MEMO

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION
FROM: RYAN PEYTON, SUPERINTENDENT
DATE: NOVEMBER 2026
RE: SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Illinois Report Card Results: Commendable Profile of Performance
Families can now access Blue Ridge's updated Illinois Report Card, www.illinoisreportcard.com, which offers a comprehensive view of student and school performance across key areas including academic achievement, student growth, attendance, graduation rates, and college and career readiness. Released annually by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), the Report Card provides a snapshot of our district's accomplishments alongside key opportunities for continued progress. All three Blue Ridge buildings have earned Commendable Profiles of Performance. Our teachers, staff, and students have put forth great effort and will continue our work in providing high quality learning opportunities for all Blue Ridge students.

This year's Report Card highlights several notable achievements across our district. In English Language Arts (ELA), proficiency on the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) increased from 49.7% in 2024–2025 to 57.3% in 2025–2026, placing Blue Ridge above the state average. This strong growth reflects our district-wide rollout of a new K–8 ELA curriculum paired with solid instructional practices. Science proficiency also saw substantial improvement, rising from 35.3% to 50.4%. Additionally, Blue Ridge achieved a 92.7% graduation rate, comfortably exceeding the state average of 89.5%.

While we celebrate our gains, we remain dedicated to continuous improvement for the 2026–2027 school year. Math proficiency is a primary focus area, and our District Math Committee is actively reviewing the state's new Numeracy Plan and evaluating evidence-based curricula to select an option that will best drive student achievement and growth. Click here to access the district report card parent letter shared last month.

BR Connect Event: November 18
Mark your calendars! We're bringing our school community together for Blue Ridge Connect, an evening dedicated to celebrating our students and empowering our families. Join us to explore our K-12 Art Show, featuring incredible gallery displays that showcase the artistic talents of students across all grade levels. Parents will also have the opportunity to attend informational sessions covering key insights on the Illinois Report Card Profile of Performance, as well as essential Attendance Need-to-Knows to help us partner together in supporting student achievement. Whether you're coming to admire student creativity or learn more about our district's goals, there is something for everyone!

Building Entry/Raptor Safe App
We would like to encourage all families to download the Raptor Safe App and create your own Raptor Passport to use to sign in anytime you visit. Using the QR code that is tied to your Raptor Passport will significantly shorten your sign-in time, making it much less of a hassle to get signed in. Detailed directions can be found here: https://raptortech.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Raptor-Safe-Visitor-Install-and-Onboading-2025.pdf

Here is an explanation of how you will sign in with your QR code, you will see the process is much quicker and will not require you to repeatedly scan your Driver's License and take your photo. You will simply scan the QR code, indicate where you are heading and you're finished!
https://raptortech.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Raptor-Safe-Visitor-Sign-In-2025.pdf

Winter Weather
November is here which means winter conditions are around the corner. Our goal as a district is to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Should inclement weather necessitate a change to the school schedule, we will institute either an e-learning day or a traditional snow day. Families will be notified of any closures or updates by 6:00 a.m. via our standard communication channels. To ensure seamless delivery of these notices, please verify your current contact information in Skyward and download the Blue Ridge #18, IL mobile app.

Other Tasks:

- Administrative Observations and Post Conferences
- Weekly Admin Meetings with principals and APs
- Weekly Curriculum Coordinator meeting
- Fall Safety Meeting
- Presented on Standard Response Protocol to Transportation Dept.
- BCA and ROE Superintendent Meeting
- Tax Levy Prep and ROE Finance Coach Meeting
- BRFT Monthly Meeting
- Facilities Committee Meeting
- Joint Conference Preparation
- Intruder and Practice Reunification Drills in all Buildings
- Bushue Management Meeting
- Policy 123 Webinar
- CICEO Board Meeting
- TCSEA Board Meeting
- First Mid Meeting - Discuss Rates
- Anchor State Bank Meeting - CD Rates