Celebrating what’s right!

Birmingham Public Schools
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letter from the Board of Education</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter from the Superintendent</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission, vision and core values</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic planning</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A glance at what’s right</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs and opportunities</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional learning for staff</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BPS Young Learners</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverly Elementary School</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bingham Farms Elementary School</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenfield Elementary School</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harlan Elementary School</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pembroke Elementary School</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pierce Elementary School</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarton Elementary School</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Maple Elementary School</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCS Districtwide 3-8 School</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berkshire Middle School</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derby Middle School</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groves High School</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seaholm High School</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report card</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget - Source and use of funds</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham Education Foundation</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Community Members:

Welcome to Birmingham Public Schools. The nearly 8,400 children that attend our community schools are served by a school board that consists of seven school district residents. We are elected in even numbered years to serve overlapping terms.

As trustees of the Birmingham Public Schools district, we work as concerned citizens, in close collaboration with our superintendent, for the improvement of our public schools. As representatives of the electorate, we are committed to being careful financial stewards of the community’s school resources, while at the same time overseeing programs that engage and inspire all our students as they prepare for a lifetime of opportunities. Finally, we are responsible for setting educational policies consistent with state and federal laws governing public education.

Regular board meetings are typically held the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., in the Evergreen Community Room at the Birmingham Education and Administration Center. All regular meetings of the board are open to the public. Check the BPS web site (www.birmingham.k12.mi.us) to confirm meeting dates. Agendas are posted on the BPS website the Friday before the board meeting. Agendas are also provided at the board meeting. All regular sessions are videotaped and available for on-demand replay from the BPS web site.

All regular meetings of the Board of Education include “public comments.” The board values this regular opportunity to listen to the concerns of parents, students and other community members. If you prefer, you may express your concerns by letter. You may also call 248.203.3004 to leave a voicemail message for board members.

We look forward to meeting you at school and around the community.

Sincerely,
The Birmingham Board of Education
Dear Community Members:

“By ensuring educational excellence, we challenge and inspire all learners to positively impact their world.”
~ BPS Mission Statement

Our mission, as a public school district, is unique. We know that for our country, and for that matter our world, to be the kind of country we want and need for it to be, our young people must learn and develop character qualities that allow them to have a positive impact on their world. This speaks to our having a global perspective as we teach, but it also speaks to our need to ensure our young people develop the right kind of character qualities to make a difference no matter where they end up living.

We do this work by focusing on our students developing global learning and quality character skills in the classroom. Our Strategic Plan focuses on these aspirations and as we do our work we are committed to ensuring that all of our students develop these critically important skills. But perhaps most important, we know this work must be done in partnership with you. Our kids develop in the best possible way when we work together to achieve great outcomes.

As we think about our need to partner with each other as we do this important work, there is much to be proud of. We have great young people to serve, our parents/guardians and community members are very supportive of our schools and we have a staff that dedicates itself to ensuring a world class education for our children. These are the right ingredients for successful student outcomes and our collective work must continue to nurture relationships between these groups.

This booklet will help you learn more about our school district and the many things that are right about our commitments in service of our children. Beyond reading the information in this booklet, the best way to learn about our work is to visit our schools. Please contact us to arrange for a tour. We believe you will be impressed not only with our staff, but also with commitments our Board of Education has made over the years to ensure quality school building and learning environments. As we also commit to having a focus on continuous improvement, we feel you will find our schools quality places for learning and overall character development.

Come visit us and let us continue to partner on behalf of all of our children.

Sincerely,

Daniel A. Nerad, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools

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**Principals**

**Elementary**
- Beverly, Jamii Hitchcock
- Bingham Farms, Russell Facione
- Greenfield, Noelle Davis
- Harlan, Embekka Thompson
- Pembroke, Susan Crocker
- Pierce, Jim Lalik
- Quarton, Jill Ghiardi-Coignet
- West Maple, Laura Mahler

**Districtwide 3-8 School**
- BCS, Mark Morawski

**Middle School**
- Berkshire, Jason Clinkscale
- Derby, Celeste Nowacki

**High School**
- Wylie E. Groves, Cathy Hurley
- Ernest W. Seaholm, Rachel Guinn
- Alternative, Gary Bigger
**Mission, vision and core values**

**Our mission**
By ensuring educational excellence, we challenge and inspire all learners to positively impact their world.

**Our vision**
All learners are inspired and engaged, develop fully and have a positive impact on our diverse, global society where:

- Students develop a passion for ethical leadership, learning, excelling, innovating and contributing.

- Staff work collectively and collaboratively to ensure a rigorous academic and caring environment that meets the needs of all learners.

- Parents and guardians support the positive development of their children and collaborate with staff for great outcomes for their children.

- Community members create necessary support for children to develop well and are active partners in ensuring the continuation of a great community.

**Our core values**

**All Learners**
We value and respect each member of our community and are committed to each learner’s growth and development.

**Diversity**
We encourage and embrace the unique qualities each person contributes to our community.

**Collaboration**
We foster collaboration through positive engagement and meaningful dialogue in all our interactions.

**Innovation**
We inspire innovation and growth by modeling courage, resilience, curiosity, creativity, risk-taking, exploration and reflection.

**Excellence**
We inspire academic excellence by challenging all learners to reach their full potential.

**Leadership**
We empower all learners to demonstrate strong character as they lead and mentor within the school and community.

**Learning**
We instill passion and excitement for continuous learning through an intellectually rich, engaging and safe learning environment.

