

Bellevue West High School

January 2025

Ms. Melissa Minahan, Counselor (A-E) 402-293-4056, melissa.minahan@bpsne.net

Ms. Susan Polk, Counselor (F-La) 402-293-4054, susan.polk@bpsne.net

Ms. Emily Fenster, Counselor (Le-Ro) 402-293-4055, emily.fenster@bpsne.net

Mr. Joseph Mlnarik, Counselor (Ru-Z) 402-293-4057, joseph.mlnarik@bpsne.net

Ms. Donna Pearson, Secretary/Registrar 402-293-4047, donna.pearson@bpsne.net

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 23 - Jan 3 - No School (Holiday Break)

January 6 - No School

January 7 - School Resumes

January 20 - No School (Martin Luther King Day)

February 14 - No School

February 17 - No School

March 14 - Early Dismissal

March 17 - 21 - No School (Spring Break)

Parents will be able to access report cards via the PowerSchool Parent/Student portal beginning December 27, 2024. The report card can be found on the left-hand side under the Report Card tab.

Paper report cards will not be provided. If you are not connected to your child's PowerSchool account or need assistance, please contact Kathie Britten at kathie.britten@bpsne.net.

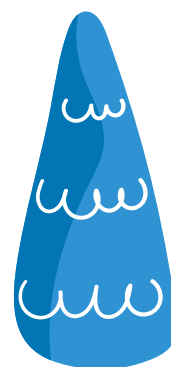
Testing Dates

| ACT Test Dates | Registration Deadline | Late Registration Deadline |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| December 14 | November 8 | November 22 |
| January 3 | January 20 | February 8 |
| April 5 | February 28 | March 16 |

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

| SAT Test Dates | Registration Deadline | Late Registration Deadline |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| March 8 | February 21 | February 25 |
| May 3 | April 18 | April 22 |
| June 7 | May 22 | May 27 |

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



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.

Registration for 2025/2026

Registration for the 2025-2026 school year will begin during the month of January. Below are important dates and information for parents.

- *January 15*: Registration presentation during Advisory
- *January 16-24*: Students will work with Advisory teachers to select classes for the 25-26 school year.
- *January 24*: **Deadline** to input course requests into the PowerSchool Student Portal AND turn in a back-up copy of the registration form to their Advisory Teacher.

On January 15th, parents and students will have access to presentations and general registration forms via the Bellevue West website under Academics>Registration>Registration 2025-2026. Students will also have access to all presentations and general registration forms via their Schoology grade level Instructional Roster in the Advisory folder. Students should be discussing class options with parents between January 16-January 24. Counselors will follow up with short meetings with all students to ensure requested courses meet graduation requirements and future college/career plans.

AP Exam Information 2024-25

Students enrolled in Advanced Placement classes have the opportunity to earn college credit by taking the corresponding AP exam in May 2025. Each exam costs \$91.00. Students who qualify for free or reduced price lunch pay \$26.00 per exam. Although the deadline has 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.

Class of 2025 Parents & Guardians:

New graduation requirement beginning with the Class of 2025 requires ALL seniors to complete the FAFSA or opt out. If you wish to opt out please complete the link below:

[FAFSA opt out form for Class of 2025](#)



Season Greetings and Happy New Year!



From your loving
BW Companions,
Hoot, JoJo and
George



College and Career Planning

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.

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](#)

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 the Aviation Academy. Students in these programs will earn Dual Enrollment credit through Metro Community College(excludes the Aviation program). The BPS Career Academy programs are free. Transportation too and from the high school is provided.

Students can complete the application located in Schoology.

Applications are due February 10th, 2025.

If you have questions about any of the Career Academy programs, please see your School Counselor for more information.

Siembra Nebraska

They are offering local high school and college students internships in fields such as environmental and agricultural sustainability, multimedia, business, construction, and public health. Through Siembra Nebraska, interns gain leadership skills, hands-on experience, and valuable mentorship opportunities.

Students are paid \$15.50 and can work up to 30hrs a week. An additional perk is that students are also able to obtain CNA certification for free and get paid.

Deadline for the application is February 14th [Application Link](#)

Listed Below are some requirements:

- 16-21 years old
- Resume
- Reference letter
- Complete application
- Complete Interview Process

For any additional questions please contact: siembrane@latinocenter.org

College and Career Planning

UNO Summer Scholars

Summer Scholars Program offers an unparalleled opportunity for college-bound students to earn an academic course (3-credits) during UNO's summer school session, experience college life through 5-weeks of engaging programming from May 27, 2025- June 27, 2025, and gain essential skills that facilitate their transition. Participants get a head start in their college journey as they build their support system and connect with UNO faculty, staff, and students. [UNO Summer Scholar](#)

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](#)

Exploring Programs for Students

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://macbsa.org/programs-activities/exploring/>

Metro Community College Career Academies

Metro offers academies designed for high school juniors and seniors (for the upcoming 2025-2026 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 2025-2026 school year include: *Accounting *Advanced Manufacturing *Architecture *Auto Collision *Automotive Technology *Business Transfer *Diesel Technology *Civil Engineering *Emergency Medical Technician *Fire Science Technology *Data Science *Criminal Justice *Human Services *Horticulture, Land Systems, and Management *Culinary Arts Foundations *Web and Mobile App Development *Digital Cinema/Filmmaking *Heating/Cooling and Refrigeration *IT Technician-Cyber Security *Construction Technology *Powersports and Outdoor Power Equipment Technician * Photography *Electrical Technology *Pre-Apprenticeship Plumbing *Welding Technology *3-D Animation and Games.

Eligibility requirements:

High school junior or senior (for 2025-2026); on-track for graduation; be 16 years of age (by 8/2025) 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/parents can go to <https://www2.mccneb.edu/secondary-partnerships/career-academy>.

Deadline to apply is March 7th, 2025.

Volunteer

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](#)



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](http://pace.galaxydigital.com) at pace.galaxydigital.com or use our handy app - [CauseConnect!](#)

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

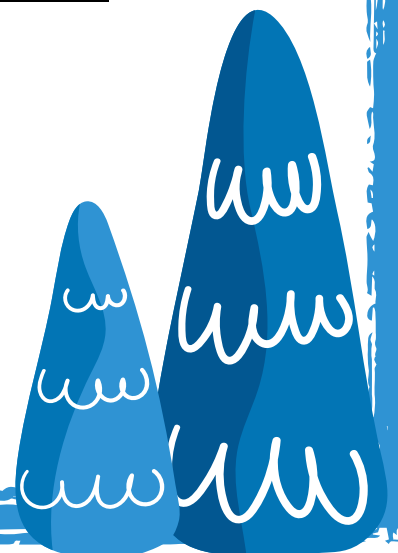


UNMC Volunteer Opportunities UNMC

Munroe-Meyer Institute Recreational Therapy is looking for student volunteers ages 13 to 25 with a Covid vaccine.

Volunteers will gain hands on experience interacting with children and youth with development disabilities. Please visit this link for more information: [NE Med Volunteer](#)

[Volunteer](#)



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: mhsaconference.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, March 3rd. 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

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://familyconnectionsia.com/>

PARENT PORTAL - Student Information

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)