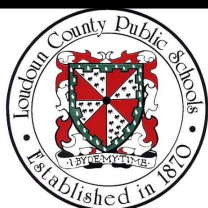


# Blue Ridge Middle School Annual Report 2013 – 2014



## Blue Ridge's Mission



*Blue Ridge Middle School is committed to academic excellence for all students in order to encourage them to be successful, responsible, and productive citizens. We recognize the importance of providing a climate where students' academic, social and emotional needs are met. We are dedicated to providing a climate of high expectations and caring human relationships.*

## Blue Ridge Middle School: Selected Schools to Watch

Blue Ridge Middle School stands firmly behind the values espoused in its mission statement. Students at Blue Ridge Middle School are valued members of our school community. You can truly see our mission statement in practice if you walk the halls of our middle school.

Teachers work diligently to promote student achievement through various instructional strategies and professional collaboration. Our dynamic staff truly "gets the middle school student. Teachers consistently afford students opportunities for growth and self-reflection in their learning with multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery. Visit with our English staff and you will see students working through a student-led writer's conference with their English teacher. Visit a science classroom to see students stretching their critical thinking skills in an inquiry based science lab. These are just two of the many examples of our mission statement at work.



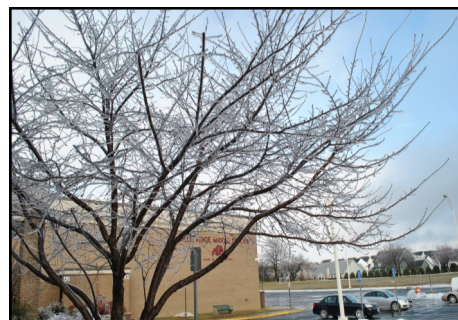
Teachers, administrators, and all staff members value the importance of relationship building for the middle level learner. From the Name Game to our unique Club Schedule to our climate activities, our staff and students all thrive on the meaningful and successful relationships we have developed.

This is why Blue Ridge Middle School has been recognized three times by the *Schools to Watch* organization as a high-performing middle school. With a concerted effort to meet the unique developmental needs of the middle level learner, Blue Ridge Middle School promotes academic excellence, social equity and ensures that our organizational structure and instruction are developmentally responsive to the needs of our students. These categories are the core criteria used to earn a school this designation.

In our Annual Report, we will highlight the various ways Blue Ridge Middle School excels in the aforementioned categories. Selected Schools to Watch criteria can be found throughout this document.

## Blue Ridge: Past and Present—Culture of Excellence

Blue Ridge Middle School opened on former farm land on the south side of Purcellville in 1971. This new middle school, serving grades six through eight, was the feeder school to Loudoun Valley High School. As the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century saw an increase in the need for more classrooms in Western Loudoun, several expansions and a major renovation in 2005 aligned the architectural design with the new middle schools being built in other areas of Loudoun County. Blue Ridge currently has a student population of over 900 students.

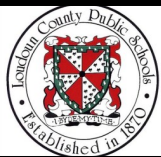


### Virginia Naturally School

Blue Ridge Middle School was selected as one of the Virginia Naturally Schools for the 2013-2014 school year. The goal of the school program is to recognize efforts undertaken by Virginia schools to increase environmental awareness and stewardship of its students.

### Foothills to the future...

Blue Ridge Middle School  
Loudoun County Public Schools  
551 East A Street  
Purcellville, VA 20132  
<http://www.loudoun.k12.va.us/brms>



## Blue Ridge Middle School: Selected Schools to Watch

- All students meet high academic standards.
- Curriculum, instruction, assessment, and appropriate academic interventions are aligned with high standards.
- The curriculum emphasizes deep understanding of important concepts and the development of essential skills.
- Instructional strategies include a variety of challenging and engaging activities that are clearly related to the grade-level standards, concepts, and skills being taught.
- Teachers use a variety of methods to assess and monitor the progress of student learning.
- The faculty and master schedules provide students time to meet rigorous academic standards.
- Teachers know what each student has learned and still needs to learn.
- The adults in the school are provided time and frequent opportunities to enhance student achievement by working with colleagues to deepen their knowledge and to improve their standards-based practice.