**Character**
We foster civic responsibility by engaging in service learning and inspiring all learners to become involved in local, national and international topics.
Birmingham Public Schools Strategic Plan

In 2013, the district embarked upon a process to create a new Strategic Plan. The goal creation involved stakeholders throughout our district and took place over several days. Joined by parents, community members, students, staff members, administration and board members, the following four goals were established:

**World Academic Excellence for All**
All Birmingham Public Schools learners will continually excel in a learning environment that is engaging, global and free of achievement gaps.

**Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment**
All Birmingham Public Schools learners will be engaged every day, in every way, through a world class education to discover their passions and unleash their potential to be successful and contributing members of their community.

**Positive Culture and Community**
All Birmingham Public Schools learners will demonstrate empathy. As ethical leaders they will embrace opportunities that positively impact the world.

**Organizational Structure**
Birmingham Public Schools will design and implement a dynamic educational organization that creates unlimited opportunities for student learners.
Preschool
The youngest learners enter the district at six weeks old through the Wee Care program, housed at Groves High School. Preschool-aged children have additional opportunities through the accredited, full-service, all-day preschool housed at the Midvale Early Childhood Center. Each of the BPS elementary schools also offer half-day preschool programs.

Elementary Schools
Our K-5 buildings offer unique learning environments led with extensive character education initiatives. Seven of the elementary schools have earned National Schools of Character awards through the Character Education Partnership, and all have earned Promising Practice Awards in Character Education.

Academic achievement is high at the elementary school level and state and national assessments regularly rank BPS schools among the top in the state. It was with those high standards in mind that the district instituted the Ignite program which provides a 21st century learning environment with a focus on technology as an essential learning tool.

Students in elementary school also have access to art, music, physical education, band or orchestra, world language and community service opportunities in every class. Our elementary schools are all recognized as Michigan Green Schools and have active PTAs and Proud Dads Clubs.

Birmingham Covington District Wide 3-8 School
Birmingham Covington School (BCS) is unique to BPS and offers a choice in educational structure and philosophy to students who live in the district. The curriculum focuses strongly on science and technology through multi-age learning environments. BCS is also a National School of Character.

Middle Schools
Our middle school programming is designed to develop confident, compassionate, intellectually-curious young people who are well prepared to excel throughout the remainder of their educational careers. Language arts, math and social studies teachers deliver core content through an innovative 21st century learning environment that leverages technology to engage students.

High Schools
Our high school students continue to rank among the highest achieving in the state. With a wide variety of extra-curricular and co-curricular opportunities, our students are able to find a path that best prepares them for the world beyond high school. The majority of BPS students are accepted to one of their top three choice colleges or universities. University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Cornell, Stanford, Northwestern, Yale and Harvard are among the colleges BPS students choose.
Common Core State Standards
The district follows the Common Core State Standards to guide curriculum. Designed to prepare students for careers and college, the Common Core State Standards were developed with the help of teachers, business leaders, universities and state representatives. More information on the Common Core can be found on the BPS website.

The Flex Program
The Flex program, short for Flexible Scheduling, is an honors college preparatory curriculum for high school students that combine English and social studies in a four-year interdisciplinary program. Students work together in a cooperative environment that integrates literary, historical, aesthetic and philosophical movements. Students who remain in the Flex program all four years earn all the language arts and social studies credits required for graduation, including public speaking and composition, and have opportunities to prepare for Advanced Placement exams in both core subjects.

Advanced Placement and Honors courses
With 39 Advanced Placement classes and 36 Honors Level classes, our high schools foster high academic success and are among the most competitive high schools in the state. In 2014, 293 students from Groves and Seaholm high schools earned AP Scholar status as a result of their hard work and dedication to their Advanced Placement course studies.

!gnite and Engage
!gnite is an innovative, performance-based program which blends classroom instructional methods with the tools of the 21st century. !gnite students work extensively with web-based technologies such as Moodle, blogs, wikis, podcasts, videocasts, and more. Using these tools, the activities and projects meet the BPS curriculum and emphasize creativity, communication, collaboration, critical thinking and reflection.

At Birmingham Covington 3-8 School, grades 5-8 utilize the Engage program. Engage is a program of 21st century skills including science, engineering tech, education tech, and communications. It is problem/project based and uses cooperative teams with ongoing documentation and reflection.

World Language
Our students have the opportunity to learn Spanish, French, Chinese and Japanese. Students begin their cultural journey as early as second grade, when world language begins at each elementary school. Students in middle school delve deeper into language and culture with trips to Quebec and China. High school students have the opportunity to take Advanced Placement.
Character education

Students throughout the district integrate character education into their daily work. Service opportunities are made available inside and outside of the classroom, and many older students choose to work in soup kitchens, participate in Habitat for Humanity, run canned food drives, organize blood drives and fundraise for medical research as they work toward the goal of becoming responsible global citizens.

Alternative high school

Lincoln Street Alternative High School (LSAHS) seeks to develop the unique talents of students through opportunities to acquire skills, knowledge and the attitude necessary to live successfully in a changing world. LSAHS provides a flexible learning environment in a family atmosphere that encourages student decision-making, critical thinking, understanding of and appreciation for individual cultural differences and good citizenship.

International Academy (IA)

High school students have the opportunity to earn an International Baccalaureate degree at the International Academy. Located in the Bloomfield Hills School District, the IA is a consortium of county districts. BPS reserves approximately 40 seats each year for interested freshmen. IA provides increased language instruction, international curriculum standards, self-directed product teams, enrichment weeks, career internships and mentorships, and other opportunities for a unique blend of rigorous academic standards and practical and career-related learning.

