign to begin the high school club after competing for BAMS for the past three years. They recruited high school English teacher, Ashlie Crosson, to be their adviser after finding out that she competed in TSA when she was a high school student herself.

At Regionals, freshman Halle Mitchell placed third in extemporaneous speech and senior Lakeisha Rupert placed fourth in prepared presentation. Both students qualified for the state competition, but, sadly, they were unable to attend. Other regional competitors Hunter Bowser, Aiden Prascovich, David Barone, Carmen Seybold, and Liz Nugent attended the state conference and competed in PA Logo Design, Debate, and On Demand Video.

Next year, both the middle school and high school chapters look to extend their success by fundraising to help manage the cost of competitions, getting an early start on planning, and recruiting new students to join their current membership.



CENTRAL OFFICE

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 Nov. 9, 2015, Regular Board Meeting. Employees were nominated by their coworkers in their respective district buildings.

Excerpts of coworkers' nomination comments included: "...is an absolutely phenomenal teacher and tutor, as well as a wonderful person... working with her is a pleasure. She always wants to help and if she cannot answer your question, she will find the answer... is a responsible, caring teacher who dedicates countless hours outside of school for his students and colleagues...always with a smile, she was very courteous, considerate, and accommodating of others... learning is made dynamic and students are inspired through her excitement...she exhibits professionalism in all that she does and demonstrates true care and concern for all who enter the kitchen and cafeteria... is constantly looking for new ideas that will help her students enjoy learning...has a warm and welcoming demeanor that soothes students most in need...her work ethic is a valuable asset to the students... is an excellent teacher who truly cares about his students and has a wonderful way of making them feel special... is a dedicated employee who had served many students during her tenure with the District...she goes above and beyond her duties to help out wherever she is needed and does so with a smile on her face... is creative and innovative in developing activities and programs to support students and assist staff members."

Congratulations!



Professional Staff Recipients:

Jessica Baughman	Bellefonte Area High School
Larry Fry	Bellefonte Area Middle School
Rebecca Hitchings	Bellefonte Elementary School
Jamie Beard	Benner Elementary School
Kerry Jodon	Marion-Walker Elementary School
Patrick McDermott	Pleasant Gap Elementary School

Support Staff Recipients:

Evelyn Reeder	Bellefonte Area High School
Tammie King	Bellefonte Area Middle School
Amy Stedman	Bellefonte Elementary School
Kristen Crunick	Benner Elementary School
Nancy Schaeffer	Marion-Walker Elementary School
Amy McAndrew	Pleasant Gap Elementary School
Gabrielle King	Bellefonte Area School District



Faculty, staff, and administration came together for the "Flip Floppin' for Fun" fundraiser, and raised enough money to purchase 161 pairs of flip flops for our students. Thank you to all who donated and helped make this fundraiser a success!



CHINESE GALA



BELLEFONTE READS



*Having fun at
the Middle School
Luau Dance*



PRESCHOOL

Bellefonte Area High School not only sends graduates into the real world, it also serves as a launching pad for twenty-four students through the Red Raider Preschool program. The children have had quite a busy year! During the month of November, they participated in a food drive. Students filled seven boxes containing 140 donated items! During their Thanksgiving Feast, the children shared seasonal foods with their teen teachers while discussing people, activities, and items that they were thankful to have in their lives. In December, the children had a surprise visit from the jolly old elf himself--Santa Claus! The students shared a delightful conversation with Santa, asking questions about the toy shop, reindeer, and Mrs. Claus. The children had a great time celebrating St. Patrick's Day by wearing green and enjoyed chilling in preschool on pajama day!



MOCK ACCIDENT EXERCISE



RED RAIDER magazine

Students having a "Ball" on field day



RED RAIDER magazine

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME!





Bellefonte

Area School District

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*We will not be remembered by our words, but by our kind deeds.
Life is not measured by the breaths we take, but by the moments
that take our breath away.*

*Congratulations to the Class of 2016
Be Proud- Be True -Be You*



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