## The 600 Club

At Blue Ridge, we encourage students to reach their potential and excel in a rigorous curriculum. Our students consistently show high levels of mastery on SOL exams. To recognize this academic achievement, we created a wall of fame for our 600 Club students. Over 128 of Blue Ridge Middle School students (representing over 300 tests with perfect scores) are a part of the 600 Club. Keep up the great work!

## Academic Growth and Excellence by Grade Level

### House A

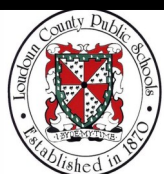
The eighth grade had a fabulous final year at BRMS. The Mountaineer and Voyager teams were made up of 326 enthusiastic students. With an emphasis on academic rigor and helping each student achieve his or her personal best, the eighth grade staff planned many hands-on lessons. In civics, mock elections were just one way students learned how our government functions and how they play role as citizens in society. Students also visited the U.S. Capitol for their field trip. English teachers challenged students to grow as writers through the use of writers' workshops and portfolios. Science teachers used inquiry-based lessons to promote critical thinking, while math teachers challenged students to solve difficult equations in Math 8, Algebra, and Geometry.

### House B

Sixth grade students had a seamless transition to Blue Ridge Middle School. Starting on the first day of school, students embraced middle school by demonstrating outstanding character and work-ethic. It was common for us to see students sitting with new people in the cafeteria to make everyone feel welcome and enjoy a culture of success. At Blue Ridge Middle School, we believe in developing the whole-child and knowing each student by name. This starts with the administrators and counselors working collaboratively by learning the names of all students through the *Name Game*. Our goal is for every child to feel welcome and enjoy learning. Students also participated in a variety of activities this year including: the school fundraiser, Cornerstone awards, clubs, Character Counts, Native American Day, Souled Out assembly, Veteran's Day, College in Six, the National Gallery of Art field trip, bingo, the Winter Masquerade, and field day.

### House C

A magnificent year was had by our seventh grade students! Teachers on the Explorer and Pathfinder teams challenged students within the classroom and extended learning outside the classroom as well. At the start of the year, both teams created bulletin boards with their students' summer fun pictures as a way to learn more about each other. December brought the Blue Ridge traditional "name game" and beautiful winter concerts from our music department. This winter was unusual in the large number of snow days we had; nevertheless our teachers adjusted accordingly and our students were successful in mastering the seventh grade curriculum. In March, we placed a focus on college exploration by highlighting the academic institutions of our faculty. Our big field trip this year was in April when students visited Ford's Theater and the National Museum of Natural History. This trip aligned with the students' history and life science coursework. In language arts, students developed their reading and writing skills – including writing memoirs, poetry, and triographies. Students also analyzed various genres of literature. In communications classes, students researched, planned, and conducted debates on relevant and current topics. History students studied the Reconstruction Era through the present time. Math 7 and Algebra students continued to develop number sense and utilize analytical and computational skills. Science students examined the area of life science, studying the smallest unicellular organisms. Students were also on the move in PE throughout the year with activities such as dancing, roller skating, track and field, and the Bulldog Mile. Art students were busy creating a wide range of art products including rubber stamps, pottery and drawings. Finally, music students spent many hours rehearsing to hone their musical skills which showcased how much improvement our musicians made in the spring concerts.