Specialized Instruction & Students Services

The BPS Student Services Department provides additional services, support programs, specialized placement or environments to ensure that all eligible students’ educational needs are being met. The department believes that placing students in the setting that best addresses his/her needs as defined by their IEPs, while employing best practices in a school wide setting, is key to high achievement, successful school and post school outcomes for all children with special needs or different learning styles. Students are served at every level of the district.

The Autism Spectrum Disorder program is a county-based program that has been in district for over 30 years. There are 17 classes in five elementary schools, one middle school, one high school and one post secondary high school.

English Language Learners (ELL)

Over 40 languages are represented in our district. BPS actively services approximately 200 ESL students in grades K-12. The district also monitors the academic progress of an additional 100 ELL students. The ESL staff includes ESL-certified teachers at the district’s two full-time ESL elementary centers, located at West Maple Elementary and Pierce Elementary.
Community Education

The Community Education department offers hundreds of enrichment and recreation classes, camps and workshops for adults and youth year around. In 2014-15, over 1,000 adults and 4,000 youth attended these programs. Instructors are BPS teachers, staff and class contractors.

Among the many program options, Birmingham Community Education offers public open swim, Academic Summer School, adult education and facility rentals. Contact Birmingham Community Education at 248.203.3800 or visit www.communityed.net.

Diversity

Birmingham Public Schools is committed to the development and fostering of diversity. To support this commitment, the district supports a district Diversity Committee, the goal of which is to create a welcoming, inclusive environment that fosters individual and social responsibility. Through the continuing efforts of students, staff and community members, the Diversity Committee continues to instill a deep commitment to individual and social responsibility at all levels in the district.

Extracurricular and co-curricular activities

State-of-the-art facilities include the latest technology, fully-equipped engineering and robotics labs, specialized art studios, media centers and computer labs, film editing suites for broadcasting and full-service athletics. Our students have numerous opportunities outside of the common core. School bands, orchestras, art programs, theatre troupes, journalists and athletes consistently earn the highest honors in their fields, including 17 Scholastic Art winners.
Professional growth

Staff of BPS have multiple opportunities to grow within their profession. The district values professional learning opportunities, collaborative work environments, seminars and conferences inside and outside of the district. The cultivation of professional skills is encouraged through district-sponsored events designed to strengthen skills. Each year, the district hosts speakers and utilizes the strengths of current staff members to enhance learning for teachers, support staff and administrators. Diversity programming is offered each year, while various speakers are brought in from around the nation to speak at events.

Staff members also benefit from:

- **SALTs** – Subject Area Leadership Teams meet three times a year and serve as a collaborative environment for administrators and teachers of varying levels. Members are dedicated and demonstrate leadership skills.

- **Work Groups** – Curriculum work groups are responsible for completing specific pieces of curriculum development as identified by either CAT or the SALT. Specific work may include creation, adoption or adaptation of units of study; development of supports for instruction; identification of resources and creation of district common assessments.

- **Curriculum Action Teams (CATs)** – CATs are responsible for the horizontal articulation and alignment of standards and curriculum using the lens of BPS objectives and goals.

- **District Leadership Teams** – District Leadership Teams meet at various times of the year to collaboratively work on the development of curriculum, assessments and instructional practices for district subject areas.

- **PL** – Professional learning opportunities are encouraged by the district. Staff members are provided conference and seminar selections related to their field. Current teachers are required to earn 30 professional development hours each year.

- **PLCs** – Professional Learning Communities function at each of the district buildings. These communities offer staff a chance to collaborate with one another on various topics related to the education of their students. PLCs offer each school an opportunity to demonstrate a commitment to high levels of learning for all students, while exploring new teaching methods in cooperative environments.
BPS welcomes young learners

Birmingham Public Schools Early Childhood programming is committed to providing excellence in early childhood education. We have a highly qualified and trained staff, continually providing healthy, safe and nurturing, play-based learning environments. Research has proven time and again that early childhood education is critical to a child’s success in school. You will discover a wide range of programs and services to meet the needs of our youngest learners. From infant care to preschool programs that introduce children and families to the Birmingham Advantage, a variety of nurturing and developmentally appropriate services are right in your own neighborhood. I invite you to learn more about our exceptional programs. We’re focused on your child’s success.

Laura Tinsley
Principal of Early Learning

Young learner programming

- BPS offers a full range of early learning programs, from half-day to full-day, with neighborhood and center-based programming options. BPS preschool programming offers care for children as young as six weeks old to kindergarten. Registration is available online and school tours are available.

- The Preschool Early Education Program (PEEP) provides young learners with inclusive programming opportunities. Bringing together students with special needs and their typically developing peers, research has shown a benefit for both parties.

- The Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) is a stated-funded program open to children who meet the age requirement and reside in the BPS attendance area. Families must meet certain criteria to be eligible for the program.

- The BPS Early Childhood Center is licensed by the state and accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). NAEYC accreditation is the mark of quality, as programs must demonstrate continuous improvement to provide the best possible educational opportunities for children.

Celebrating what’s right in preschool

The Birmingham Public Schools preschool curriculum is based on the Early Standards of Quality for the State of Michigan. Using HighScope curriculum, young learners prepare for their next educational steps. The educational content of HighScope preschool programs is built around 58 Key Developmental Indicators (KDIs). The KDIs are early childhood milestones that guide teachers as they plan and assess learning experiences and interact with children to support learning. Each KDI identifies an observable child behavior reflecting knowledge and skills in the areas of approaches to learning; social and emotional development; physical development and health; language, literacy, and communication; mathematics; creative arts; science and technology; and social studies.

