

Bellevue West HS

December 2023 Newsletter



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Ms. Kathie Britten, Scholarship Coordinator 402-827-5990, kathie.britten@bpsne.net
Mr. Randall Schultz, Career Coordinator 402-293-4092, randall.schultz@bpsne.net

Important Dates

December 20-22 – FINALS

December 22 – Early Dismissal – End of Quarter

December 25 – Jan 5 – No School (Holiday Break)

January 8 – No School

January 9 – School Resumes

January 15 – No School (Martin Luther King Day)



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SENIOR PARENTS:

Please follow the link attached for important information and dates for Seniors <https://www.bellevuepublicschools.org/domain/1586>



Testing Dates

ACT Test Dates

December 9

February 10

**Register online at www.act.org/bts

Registration Deadline

November 3

January 5

Late Registration Deadline

December 1

February 2

SAT Test Dates

March 9

May 4

**Register online at www.sat.org/register

Registration Deadline

February 23

April 19

Late Registration Deadline

February 27

April 23

Fee Waivers for Testing

Juniors and Seniors who are on Free/Reduced lunch qualify for a fee waiver for the ACT and SAT Tests. Students should see their counselor to get a fee waiver.

December Finals Schedule

Semester 1 Final Exams

Semester 1 Final Exams will be held on December 20, 21, & 22nd. Students are expected to complete exams on assigned test dates. If alternate test dates are required, students must get approval from administrators by December 5th. A request form is available in the Counseling Office. Alternative testing times may need to be scheduled outside of the regular school day.

Below is a list of the periods scheduled to test on each date.

Wednesday, Dec 20th

B Block

7:50-9:23	Period 2	
9:28-10:57	Period 4	
11:02-1:11	Period 6	
Lunch		
1st Lunch	11:02-11:40	
2nd Lunch	12:33-1:11	
1:16-2:45	Period 8	TEST
2:50-3:20	GPS	



Thursday, Dec 21st

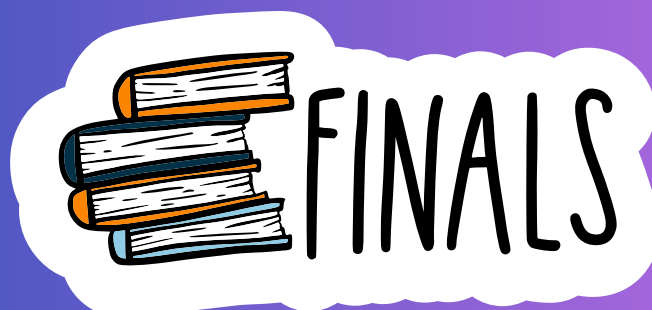
A Block

7:50-9:23	Period 1	TEST
9:28-10:57	Period 3	TEST
11:02-1:11	Period 5	TEST
Lunch		
1st Lunch	11:02-11:40	
2nd Lunch	12:33-1:11	
1:16-2:45	Period 7	TEST
2:50-3:20	GPS	

Friday, Dec 22nd

B Block

7:50-9:20	Period 2	TEST
9:30-11:00	Period 4	TEST
11:10-1:20	Period 6	TEST
Lunch		
1st Lunch	11:00-11:45	
2nd Lunch	12:50-1:20	



AP Exam Information 2023–24

Students enrolled in Advanced Placement classes have the opportunity to earn college credit by taking the corresponding AP exam in May 2024. Each exam costs \$81.00. Students who qualify for free or reduced price lunch pay \$16.00 per exam. Although the deadline is passed, students can still order exams by paying a \$40.00 late fee per exam. See Ms. Polk in counseling if you wish to register.

More information is available on the Bellevue West website under “Academics” then “Advanced Placement,” or at ap.collegeboard.org.

College and Career Planning



Metropolitan Community College is hosting an Open House at the Applied Technology Center, and all prospective students are welcome!

Join us and explore the ATC specific trades programs Utility Line, Fire Science, CDL, Diesel Tech. Community & Workforce Education representatives will also be present to provide information on career education and fun course opportunities for all ages.

- If you have questions or need help completing an enrollment application to get started at MCC, please plan to join us,
- If you are interested in exploring the featured programs, want to learn more about MCC, or check out the Applied Technology campus just to see what it is all about to join us!

See time, date, and further details within the following link and [RSVP to attend](#) . Please contact getstarted@mccneb.edu with any questions!



College and Career Planning

Greetings from the University of Nebraska!

Teaching at Nebraska, a one-day event where you can learn how an education degree through the College of Education and Human Sciences will provide you with the skills you will need to teach students from birth to 12th grade. You will hear from instructors about recent developments and popular subjects in the teaching profession and will also receive a guided tour of the new Carolyn Pope Edwards Hall, home to many of our teaching programs. Registration and lunch is provided at no cost to all attendees at this event. Register at go.unl.edu/teaching-at-nebraska.