# Academic Excellence at BRMS

## Recognizing and Promoting Excellence

### Student Award Winners

- Scholastic Writing award winners (Regional Winners—Southeastern States): Charlotte Ager, Mackenzie Ashby, Chase Dawson, Abby Haraburda, Luke Korfonta, Nadia Leiby.
- Virginia Poetry Society winners: Reagan Brill and Aubrey Winger.
- Harmony contest winners county-level: Hayes Eagan, Brianna Lehmann, Marjorie Eubanks, Allie Hofelt.
- Valor essay contest winner for the Loudoun First Responders Foundation: Alisa Geise.
- Publication of poem or essay in creative communications: Sydney Ahlers, Justin Coman, Lillian Grooms, Sejung Kim, Dylan Raymer, Mariel Clark, Catherine Gloeckner, Jonathan Jacobson, Meagan Kennedy, Julia McNamara, Elijah Conrow, Nora Felps, Henry Hill, Danielle Land, Christopher Lindemeyer, Charlie Windle, Robert Scotty Hill, Taylor Stowe.
- Harvard Medical School Extreme Medicine Conference presenter, volunteer mentor for Starfish One-By-One program: Taylor Justice.
- STEM SUMMIT Foxcroft (8<sup>th</sup> grade first place): Bella Bigalow, Marisa Vaughn, Mandy McGroddy, Rachel Crum, Kaleigh Bryan, Elizabeth McCann, Hannah Allison, Taylor Bostock.
- You Be the Chemist: Varun Mosur (VA State champion), Cole Sheffer, Jack Liu, Adam Broshkevitch, Charles Pekin, Zachery Boner, Clyde Volker, Kearney Quillen, Paul Dudak.
- Continental Math League winners: 1st Place - Kelsey Blake, 2nd Place (3-way tie) - Emily Simpson, John Grossi, and Alisa Giese, 3rd Place: Roslyn Hall-Wurst.
- National Current Events League winner - Zachary Stevenson.
- Athletics team: Kevin Carlson, Wyatt Marvil, Zach Boner, Riley Coburn, Paul Dudak, Jack Liu, Dylan Small, Alannah Wall, Daniel Carrier, Andrew Clark, Melane Fann, Norah Felps, Jessica Lu, Rebecca McFadden, Varun Mosur, Greason Smith.
- Academic Challenge: Daniel Carrier, Varun Mosur, Elizabeth McCann, Adam Obedin, Adam Broshkevitch, Ryan Colon, Zachary Stevenson, Chase Dawson, Turner Leigh, Michael Liebolt.
- Odyssey of the Mind participants: Amanda Wall, Ryan Ebrahimi, Jack Liu, Paul Dudak, Clayton Lundberg, Aylie Giblin, Kaleigh Bryan, Mackenzie Kubal, Taylor Stowe, Alyssa Lane, Caitlin Blake, Daniel Carrier, Charlie Combs, Adam Conklin, Nathan Dahlman, Chase Dawson, Varun Mosur, Noah Poncin.
- BRMS spelling bee winners: Varun Mosur (7<sup>th</sup> in Region), Erica Roland, Meghan Evans.
- LCPS Social Science Student of The Year: Emily Simpson.
- Geography bee winner: Varun Mosur (12 in VA State).
- American Math Competition: BRMS placed 2nd out of seven countries.



### Cornerstone Awards

Blue Ridge Middle School is committed to recognizing student achievement and effort through our Cornerstone Awards program. Each quarter, grade level teams selected one male and one female student from his or her team to be recognized during the Cornerstone ceremony. Students were awarded a Cornerstone pin, BRMS bumper sticker, and a BRMS bulldog pendant. The Cornerstone categories include: citizenship, effort, scholarship, leadership, as well as academic achievement in math, reading, and writing.

### Character Counts!

At Blue Ridge Middle School, we recognize and promote good character through our Character Counts program. This is a national program that highlights six key pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, caring, fairness, and citizenship. When students display any of these traits, staff members nominate them to receive a Character Counts award. Students who receive this award enjoy a celebration with their family members and earn a Character Counts bracelet. Nominees are recognized quarterly and their actions are read aloud for all to hear. It is wonderful to see all the proud parents and positive impact these students have on our school.



### Department Awards

Continuing rich academic traditions at Blue Ridge, staff members recognized 2013-2014 8<sup>th</sup> grade department winners in ten categories. These categories included: math, science, social science, English, word languages and cultures, physical education, fine arts, technology education, family and consumer science, and spectrum. These students represent an elite group of our most dedicated learners at Blue Ridge Middle School. Students were honored by having their names engraved on a plaque that will be displayed in the halls of BRMS.





### Blue Ridge Spelling Bee and Geography Bee

The New Year started off with our annual Blue Ridge Spelling Bees. Our eighth grade winner was Varun Mosur. In seventh grade, Erica Roland spelled her way to victory. In sixth grade, Meghan Evans was the spelling bee champion. Each of these students represented BRMS in the Loudoun County Spelling.

In January, several students participated in the school wide Geography Bee. Varun Mosur placed 12th in the state, congratulations!