2121 Midvale
Birmingham, MI 48009
248.203.5805
Welcome to Beverly

Beverly thrives on a unique collaborative school-community spirit that is generated through a dedication to preserving all of the essential elements of a true neighborhood school. With the support of our highly qualified teaching staff’s unwavering effort to discover each student’s potential, Beverly students excel. Our commitment to 21st Century teaching and learning provides our students with a rigorous curriculum that is complemented by extracurricular programs, newly constructed facilities, technology, and a highly involved parent community which provides diverse opportunities and experiences for all students.

At Beverly, our learners develop the knowledge, habits and perspectives of high achieving, problem-finders who are well equipped to thrive in the age of global citizenship. We’re recognized by the Character Education Partnership as a National School of Character, by the state of Michigan as an Evergreen School and by the Guinness Book of World Records for the Longest Lemonade Stand!

Jamii Hitchcock, Principal

Beverly Paw Pride

- 2014 Reward School Recognition: Among top 5 percent of all schools in the State of Michigan
- Evergreen School, highest state recognition for Environmental Programs, which included the Bottle Cap Mural, Waste Free Lunch and School-wide recycling program sponsored by the Beverly Earthwise Committee
- 2014 United States Environmental Protection Agency: Energy Star Award Recipient
- Comprehensive K-5 Enrichment Programs that include Destination ImagiNation, Science Olympiad, Math Pentathlon, Beverly Singers, Battle of the Books, Girls on the Run and the Beverly After-School Extras Program
- Comprehensive Student-Centered Community Outreach Program which includes partnerships with the Baldwin Center, Meals on Wheels, Detroit Zoo, OPERATION: Gratitude, Beaumont Children’s Hospital, Pontiac Schools donations, etc.
- Bobcat Academy, Cost-Free Intervention and Support Program for students in Math and Reading
- Rigorous third-fifth grade Advanced Math program
Welcome to Bingham Farms

“Being our Bingham Best” is the mantra of our learning community, in both the academic and cultural impact Bingham Farms Elementary has on our kids. We are one of only a handful of schools across the country to have earned the National School of Character designation by the Character Education Partnership. This is a strong testament to the efforts of our staff, our parents and our students. Our high state test scores are a testament to our staff and families and their high expectations for student learning. We have also earned Emerald Status as a Green School, which speaks to our community’s dedication to leaving a smaller footprint in the landfills of the world. Our recycle bins both inside and outside our school serve both our school and community toward a greener, better tomorrow.

Russ Facione, Principal

Bingham Farms Eagle Pride

- Enrichment Program includes Tech Club (grades 3-5, 120 participants), Math Pentathlon (grades K-5, 130 participants), Destination ImagiNation (grades 3-5, 20 participants, went to state finals), Science Olympiad (grades 4-5, 45 participants), Troubadours (grades 4-5, 30 singers), Student Council (grades 4-5, 30 participants) and others.

- PTA involves every family in the building. Parents are very dedicated to such things as the annual Art Show, Fun Fair, Reflections and support to countless other programs.

- The Character Education Initiative involves staff, parents and kids constantly working to promote the “Being our Bingham Best” touchstone across the learning community. Bingham Farms is a National Schools of Character recipient.

- Innovation at Bingham Farms promotes student readiness for the future. Classrooms have interactive white boards, iPads and laptops that give students ways to communicate, share and publish their investigations.

- The Student Council has paired up with Capuchin Soup Kitchen to make a difference every day. The school has participated in several events in partnership with them to provide a service learning experience that culminated in a chili and soup cook-off and Empty Bowls Event.

- Fifth graders enjoy service positions, attend camp at the Howell Nature Center in the fall and every year present the school with a gift, leaving an impact for years to come.

Celebrating what’s right at Bingham Farms

Being our Bingham Best is in every component of our students’ experiences here at Bingham Farms Elementary. Our students make a difference in our LINKS program that matches students with special needs students. We are proud hosts to the Great Start Readiness Program for at-risk young preschool students.

We also offer countless enrichment opportunities for students. Whether your student has a natural desire for music, the arts, technology or physical activity, there is something at Bingham Farms; from our Tech Club, to Reflections, from Math Pentathlon to Science Olympiad, from Community Education After School Enrichment Classes to Battle of the Books, from Safety and Service to Student Council.
Welcome to Greenfield

Greenfield Elementary continues its long tradition of providing a challenging and engaging learning experience for all students. We celebrate our diversity and the “real world” experience that is Greenfield. Our students, staff and parents strive to demonstrate The Greenfield Way of Respect, Responsibility and Kindness on a daily basis. Greenfield received the distinction of being named a National School of Character by the Character Education Partnership in Washington, D.C.

Our school community is fortunate to have a dedicated and talented staff committed to providing every child with a rigorous and productive learning experience. Greenfield is also fortunate to have a PTA filled with parents who devote hundreds of hours each year to support our staff and enhance their child’s education.

In addition to the National School of Character distinction, Greenfield has received the highest status through the Michigan Green School initiative. Greenfield has also received national recognition from the Healthier School Challenge. All Greenfield students participated in the nutritional Fuel Up To Play 60 program which emphasized proper nutrition and physical activity.