On To College ACT Prep for Seniors

Seniors, just a reminder that you still have access to the On To College ACT Test Prep by John Baylor. You can use the ACT Refresher Course or any of the other videos and materials to help prepare for the ACT. If you have questions about your access credentials to the online program, please email Mr. Schultz.



UNMC High School Alliance

The University of Nebraska Medical Center offers the UNMC High School Alliance program where students have an opportunity to observe, shadow, and work alongside health care professionals and researchers at UNMC. Students take classes (2 classes each semester) on the UNMC campus from 1:00–3:00 p.m. each day. Class offerings may include Behavioral Health, Biology and Prevention of Cancer, Biomedical Research, Dimensions of Community Health, Exploration of Human Anatomy, Human Genetics, The Study of Patient Care, Infectious Disease, Pathology, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Medical Imaging, and the Art and Science of Decision Making.

Application required:

The UNMC application for the 2024–2025 school year opens November 17th and closes on January 19, 2024. Eligible students must be a current junior or sophomore, at least 16 years of age by August of 2024; have completed and received a grade of "B" or above in Algebra I, Biology, a Physical Science course; be concurrently enrolled in a third year of science; and be on track for graduation.

If students meet the requirements and are interested in applying, they should go to www.unmc.edu/alliance to complete the application.

College and Career Planning



BPS Career Academy @ the Frank Kumor Career Center

Bellevue Public Schools will offer four Career Academy programs within the district at the Frank Kumor Career Center. Current Sophomore and Junior students can apply for the Certified Nursing Assistant Academy, the Automotive Maintenance Academy, the Education Career Academy and new for the 24-25 school year will be the Aviation Academy. Students in these programs will earn Dual Enrollment credit through Metro Community College (dual enrollment pending for the Aviation program through another institution). The BPS Career Academy programs are free. Transportation to and from the high school is provided.

If you are interested in one of the Career Academy programs, please see your School Counselor for more information.

Southeast Community College Virtual Program Showcase

Students can attend as many as they'd like and will learn about [SCC's Programs of Study](#).

[Register Now](#)

College of Saint Mary

Showcase Days – a fantastic opportunity for students to explore our campus, programs, and vibrant community. Please click the link for more information and important dates. [College of Saint Mary campus dates](#)

Visit UNK

Is an event on select Fridays to experience our campus and visit our residence halls with a student-led tour in Spanish. Our dates for this Fall are November 3rd, and November 17th. Students and families can visit

<https://go.unk.edu/visitasunk> to schedule a visit.

Exploring Programs for Students Ages 14-20

Exploring programs provide exciting activities and one-on-one mentorship for youth looking to discover their future. If you are unsure of your career path, Exploring is a great place to start. For more information and dates, visit the website at <https://mac-bsa.org/programs-activities/exploring/>

Perry Virtual Experience

Free, 2.5-hour, interactive online experience for high school and college-aged students who gender-identify as female or nonbinary and are interested in pursuing careers in orthopedic surgery and engineering. Dates and details for each session can be found at <https://perryinitiative.org/calendar/>



College and Career Planning

Metro Community College Career Academies

Metro offers academies designed for high school juniors and seniors (for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year) to earn both high school and college credit. Students who are accepted take classes at Bellevue West in the morning and classes at Metro Community College in the afternoon. Programs being offered for the 2024-2025 school year include:

*Administrative Technology *Advanced Manufacturing *Architecture *Auto Collision
*Automotive Technology *Business Transfer *Diesel Technology *Civil Engineering
*Emergency Medical Technician *Fire Science Technology *Google Support Professional
*Criminal Justice *Horticulture, Land Systems, and Management *Culinary Arts Foundations
*Web Development *Digital Cinema/Filmmaking, *Early Childhood Education
*Heating/Cooling and Refrigeration *IT Technician *Theatre Technology *Construction
Technology *Prototype Design *Electrical Technology *Pre-Apprenticeship Plumbing
*Welding Technology *3-D Animation and Games.

Eligibility requirements:

High school junior or senior (for 2024-2025); on-track for graduation; be 16 years of age (by 8/2024) and meet any criteria listed in program description; must provide your own transportation to/from Metro classes and internship/apprenticeship sites. Current Nebraska High School students are automatically eligible to take credit classes at no tuition cost. Cost of books is covered by the District. For more information students can go to www.mccneb.edu and search for Career Academy. Applications will be completed online this year. Deadline to apply will be in early March.





Volunteer

Volunteers needed

The Open Door Mission

has many volunteer opportunities. Go to opendoormission.org/volunteer to check out how you can become a volunteer and give back to your community.