### LCPS Academic Challenge

Our 8th grade was represented at the county-wide Academic Challenge with a stellar group of BRMS students. These students included: Daniel Carrier, Varun Mosur, Elizabeth McCann, Adam Obedin, Adam Broshkevitch, Ryan Colon, Zachary Stevenson, Chase Dawson, Turner Leigh, Michael Liebolt.

### Staff Accolades and Accomplishments

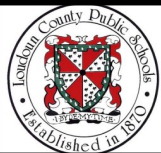
At Blue Ridge Middle School, we strive to make our students life-long learners. Leading by example, BRMS staff member continuously challenge themselves to grow as professionals. Below are some of our staff accomplishments for this year.



- Shauna Cassidy : Writing About Reading Conference. Completed Literacy Journeys class through George Mason University.
- Susan MacWhorter: Finished her master's degree in English from George Mason University.
  - SEAC Nominees: Stacy Crouch, Sarah Cavanaugh
  - Debbie Mueller: Agnes Meyer Teacher of the Year nominee.
  - VMSA Conference presenters (measuring growth in the heterogeneous English classroom): Ms. Walker, Ms. White, Mr. Kursman
  - National Council of Teachers of English annual conference presenter: Ms. White, Ms. Walker
  - Bob Lee: Master's degree in Educational Leadership from George Mason University
  - Marnie Hawk: VSTE conference, voted to the TRT Advisory Board, member of the Windows sub-committee, ActivLoudoun 2014 presenter, Schools To Watch Conference attendee, Schools To Watch Committee at BRMS, project leader of CAMS curriculum at BRMS (Coding At the Middle School)
- Brian Hanselman: Appointed to Assistant Principal at Trailside Middle School.
- Karin Nixon: Earned master's degree in School Administration.
- Laura Rahn (Microsoft Expert Educator): Attended the Microsoft in Education Global Forum in Barcelona, Spain from March 10 – 17. Mrs. Rahn's international teacher team was recognized as a runner up in the Global Learnathon Competition. She was one of six educators from the United States receiving awards at the Microsoft Global Forum in Barcelona.
- Eric Kursman: Earned master's degree from George Mason University in Teacher Leadership



# Social Equity at BRMS



## Selected Schools to Watch Criteria: Social Equity

- Teachers continually adapt curriculum, instruction, assessment, and scheduling to meet their students' diverse and changing needs.
- Students have ongoing opportunities to learn about and appreciate their own and others' cultures.
- The school community knows every student well.
- The faculty welcomes and encourages the active participation of all its families and makes sure that all its families are an integral part of the school.
- The school's reward system is designed to value diversity, civility, service, and democratic citizenship.
- Staff members understand and support the family backgrounds and values of its students.

## Parents as Educational Partners



The Parents as Educational Partners (PEP) program in Loudoun County Public Schools promotes parent involvement in the school community for parents whose primary language is not English. Participants attend classes to learn about their district and school. In addition, parents gain information that enables them to be advocates in their child's education. Organized by Beth Stickley and Marnie Hawk, Blue Ridge held four quarterly PEP events. At each meeting, topics such as scheduling, interims, report cards, and college preparation were discussed.

## Mix-It-Up Day

The BRMS counselors arranged for students to sit at tables according to their first name. This was a fun activity that allowed students to sit with new people and learn about each other. Student conversations were facilitated by Loudoun Valley PEER Helpers. The purpose of Mix-It-Up-Day was to encourage students connections and friendships.

## Black History Month Celebration

In February, BRMS recognized Black History Month with a month-long celebration of famous African American leaders. The science department displayed African American inventors in our showcase and connected it to the curriculum. In addition, the band *Souled Out* performed for the students and provided an educationally rich event.



## Native American Day



In November, the sixth graders celebrated Native American Month by hosting Ray and Brenda Silva for the fourth year in a row. Ray is a Native American representing the Laguna Pueblo tribe and Brenda is a Native American who represents the Haliwa-Saponi tribe. Students performed Native American dances with Mrs. Silva as her husband played the drum. In addition, students participated in a variety of Native American activities such as, totem pole design, pattern painting, sand art, flag design, and the human map. This was an enrichment event for all.