Noelle Davis, Principal

Greenfield Pride

- Greenfield students participated in over 20 after school enrichment activities sponsored by Greenfield Community Education.
- Home of the center-based program for preschool Autistic Spectrum Disorder children and for elementary Moderately Cognitively Impaired children.
- Students are offered numerous opportunities to engage in technology. They have access to a computer lab, laptops, Wikis, moodles, Skype, iPads, Promethean Boards and flip cameras to enhance learning opportunities.
- All students participate in Character Education Service Learning Projects to help others within and outside our community.
- The Greenfield PTA supports our school through assemblies, field trips, technology purchases, enrichment activities, playground equipment, media center and classroom resources and various school and community functions.
- The Greenfield Proud Dads actively support our school through the Daddy/Daughter Dance, Mother/Son Dance, Donuts with Dads, Muffins with Moms, League of Extraordinary Gentleman and other activities.
Welcome to Harlan

Welcome to Harlan! We have a strong, dedicated staff and parent community who support our students to thrive both academically and socially. Our classrooms are filled with students exploring, researching and learning at high levels. Character education is taught through student leadership opportunities, classroom communities and family groups called “Husky Packs.” At Harlan, we want students to feel excited about school and willing to take learning risks.

This introduction is only a representation of all that makes Harlan special and unique. If you have not had an opportunity to experience Harlan for yourself, please do not hesitate to call me and make an appointment to tour our building. I look forward to meeting you.

Embekka Thompson, Principal

Harlan Pride

- Designated as a National School of Character by the Character Education Partnership.
- One of 50 elementaries in the state of Michigan named as a 21st Century Library- Exemplary status by the Library of Michigan.
- State of Michigan Green School- Evergreen Status.
- Students offered accelerated mathematics opportunities for all who qualify in grades 1-5.
- Student Leadership opportunities such as Green Team, Safety/Service Squad, Student council and LINKS.
- Enrichment activities offered include Math Pentathlon, Science Olympiad, Destination Imagination, Battle of the Books, Word Masters, Reflections Contest and Glee Club.
- Students and families have an opportunity to utilize the Compass Learning Program at school and home to enhance learning in reading, mathematics and science.
- Assemblies, field trips, technology purchases, enrichment activities, playground equipment, media center, classroom resources and community functions are supported by the PTA.
- Students are offered numerous opportunities to engage in technology and have access to a computer lab, laptops, iPads, Interactive Overhead Projectors, flip cameras, Wikis and Skype.
- Students participate in Husky Packs or cross-age family groups to promote community and character.

Celebrating what’s right at Harlan

The Harlan school community is focused on academic rigor and social responsibility. With divergent instruction, we meet the unique needs of all students. Our classrooms consist of leveled libraries, accelerated mathematics opportunities and the latest technology. At Harlan, parents volunteer daily and are an integral part of the school. We view school as a partnership that would not be successful without open communication between school and home.

Our philosophy: providing an educational setting in which all students are challenged and accelerated at an appropriate pace. Although we are considered one of the leading schools in the state, we are always seeking to improve. It is our sincerest desire to work as a community to prepare the students of Harlan for a global society.

3595 N. Adams Rd.
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
248.203.3265
Welcome to Pembroke

The ultimate goal at Pembroke is to aid in the development of outstanding citizens. This is demonstrated through our achievement as a Michigan Green School with Evergreen Status, our recognition as a National School of Character and our student and staff participation in a variety of service projects.

Most importantly, Pembroke is a great place to learn! It is an honor to be a part of the Pembroke School Community and I am confident that your experience at Pembroke will be a fulfilling and successful one.

Susan Crocker, Principal

Collaboration, collective effort and commitment are just a few things that you will feel as a part of the Pembroke community. When you visit our school, the pride and dedication of our students, parents and staff are eminent. Pembroke is a friendly community where all stakeholders make an intentional effort to create an inclusive environment. Radiant smiles, teachers as facilitators, parent volunteers and walls covered with student work are part of the culture. We know that learning becomes authentic when students and families feel welcomed and involved.

Students at all academic levels are prepared to be competitive in a 21st century workforce. We are committed to continual learning of instructional best practice and provide learning experiences that integrate critical thinking and technology across the curriculum.

Pembroke Pride

- A neighborhood school for more than 50 years with strong ties to the community and a history of preparing students for future challenges in core curriculum as well as the arts.

- Many teachers have completed a Master’s degree or higher and have more than five years of teaching experience.

- Staff is committed to working collaboratively to best meet the needs of students through data analysis and focused instruction.

- Students participate in a variety of extracurricular enrichment programs including Science Olympiad, Battle of the Books, Math Pentathlon and Destination ImagiNation.

- Students participate in WPEM, a student-run morning news program offering all students K-5 the opportunity to participate in the broadcast.

- Fifth grade students have the opportunity to participate in band or orchestra weekly with public performances each spring.

- Fourth grade students participate in an all-day Disability Awareness Workshop at school, helping children broaden their understanding of people with special needs and instilling compassion within the Pembroke community.
Welcome to Pierce

Pierce continues to be recognized by state and national organizations for its commitment to excellence beyond the classroom. Character.org has recognized Pierce as a National School of Character. Our school was honored with this designation for our dedication and response to the 11 principles of character determined by Character.org. We have also been identified as a Michigan Green School, Evergreen Status. These awards are the result of collective efforts of staff, students, administration, parents and the community. They represent ideals that are important to all of us.

Pierce is fortunate to have a committed and talented teaching staff. Some of our proudest moments come when a group or individuals are recognized for their achievements. Pierce’s entire staff is committed to providing rich and varied learning environments and experiences for all students. They play a large role in providing our students with the Pierce Advantage.

Jim Lalik, Principal

Pierce Pride

- Students from all around the world attend Pierce and are immersed in the Pierce culture while they learn the English language, with support from an ESL teacher and paraprofessional.

- The Pierce Diversity Committee provides opportunities for students to celebrate the differences in people and cultures.

- Pierce’s Wellness Committee promotes health and wellness at Pierce. Each school year the committee hosts a Pierce Fun Run to promote a healthy life style for the community.

- The Green School Team supports Pierce in educating and decreasing the school’s carbon footprint.