The Omaha Food Bank for the Heartland

is grateful for our extraordinary volunteers who donate their time to help our neighbors in need across Nebraska. To find out how you or a group can help, Go to volunteerfoodbankheartland.org

Pottawattamie Arts, Culture, & Entertainment (PACE)

We are a non-profit arts and culture organization that runs the Hoff Family Arts & Culture Center. PACE is proud to host an awesome volunteer group named the PACE Ambassadors and PACE Junior Ambassadors. PACE Junior Ambassadors are a group of volunteer youths that are eager and ready to help support the arts. We are looking to bolster this program by bringing students in to help support arts and culture by ushering shows, working in our art galleries, helping teach art classes, assisting in administrative tasks, building sets, helping in our day-to-day operations, running lights and sound in our theater, helping backstage on shows, help set up art shows, classes, programs, and so much more.

Students can either visit the [PACE Ambassador Volunteer Portal](https://pace.galaxydigital.com) at pace.galaxydigital.com or use our handy app - [CauseConnect](#)!

CHI - Midlands Teen Volunteer Service

Are you looking for volunteer hours? Well, CHI Health Midlands Teen Volunteer Program currently has openings! To learn more about joining the fun, please visit www.chihealth.com/volunteer-services or email Terra Smith at terra.smith@commonspirit.org to for more information. [Midland Info Flyer](#)



Family Resources

Is your student having social, emotional, and/or behavioral problems at home or school? Does your student seem to be sad, angry, worried, or have difficulty following basic rules? Bellevue Public Schools has partnered with Family Connections and CRCC, independent third party agencies, to help your student with counseling support. Family Connections & CRCC Providers are Licensed Mental Health Practitioners and are located right in your student's school. Their confidential counseling services can help your student put the pieces together to cope with life's stressors. There are immediate openings and most insurances are accepted. Financial assistance is available as well. Please contact your student's school counselor for more information or to make a referral.

Find out more about these organizations on their websites:

<https://crccomaha.org/services/therapy/behavior-health-program.html>

<https://familyconnectionsowa.com/>

Athletics Department

Mr. Jon Mauro, Activities Director, 402-293-4046, jon.mauro@bpsne.net

Ms. Nicole Jaros, Secretary, 402-293-4052, Nicole.jaros@bpsne.net

Athletic Schedules can be found at: mhsaaconference.org

Streaming Information can be found at: fan.hudl.com/thunderbirds

Spring Sports (Baseball, Girls Soccer, Boys Soccer, Boys and Girls Track & Field, Girls Tennis, Boys Golf) begin Monday, February 26th. Please contact our spring coaches for more information.



Administration Staff

Mr. Kevin Rohlf, Principal, 402-293-4049, kevin.rohlf@bpsne.net

Dr. Larry Murry, 10th Grade Principal, 402-293-4044, larry.murry@bpsne.net

Mrs. Mary Sasek, 9th Grade Principal, 402-293-4086, mary.sasek@bpsne.net

Ms. Dorthena Wallace, Principal Secretary, 402-293-4049, dorthena.wallace@bpsne.net

Parents can access updated grades, attendance, assignments, and the daily bulletin by logging into the PowerSchool Parent Portal. If you need assistance logging in, please contact Kathie Britten at kathie.britten@bpsne.net.

YEARBOOKS can be ordered online. Visit <https://yearbookforever.com/#>

Follow Bellevue West on Social Media

Twitter: @TbirdEMPIRE

Facebook: Search “Bellevue West”

Student Publications Department: thethunderbeat.org (includes streaming video, articles & pictures)

District Website: www.bellevuepublicschools.org (under school tab, click on Bellevue West—includes contact info for teachers)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Bellevue Public Schools, with certain exceptions, obtain written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from the student's education records. However, Bellevue Public Schools may disclose, without consent, Directory Information, unless the parent, legal guardian or eligible student (18 years or older) elects to opt-out of the disclosure of Directory Information. Directory information is information from a student's education record that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. The following information is designated by Bellevue Public Schools as Directory Information:

- Student's name
- Grade level
- School of enrollment
- Photographs, video, film or livestream of student for inclusion in any District/School publications, District/School websites and social media sites, and on school property or at any school sponsored event.
- Photographs, video, film or livestream of student when permitted by the District to be taken by news media on school property during the school day. Including release of school yearbook photo upon receipt of a public records request.
- Height and weight, if a member of an athletic team
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Degrees, honors, and awards received

Bellevue Public Schools is required by law to comply with requests by military recruiters and institutions of higher education access to high school students' directory information (grades 9-12 only). Schools will provide student's name, home address, and parent's/guardian's phone numbers. No personally identifiable information, including a student's name or photograph will be released without parent/legal guardian permission if doing so would identify that student as having a disability or being a member of a special education class, group or program.

Opt-Out Process:

Parents, legal guardians and eligible students (18 years or older) have the right to opt-out of the disclosure of Directory Information, subject to the requirements and limitations of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), state law, and the policies and procedures contained in policy. To obtain an Opt-Out Form you must complete and submit the document at the school office which the student attends. The request form should be submitted within 15 days of the first day of the school year. Forms submitted after the date will be accepted, however, some information may have already been disseminated or submitted for printing and cannot be changed or reversed. The opt-out request is only effective for the school year in which they are submitted.