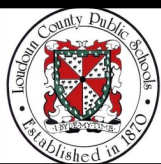
## Veteran's Day

Veteran's Day began with a video that featured seven BRMS staff members who served in the armed forces of the United States. Immediately following the video, all BRMS students were given a small American flag to place along A Street. In addition, students took part in a poster and poem contest to honor the service and sacrifice of America's veterans.

## Safe School Ambassadors and Peer Helpers

The school counselors continued our Safe School Ambassador and Peer Helper programs. These programs support our school's positive climate. Students learn how to intercede in challenging situations, and they model appropriate interactions. Students also learn strategies to encourage positive behavior and kindness.

# Developmental Responsiveness at BRMS



CLUB	SPONSOR
20 Club	Ms. Jackson
Apples to Apples	Ms. Raudabaugh, Ms. Hite
Are You Ready for Some Football?	Mr. Bauer, Mr. Bolen
Board Games	Ms. McDole, Ms. Haggerty
Brick Builders	Mr. Fiolek, Ms. Whitbeck, Ms. McKay, Mr. Callaway
Buddy Club	Mr. Costello, Ms. Cavanaugh, Ms. Crouch, Ms. Anderson
Bulldog Adventure Team	Mr. Hanselman, Mr. Kursman
Bulldog Book and Blog Club	Ms. Lightner, Ms. Duke
Card making & Scrapbooking	Ms. Robertson, Ms. Witt
Chess Club	Mr. Lee, Mr. Miller
Classic Crochet	Ms. O'Neil, Ms. Holcomb
Computer Games Club	Ms. Allen, Mr. Hartley
Creative Writing	Ms. Pomponio
Drawing Club	Ms. Gladstone, Ms. Young
Drawing Club	Mr. Martz
Four Square	Ms. Midolo, Ms. Henry
Four Square	Ms. Scherer
Four Square	Ms. Schray
Four Square	Ms. Hommel
Four Square	Ms. Frame, Ms. Rowley
French Club	Ms. Jarvis
Girls Running Club	Ms. Balio, Ms. Stuart
Hi-Tech Fun with Computers	Ms. Rahn, Ms. Hawk
Homework - Mountaineers	Ms. Boyer
Homework - Voyagers	Ms. Hiller
Homework - Pathfinders	Ms. Mueller
Homework - Trailblazers	Ms. MacWhorter
Homework - Trekkers	Ms. Kushner
Homework - Explorers	Ms. Cassidy
Legos Club	Mr. Kawalek, Mr. Smith, Ms. Burk
Mathletics	Ms. Jackson, Ms. Taylor
Paint it Forward	Ms. Gallagher, Ms. Pearson-Wease
RC Club	Mr. Dillon
Rec. Games Club	Ms. Willingham, Ms. Bolen
Rugby	Mr. Paquette
Save Our Snakes	Mr. Snyder
SCA	Ms. Klimek, Ms. Nixon, Mr. Bell
Scrabble/Words w/ Friends	Ms. Miske
Shakespeare in DC	Ms. White, Ms. Walker
Stich Your Way to Fun!	Ms. McFarland
Think Outside the Box Club	Ms. Nelson, Ms. Stevens, Ms. Taylor
Time to Draw	Ms. Gillis, Ms. Walker
Walking	Ms. Cunningham
Walking	Ms. Garbe
Walking	Ms. Novak
Walking	Bowen
Walking	Ms. Victor
Walking	Mr. Graf
Weightlifting for Life	Ms. Mosley, Ms. McWilliams
Wii Club	Mr. D'Arcangelis, Ms. Stickley
World Cultures Club	Ms. Gargiulo, Mr. Stutzman
Yearbook	Ms. Helble
Catch Phrase	Ms. Schulhof
Jig-saw Puzzles	Ms. Smith



## Selected Schools to Watch Criteria: Developmental Responsiveness

- The staff creates a personalized environment that supports each student's intellectual, ethical, social, and physical development.
- The school provides access to comprehensive services to foster healthy physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development.
- Students are provided multiple opportunities to explore a rich variety of topics and interests in order to develop identity, discover strengths, demonstrate their own competencies, and plan for their futures.
- The school staff members develop alliances with families to enhance and support the well-being of the children.
- The school provides age-appropriate, co-curricular activities to foster social skills and character, and to develop interests beyond the classroom environment.