- Pierce’s Community Education Council oversees the Pierce Preschool and Kids Club program. In addition, they host activities to bring our school community together such as the DEAR guest reader afternoon, Senior Citizen Holiday Outreach, Community Service Night and the Pancake Supper.

- The PTA supports Pierce with volunteers and financial support, including administering the Accelerated Reader program, providing invaluable support with classroom volunteers, coordinating a Coney Bingo Night, and purchasing new playground equipment and technology.

Celebrating what’s right at Pierce

Pierce Elementary School is a unique place for every child to learn and grow. With a talented and committed teaching staff, Pierce programs are diverse and engaging. With multiage programs interspersed with age-based classrooms, students receive a diverse education.

The Pierce staff continues to receive training and utilizes the principles of Conscious Discipline to create and maintain a safe learning environment for all children. Conscious Discipline provides shared expectations between all staff and students and offers a consistent and caring learning environment, which allows for the greatest learning to happen. We’re proud to have so many pathways to success for our Pierce students.

1829 Pierce Street
Birmingham, MI 48009
248.203.4325
Welcome to Quarton

Welcome to Quarton Elementary School where our mission is to “Ensure Learning For All”. The Quarton Elementary School community is committed to the development of lifelong learners who will become independent, responsible citizens. This school community exhibits respect for our learning population with developmentally appropriate academic expectations. We provide a nurturing and respectful environment where all students can grow into reflective and inquisitive learners. Our mission is achieved through the cooperative efforts of families, community members and school personnel.

Quarton Elementary School is the result of a combination of strong academic curriculum and extracurricular opportunities, community involvement, exceptionally qualified professional staff and support services to help children succeed. This combination and other unique attributes are why Quarton’s reputation as an outstanding neighborhood school exists.

Jill Ghiardi-Coignet, Principal

Quarton Pride

• The Quarton School Student Leadership team, led by Mr. Smith and Mrs. Tuomi, developed leadership skills and led the school in numerous service learning project focusing on those in need locally and around the world.

• Many students enter the PTA Reflections contest.

• Numerous Quarton students participate in the LINKS peer to peer support program.

• Quarton students once again exhibited great character as they followed the Quarton Quote, “Be Your Best, Encourage the Rest, Accept, Respect and Strive for Success”.

• Staff recognized by Friends of Different Learners for their commitment to children with special needs.

• Quarton is an Emerald School for their green efforts.

• Quarton has a robust offering of enrichment opportunities, including Q-Tones, Battle of the Books, Math Pentathlon and Destination ImagiNation.

• Quarton has an active PTA, sponsoring ice cream socials, Science Night, the Big Mac Teacher Grant Program and school assemblies.

Celebrating what’s right at Quarton

While attending Quarton, your child will explore a variety of interests, further develop talents or pursue leadership and community service opportunities. One of the truly fortunate aspects of Quarton is that we have a generous, active, involved and caring PTA (Parent Teacher Association), which provides numerous enrichment opportunities for our students at Quarton. Our parents volunteer countless hours of their time to work in classrooms, participate in field trips, attend school functions and help in many other ways. In addition, the PTA donations further enhance our students’ educational experience.

We at Quarton Elementary School believe that we are a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens and invite you to visit our very special and unique learning community.

771 Chesterfield
Birmingham, MI 48009
248.203.3425
Welcome to West Maple

We are proud of our success in creating an exciting, caring, challenging and happy place for our students to learn. We have a strong, collaborative relationship with our parents and PTA. Our goal is to work together to provide the students and faculty with a great variety of resources with which to learn and to enhance learning experiences for all students. West Maple has access to extensive and varied technology, which is imbedded into the curriculum in all subject areas. Students have opportunities to develop academic skills at a high level, personal confidence, effective group and communication skills and an awareness of the world around them. West Maple is a community that promotes collaboration, respect and inquiry in a safe environment. We have a strong commitment to educating our students about our environment and the needs of others less fortunate. We ask that our students conduct themselves responsibly, honestly, with kindness and respect.

Laura Mahler, Principal

West Maple Pride

- Recognized as a National School of Character.
- Fourth grade students donated to purchase a “Buddy Bench” for the playground.
- Two State and 12 District PTA Reflection's contest award winners.
- Student winner at National Association of Women in Construction competition.
- Student winner at Birmingham Optimist’s Club oratorical event.
- Gold medal winners in National WordMasters Competition.
- First place team in District Science Olympiad.
- Participated in STRIDE running club with the Boys YMCA.
- Peacemakers, Links, and Peer Mentor programs with student-to-student support provided.
- Michigan Evergreen School for the seventh consecutive year.
- Honors Choir selected to perform at the Fox Theater.
- Received five Birmingham Education Foundation Teacher Grants.
Research and experience have validated the effectiveness of interdisciplinary learning and teaching for students. BCS emphasizes the interdisciplinary connections among academic subject areas and fosters inquiry and collaboration for students. BCS organizes students into multi-grade structures to allow flexible configurations during instruction. Teachers deliver instruction in two-year academic cycles (grades 3/4, 5/6, and 7/8). Students typically remain with the same team of teachers for the duration of each two-year cycle allowing for continuity of instruction and familiarity with individual learning styles.

Welcome to BCS

Birmingham Covington School (BCS) is a 3-8 district wide school of choice for families residing in the BPS district. We are designed to offer a clear choice in educational structure and philosophy to parents/guardians and children seeking a rigorous academic challenge. We emphasize the connections among academic subject areas and foster inquiry and collaboration. Students experience not only the basic skills in key academic disciplines but also focus their efforts on the integration and application of knowledge.

