

# memo

To: Blue Ridge Board of Education  
Mr. Ryan Peyton, Superintendent

From: Brian Easter, Blue Ridge High School Principal

Date: February 12, 2026

Re: BRHS Board Report

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## **Upcoming Events:**

### **FEB**

14 - IHSA Girls Basketball Regionals Begin  
17 - Home Boys Basketball (5:30)  
19 - Home Scholastic Bowl (4:30)  
20 - Band Talent Show (7:00)  
21 - Scholastic Bowl at Masonic Sectional  
26 - Home Scholastic Bowl (4:30)  
28 - Booster Club Cash Bash (6:00 at FC Legion)

### **MAR**

4 - FFA at District Proficiency  
6 - Boys and Girls track at ALAH (Armory, 7 p.m.)  
7 - FFA at State Poultry, Meats and Ag Communications  
9 - Home Scholastic Bowl Regional Tournament (4:30)  
10 - Fine Arts Expo (6 p.m.)  
12 - Softball at St. Theresa  
14 - Scholastic Bowl Sectional Tournament, Spring Dance (7 p.m.)

### **FYI:**

#### **By the numbers -**

Due to some maintenance work on Skyward (our student information system), all of our attendance data from January is currently missing. It has to be manually re-entered, which is currently taking place. I'll have January and February totals in the March report.

Discipline data as of February 12th (and since January 15th):

- Detentions - 88 (15)
  - Lunch detentions accounted for 8 instances this past month.
  - Before/After school detentions accounted for 7 instances.
  - At this time last year we had assigned 85 detentions.
- Saturday Schools - 0
  - At this time last year we had assigned one student to a Saturday School.
- In-School Suspensions - 13 (1)
  - One student received ISS during this reporting period.
  - Suspensions totaled 1 full day during this reporting period.
  - At this time last year there had been 7 in school suspensions.
- Out of School Suspensions - 4 (3)
  - 2 students received OSS during this reporting period.
  - Suspensions totaled 7 full days during this reporting period.
  - At this time last year there had been 2 out of school suspensions.
- Electronics referrals - 60 (11)
  - 32 students have received a referral for electronics.
  - 15 students have reached at least level 2.
  - 7 students are on a contract.
  - 2 students have violated the contract agreement.
  - At this time last year there had been 58 electronics referrals.

Our Alternative Education students (through the Edgenuity program) have collectively completed 46 classes for a total of 32 earned credits as of February 12th. Fifteen students are currently enrolled in at least one hour of alternative education.

***Congratulations and Kudos:***

Congratulations to three BRHS students who were recently inducted into the Bloomington Career Academy Technical Honor Society. This is a recognition for some of the very best students in their class at BCA. Blue Ridge inductees this year are:

***Romero Fernandez*** - Culinary Arts II

***Broghen Flannell*** - Graphic Design and Video Production

***Maddison Grider*** - Criminal Justice I

***\*Staff and Student of the Month (Exemplary Knights) -***

Our staff winner for Exemplary Knight for the month of February is ***Erin Tipsord***. Erin is in her 2nd year as a full time paraprofessional at BRHS but did some subbing for us prior to that. Here are some insights about Mrs. Tipsord:

- *Erin has gone above and beyond this year in her role as a paraprofessional. She has shown true professionalism when faced with some difficult situations and has done it with grace. She is very flexible when things abruptly change in her day*

and she quickly adapts with a smile on her face. Blue Ridge is very lucky to have her!

- There is so much to say about Erin! She adapts to the many changes thrown at her with flexibility and a positive attitude. In addition to working hard on the horse farm in all weather conditions, she is deeply committed to the students in our building and has built strong, positive relationships with them. Despite working on the horse farm in all types of weather, she is always willing to step in and fill positions at the last minute, showing how dependable, supportive, and truly invaluable she is to our team.
- Erin is amazing! She goes above and beyond! She is always willing to help out and fill in wherever and whenever needed. She supports the program and the students in all ways needed. She has worked through adversity and many obstacles to provide the assistance needed to students in all environments.
- Mrs. Tipsord is an amazing staff member. She is so willing to help anyone, students and staff, with anything they might need. She does so with a smile on her face, too! She was given a less-than-ideal coverage this year and she has definitely made the best of it. Since she is also certified to cover classes for teachers, she is a superstar utility player! So happy to have her on board.

We have 2 students that we are recognizing this month - **Kaleb Forrest** (Jr.) and **Ben Clevenger** (Sr.). These students were nominated for this recognition by staff members. Staff then voted for their top choices based on all nominees. Here are some things that teachers say about these awesome students:

### **Kaleb Forrest (Jr)**

- Kaleb is always working to improve himself day by day. He is dedicated and will always take the time to work out a problem or try something new!
- Kaleb Forrest is an awesome student. With his CEO class, he just conducted an amazing event at the Murder Mystery group business fundraiser. About a year ago, when there was a proposed change to our bell schedule, Kaleb asked thoughtful questions to the people in charge to understand the situation better, and did not contribute to the hysteria that was rippling through portions of the student body.
- Kaleb is a great representative of BRHS at the CEO program. He works hard in his classes and is a good role model for the underclassmen.
- Kaleb displays maturity by seamlessly managing two different schedules across multiple locations. He approaches every interaction with a genuine friendliness and a joy-filled attitude that brightens our school environment.
- Kaleb is an active and creative student. He participates in student groups and always offers interesting perspectives through his words and his art. He knows when to play and when to get down to business.
- Kaleb is a bright young man, always ready to engage in exciting conversation.

### **Ben Clevenger (Sr)**

- Ben is always the first to help students in studyhall. He is diligent in his work and has many leadership qualities.
- Ben is one of the hardest working students I have had the honor of teaching. His ideas and creativity is only matched by his ability to work well and get along with anyone!

- *Ben Clevenger is an awesome student who is always challenging himself to do more. When an opportunity presented itself to take an additional class, Ben jumped into online Calculus, and is doing a great job with it. He has a strong intrinsic desire to learn and to excel. He doesn't care if he gets recognition for doing great work - he wants to do great work. I can't wait to see what he chooses to do with his future - he will do great things.*
- *Ben is a kind and welcoming senior. He works hard in his classes and is involved in a variety of activities.*
- *Ben works very hard and does a great job rising to the challenges he's given. He's kind and respectful and an overall good role model to his classmates.*
- *Ben is a wonderful student who maintains the highest grade in all his classes in addition to his involvement in athletics. He's kind to his fellow students. I've been impressed with how engaged he has been this school year despite experiencing a family tragedy in late summer of 2025; this shows a remarkable amount of grit and perseverance.*
- *Ben is a hard worker, always problem solving and finding solutions to obstacles in his path towards achievement.*

Our Athletes of the Month for January are:

**Girls Basketball - Ava Franzen** - Ava has been bought in and working on getting better day in and day out. Her rebounding numbers have been improving and she has been playing the most minutes when she is there!

**Boys Basketball - Ben Clevenger** - Ben has shown outstanding leadership, unwavering commitment in the significant minutes he consistently plays for the team. He leads by example both on and off the field, maintains a strong work ethic at every practice and game, and reliably steps up when the team needs him most. His dedication and consistent performance helped him lead the team in minutes played and rebounds during the month of January. Keep up the good work Ben!

**Cheerleading - Taylyn Watterson and Karly Warner** - Taylyn is the perfect blend of serious and fun. She's always up for anything new to try and is always excited for it and does so with a huge smile on her face. Karly is a leader in such a quiet manner and is very well respected by all. She's grown leaps and bounds this season not only in strength but also in confidence. Taylyn and Karly were the perfect pair to join cheer for their senior year!