## Activity Periods



Blue Ridge Middle School prides itself on being socially equitable and developmentally responsive to the needs of its middle school students. BRMS does this not only through teaming and different grade level Houses, but through Friday Activity Periods. Every staff member at Blue Ridge Middle School helps by sponsoring a student club.

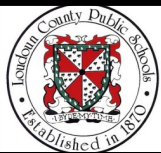
With over thirty clubs to choose from, students are sure to find something that sparks their interests. Each Friday, clubs meet the last half hour of the day.

This is an opportunity for students not only to have a fun and unique learning experience, but also to develop and sustain meaningful relationships with adults at BRMS through their middle school journey.

## The Name Game

The *Name Game* was played during the month of December. A team of administrators and counselors from each grade level **successfully named every student** at BRMS. Knowing all our students is an important part of the family atmosphere at Blue Ridge Middle School. This activity strengthened our school climate and gave each student a sense of belonging.





## Selected Schools to Watch Criteria: Organizational Structures and Processes

- A shared vision of what a high-performing school is and does drives every facet of school change.
- The school is a community of practice in which learning, experimentation, and time and opportunity for reflection are the norm.
- The school and district devote resources to content-rich professional development, which is connected to reaching and sustaining the school vision and increasing student achievement.
- The school is not an island unto itself; it is a part of a larger educational system, i.e., districts, networks and community partnerships.
- The school staff holds itself accountable for the student's success.
- District and school staff possess and cultivate the collective will to persevere, believing it is their business to produce

## Blue Ridge Middle School's Improvement Plan at Work

Just as we encourage our students to grow and achieve, we consistently grow as professional educators. Below are goals from our School's 2013- 2014 School Improvement Plan.

### Blue Ridge Middle School SIP Goals 2013- 2014

**1. Create high expectations for student success.**

**2. Improve professional collaboration.**

**3. Improve school climate.**



### Climate Activities

Fall Parade: Students and staff celebrated Halloween showing their costumes in the school parade.

School Spirit Days: Students participated in college shirt day, Disney day, twin day, and pajama day.

Winter Masquerade: Students, staff members, and families celebrated a night of games and fun.

Spring Festival: This school activity showcased all the creative projects, hands-on labs, and wonderful things that students do every day. The night was filled with activities, student work, and lots of fun!

Staff vs. Student Basketball Game: Eighth grade students challenged the staff in a basketball game that was played at Loudoun Valley High School. This was the second year for event and was attended by over eight-hundred community members. In the end, the staff had a chance to win the game, but missed a last second three point shot. We are proud of all the participants for their effort and outstanding sportsmanship.

Bulldog Mile: The third annual Bulldog Mile was an exciting race. All participants did extremely well. Congratulations to the following students: Alice Roberts (6:29), Kevin Carlson (5:50), Mariah Thompson (6:34), Jacob Windle (5:19), Colton Bogucki (5:21), and Ally Major (6:40).

Field Day: Sixth and seventh grade students enjoyed a fun-filled day of activities. Students danced, signed yearbooks, socialized, participated in volleyball, competed in relay races, and watched movies. It was a great way to celebrate all the hard work students put forth this year.

Bingo: This great event connected Blue Ridge Middle School with the community.



### Business Partnerships

This year, Blue Ridge Middle School connected several businesses with our community. The businesses listed below supported student learning, school climate, academic achievement, and instruction. These businesses include: Magnolias at the Mill, Market Street Coffee, Vocelli's, Domino's, Coach's Corner, TMG Construction Corporation, Smokin Willy, Jersey Mike's Subs, Grisius Orthodontics, and Haute Dogs & Fries. Additionally, Blue Ridge Middle School and Haute Dogs & Fries won the 2014 Loudoun County Public School business partnership award. Thank you to all our sponsors!