BCS has a special emphasis on comprehensive science and technology instruction based on the Association for the Advancement of Science report, Project 2061, and enGauge: 21st Century Skills. Instructional strategies and student activities include discovering practical solutions to scientific problems and student-generated questions. As students practice the principles of scientific inquiry, design and application they develop an increasingly complex understanding of the relationships among science, technology, history, communications and the human experience.

Mark Morawski, Principal

BCS Pride

• BCS continues to leverage technology across all curriculum with a focus on global learning and local service opportunities.

• BCS students in grades 3-8 participate each year in Engineering Technology classes and classes based in inquiry and design, such as Engage and Thinkering Studio, which offer project based learning opportunities for all students.

• Service learning is a key component at BCS based on the theme: Learn Globally, Serve Locally. BCS began what will be a lasting partnership with a village in Zambia through Project Cope. BCS efforts will help them augment their agriculture industry.

• In 2014 and 2015, BCS was recognized by GreatSchools.org as one of The 50 Best Middle Schools in the U.S based on several distinct criteria including providing a rich school experience that prepares students superbly well for high school, college and life.

• BCS offers daily, school-wide enrichment through the extended day Choice Hour program.

• The BCS PTA is an integral partnership, connecting students and staff to the community and helping to further the mission as a world-class learning community with a focus on technology in the digital age.
Welcome to Berkshire

Berkshire Middle School is recognized as a high achieving middle school which concentrates on the overall academic and social development of students. During this key transitional period, we are driven by the following beliefs that are focused on the total student:

- rigorous learning environment that appropriately challenges all students,
- exploration of interests and strengths,
- choices in courses and programs,
- involvement in extracurricular activities,
- extended learning opportunities,
- character development that is embedded academically and socially,
- diversity that is recognized and celebrated, and
- differentiated instruction that meets all individualized learning needs.

By adhering to these beliefs with passion and fidelity, we are able to provide a world-class learning environment that keeps the whole child in focus at all times. We look forward to working with you and your children on this educational journey.

Jason Clinkscale, Principal

Berkshire Pride

- A vibrant and rich multicultural learning community.
- High student achievement on state and national standardized assessments.
- World language program includes Japanese, French and Spanish.
- Recognized as a National School of Character.
- Outreach programs raised thousands of dollars for local charities.
- Award-winning community garden housed on grounds.
- Environmental responsibility resulting in Michigan Evergreen status.
- Music Department Superior ratings at festivals.
- Experiential learning trips at each grade level.
- Wide variety of extracurricular activities (clubs and athletics).
- Strong partnerships with parents and community.
- Enrichment program that promotes extended learning opportunities.

Celebrating what’s right at Berkshire

Our school is a collaborative learning community where staff and parents work together to provide our students with a world-class education. By working collaboratively with all stakeholders, we plan to ensure that every Berkshire student has the opportunity to reach their greatest potential. At Berkshire Middle School, we believe in the power of community. We want every student, staff member and parent who walks through our doors to know that he or she is important. Our goal is a common one: to provide what is best for our students.
Welcome to Derby

Derby Middle School continues to be an outstanding educational experience for students in sixth, seventh and eighth grades. Our goal is to develop confident, compassionate, intellectually curious young people who are well prepared to excel throughout their high school years and beyond. Through a menu of challenging academics and diverse electives, Derby provides opportunities for students to grow and stretch in new directions. We have a strong parent community involved with multiple aspects of our school. Our dedicated staff is well trained and committed to professional development in best practices. Together students, staff and parents partner in the middle school journey of growth.

Celeste Nowacki, Principal

Derby Pride

• Derby students participate in multiple community service projects including collections for Lighthouse Foundations, Gleaners, Baldwin House and fundraisers for community and staff members in need.

• As part of our emphasis on being global citizens, students can participate in three years of foreign language instruction culminating in eighth grade trips to China, Quebec and Puerto Rico.

• The Derby band, orchestra and choir all participate in annual festivals and Music in the Park competitions, earning Superior and Excellent ratings.

• National School of Character with additional Promising Practice recognitions from the Character Education Partnership.

• Over 100 Derby students participate in the LINKs peer-to-peer support program.

• Academic enrichment and competition programs include Forensics, Destination ImagiNation and Math Pentathlon.

• Multiple athletic teams allow students to participate in football, cross country, tennis, swimming, volleyball, wrestling, basketball, soccer and track & field.

• Derby parents have the opportunity to attend monthly Principal’s Breakfasts which included speakers and discussions on a wide variety of topics, including Social Media, 21st Century Teaching and Learning, Bullying and Its Causes, Substance Abuse Prevention and Legal Issues of Technology.
Welcome to Wylie E. Groves

Welcome to Wylie E. Groves High School, Home of the Falcons! I specifically used the word “home” because our motto for students and staff is “our house.” We take great pride in our high expectations for achievement, our diversity, our acceptance of differing perspectives and our students’ ability to expand their point of view.

Words that are important at Groves are respect, responsibility, empathy and passion. We expect that each person who enters our house will be treated with unwavering respect and that each of our young people will take responsibility for their decisions and actions. Probably our greatest asset is our ability to assist students in finding their passion and encouraging them to pursue that ideal. We understand that when a young person identifies her/his passion and is immersed in the exploration of that passion the possibilities are endless. With a nationally recognized academic program and vast array of elective offerings, we consistently produce well-rounded thinkers who become leaders and individuals who contribute positively to their community.

Groves High School is a great place, filled with warmth and encouragement because of the people who work, study and volunteer in our building on a regular basis. I hope that you will have an opportunity to visit with us in the near future, and we look forward to you adding your unique contribution to our building. You are welcome to make our house your house!