## Fine Arts

- **The Little Mermaid:** BRMS presented The Little Mermaid to a sold out crowd. Students worked diligently to prepare and perform an amazing production. Congratulations!
- **All-County Orchestra:** Kayla Durbin, Hannah Snyder, Sydney Cox.
- **All-County Guitar:** Varun Chharia, Ryan Colon, Heather Feconda, Riley Herr, McKenna Magoffin, Tyler Schroeder, Claire Slook, Graeson Smith, Caitlin Sullivan, Hannah Wolff, and Kelly Wood.
- **All-County Chorus:** Kelsey Blake, Conley Burns, Molly Coffman, Amber French, Matty Quish, Elyse Ricafort, Madison Santmyer, Gwenael Saunier, Beth Templeton, Krissa Thorndike.
- **Honor Guitar Students:** Ryan Colon, Riley Herr, Jordan O'Connor, Jake Rudy, Tyler Schroeder, Graeson Smith, Caitlin Sullivan, Hannah Wolff, and Kelly Wood.
- **Honor Band:** Composed of students from sixth, seventh, and eighth grade. Students performed at the Spring Festival.
- **Band 8:** Performed with the high school marching band. They marched on the field and performed the Fight Song, the Hey Song, and the Star Spangled Banner.
- **District Assessment:**
  - \* Superior Rating: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra.
  - \* Excellent Rating: 8th Grade Chorus and 8th Grade Band.
- **Hershey Park Assessment:**
  - \* Superior Rating: 8th Grade Chorus Students, 8th Grade Guitar Students, and 8th Grade Band Students.
  - \* Excellent Rating: 8th Grade Orchestra.
- **Solo & Ensemble Assessment:**
  - \* Superior Rating: Claire Slook, Hannah Wolff, Derek Goings, Dylan Raymer, Jake Rudy, Ben Weist, Sami Pugh, Natalie Morris, Ricardo Arisiaga, Addie Winger, Hannah Snyder, Reagan Brill, Calen Aubertin, Caity Pitvorec. Band students earned 18 Superior Ratings.
  - \* Excellent Rating: Kathleen Grupe, Reagan Brill, Jacqueline Packard, Emily Simpson, Alynne Bolyard, Emma Lear, Hannah Shouse, Madison Money, Elena Vega, Kyle Berringer, Mara Berringer, Maya Bostock, Taylor Bostock, Megan Horgan, Madison Stiles. Band students earned 13 Excellent Ratings.
- **Art Students:** This year, art students participated in Pinwheels for Peace. Students created messages of peace on decorative pinwheels, displayed in front of several schools. Ms. O'Neil's sixth graders brighten the BRMS hallways with colorful murals and large portrait paintings. Seventh and eighth grade students displayed drawings and paintings at a variety of locations including the Lovettsville library, the Purcellville Art Show, and the Dulles Town Center. Congratulations to Sofia Kesari, Aliza Bucci, and Lauren Watts. These students were accepted to the PAVAN Governor's School of the Visual Arts.



## School Grants

Throughout the year, our teachers wrote for grants from both the PTO and Administration. Throughout the use of these grants, teachers were able to enhance their instruction as well as provide new opportunities for growth in our students.

Grant	Staff /Sponsor	Purpose
Microsoft Surface	BRMS Language Arts	Provide students and parents with formative feedback in reading/writing workshop conferences.
E-Learning Resource	Mr. Graf	Provide additional learning resource to improve student understanding and comprehension.
Glogster EDU	Bulldog Book Club	Students will track growth in writing and share online with a community of learners.
Continental Math League	Ms. Bowen	The competition challenges math students to a variety of levels within the curriculum.
National Science League	Ms. Bowen	This competition engages science students and focuses on achievement and problem-solving.
National Current Events League	Ms. Bowen	This league continues students' passion about current events and builds critical thinking.
Junior Scholastic Magazine	BRMS History Department	Provide Students with current events and articles written on a reading level for middle school students.
Tablet Confer	Language Arts Department	Confer application will allow English teachers to improve instruction through instant formative feedback.
Test Master	Language Arts Department	Enhance student understanding and test preparation for standardized testing and TEI questions.
Weekly Reader	Language Arts Department	Allow students to elaborate in their writings with age appropriate current events.
Thinking at Every Desk	Language Arts Department	Professional development for English teachers to improve instructional practices.
Leveled Readers	Ms. Duke	Track student progress throughout the year and increase Daily Independent Reading Time (DIRT).
Folger Theater Competition	Ms. White and Ms. Walker	Students perform Shakespear and share feedback.
LVHS	BRMS	Student scholarships.
Native American Day	Elizabeth Stickley	Provide students the opportunity to learn about Native American cultures.