Catherine Hurley, Principal

Groves Pride

• An exceptional staff boasts distinguished awards including the White House, US Department of Education and MI Department of Education.

• Advanced Placement courses prepare students for testing in over 22 AP subjects. In 2015, 331 students took 689 exams, 77 percent scoring a 3 or higher.

• The Class of 2015 included two National Merit Finalists, one National Achievement Scholarship Finalist and three Commended students.

• Groves supports character development of students with its efforts anchored in the creation of its House Rules, a code of ethics designed by students and staff. Groves was recognized as a National School of Character in 2015

• Groves boasts an Experiential Learning Center that engages in cooperative teaching, adds adventure programming to the curriculum and offers experiential and service learning trips.

• The Michigan Green Schools Program designated Groves as an Evergreen School and ranked Groves as the #2 Green School in Oakland County.
Welcome to Seaholm

We look forward to you becoming members of our learning community and we are eager to meet the myriad joys and challenges each school year brings.

Seaholm prides itself not only in offering you a longstanding tradition of academic excellence but also in providing you with a multitude of opportunities for engagement in the arts, athletics and community service. Whether you are interested in renewable energy, debating at the national level or managing a retail outfitter on campus, our curriculum extends well beyond the classroom walls.

We are proud of our dedicated efforts that reflect strong partnerships among students, staff, parents and community. For just one example, our Field Day food drive for Gleaners Community Food Bank in the fall was the largest donation they received from a high school. Helping individuals and organizations in need is one of life’s lessons that you will find is a hallmark of Seaholm’s commitment to generosity, compassion and service.

So, again, welcome you to Seaholm and invite you to make yourself at home. We are excited about the opportunity to enrich your lives academically, athletically, artistically and socially.

Rachel Guinn, Principal

Seaholm Pride

- In the 2014-15 school year, Seaholm offered 23 Advanced Placement courses in both core and elective disciplines as diverse as AP Calculus and AP Psychology to AP Music Theory and AP Web Design.
- In 2015, 479 students took almost 800 Advanced Placement exams, and 71.4 percent of these students were eligible to earn college credit.
- Seaholm has 32 varsity sports programs emphasizing teamwork, sportsmanship and character.
- Seaholm had 161 students participate in the annual Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition in 2014-15. Twenty-one students advanced to the final competition with one student subsequently scoring in the top 100 out of over 10,000 students state-wide.
- Seaholm’s High School news publications, The Highlander newspaper and the Piper yearbook, continue to win awards for excellence in journalism.
- High school theater productions showcase talented students who present the finest in drama, comedy and musicals.
- Seaholm STEM/Physics teacher, Doug Baltz, earned the Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship for 2015-16. Baltz will to bring his insights, extensive knowledge and practical classroom experience to the legislative and executive branches.
NWEA Spring 2015 - Grade 5
Mean RIT Score

- Reading: 212.3
- Math: 221.0

NWEA Spring 2015 - Grade 8
Mean RIT Score

- Reading: 222.4
- Math: 234.5

Average ACT Composite Scale Scores
11th Grade, Spring 2015

- Michigan: 19.9
- Birmingham: 24.1
Strong fiscal management

Fiscal stewardship is an important strength of Birmingham Public Schools. The district continues to reorganize and realign resources in order to support classrooms and make budget cuts in areas that impact students the least. The district utilizes an Audit Committee to ensure fiscal integrity and the Central Budgeting Committee to maintain an annual budget process.

Birmingham Public Schools relies on public funding to maintain services. The budget is funded through local (47.5 percent), state (49.5 percent) and intermediate (3 percent) monies to help maintain an overall budget of $113 million in 2015-16. Since 2003, the district has made approximately $30.2 million in cuts to the budget in a multitude of ways to minimize the impact on students.
A strong Foundation for BPS students

Over the years the question has been asked, “Why do we need an Education Foundation for Birmingham Public Schools?” The simple answer is this - the kids! It is difficult to predict what will inspire a student, so Birmingham Education Foundation (BEF) resources are used to expand on the exceptional curriculum provided by BPS. The BEF-supported programs have the power to inspire students and nurture their passion in art, robotics, science, math, literature or service learning projects.

Sometimes it is the little things that make a difference, like studying bees in science class all year long, or visiting a planetarium to help solidify that astronomy lesson. It could also be bigger things, like attending the global finals competition for champion problem solvers, or visiting with the DSO to learn appreciation for the fine arts and music. The BEF has supported literacy programs, helped at-risk students, provided the extras to make a program better or stronger and supported the teachers who come up with better ways to deliver curriculum to their students.

Here are a few simple ways the BPS community gets involved each year:

• The BEF runs on volunteerism. There are multiple ways for the community to find their niche.
• The community learns and shares information about the BEFs mission and outreach accomplishments through www.supportBEF.org or by calling 248-203-3030.
• Kroger shoppers tie their savings card to the BEF to make a donation with each purchase.
• Online shoppers using Amazon can enter the site through the BEF website and the school district will receive an advertising fee.
• Participation in BEF-sponsored events are a way for the community to gather together in support of BPS students. Teachers, parents and community members also opt to make donations to the BEF Annual Fund Campaign each year.
• The BEF is also on Facebook, making it possible to reach the online community as well as the neighborhood community.

The BEF believes in the Birmingham Public Schools district, and welcomes new families to the district. For more information about the BEF and how you can get involved, contact the BEF office at 248.203.3030 or visit the BEF online at www.supportbef.org.
**Birmingham Public Schools Mission:**

By ensuring educational excellence, we challenge and inspire all learners to positively impact their world.