



Blue Ridge Middle School Annual Report 2011–2012

The History of Blue Ridge Middle School



Blue Ridge Middle School opened on former farm land to 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 20th 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 of the front of the building with the new middle schools being built in other areas of Loudoun County. Currently, Blue Ridge can house over 1,000 students. The staff has increased to over 120 teachers and paraprofessionals.

In 2011, Blue Ridge Middle School was named a **Virginia Naturally School**. The goal of this program is to recognize the efforts undertaken by Virginia schools that increase the environmental awareness and stewardship of their students.

Blue Ridge's Mission

...Blue Ridge Middle School provides a caring atmosphere in which the academic, social, emotional and physical needs and interests of all students are met. Our teachers and staff work in a collaborative way to ensure the success of each student.



Blue Ridge's Mission in Practice

At Blue Ridge Middle School, we stand firmly behind the values espoused in our mission statement. Students at Blue Ridge Middle School are valued members of our school community. As you walk our halls, you can truly see our mission statement in practice.

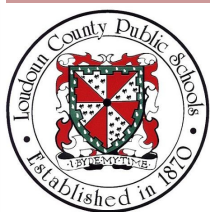
This is why Blue Ridge Middle School has been twice recognized by the **Schools to Watch** organization as a high-performing middle school. With a concerted effort to meet the unique developmental needs of the middle level learner, Blue Ridge Middle School promotes **academic excellence, social equity**,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

Teachers work diligently to promote student achievement and academic excellence through various instructional strategies and professional collaboration. Our dynamic staff "gets" the middle school student and ensures that students' developmental needs are met. 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. Visit a science classroom to see students stretching their critical thinking skills in a inquiry-based science lab. History and civics teachers push students to think deeply about our nation's past and to become active and engaged citizens. Math teachers foster students' problem-solving skills, challenging them to think outside the box to solve different equations. These are just a few of the many examples of our mission statement at work.



Teachers, administrators, and all staff members value the importance of relationship building and social equity 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 relationship we have developed. At Blue Ridge Middle School, every student is a valued member of our school community.

In our Annual Report, we will highlight the various ways Blue Ridge Middle School excels in the aforementioned categories– **academic excellence, social equity, developmental responsiveness**, and **organizational structure**. Selected *Schools to Watch* criteria can be found throughout this document.



Selected Schools to Watch Criteria: Academic Excellence

- All students are expected to meet high academic standards.
- Curriculum, instruction, assessment, and appropriate academic interventions are aligned with high standards.
- 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 (e.g., tests, quizzes, assignments, exhibitions, projects, performance tasks, portfolios).

The 600 Club

At Blue Ridge, we push students to reach their potential and to consistently exceed our high academic standards. Our students repeatedly show high levels of mastery on their SOL exams. To recognize this achievement, we have 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 part of the 600 Club. Keep up the great work!

Academic Growth and Excellence by Grade Level

House A Happenings!

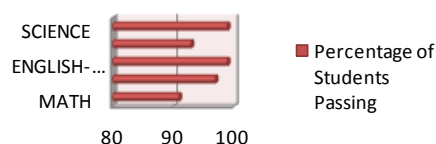
The eighth grade had a terrific year as they embarked on their final year here at BRMS. The Mountaineer and Voyager teams welcomed an enthusiastic class of 289 students. The eighth grade took part in several cross-curricular lessons and activities, all emphasizing academic achievement. The grade-level field trip to the Newseum, for example, linked directly to the First Amendment unit of study in civics classes, as students took part in an interactive presentation titled "You Can't Say That in School" during the trip.

English teachers challenged students to grow as writers through the use of writers' workshops and portfolios. Civics teachers encouraged students to become active and engaged citizens. 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 Happenings!

The sixth graders had an outstanding first year at BRMS! Their transition from elementary school to middle school was seamless, thanks to our dynamic 6th grade team teachers, the Trekkers and Trailblazers. These teams challenged students at every opportunity. Highlights from this year include the students' field trip to Harpers Ferry in the fall. In small groups, student rotated through activities including a scavenger hunt, battle training, and a hike on part of the Appalachian Trail. Author Jeff Kinney, who writes the Wimpy Kid series, visited our 6th grade students in November. The end of March marked the annual "College in Six" field trip. On March 28th, Team Trekker toured Shepherd University and hiked at Antietam National Park. In the fourth quarter, students were visited by author Pam Flowers and historian Mr. Richard Gillespie. Ms. Flowers shared her insight about the writing process, while Mr. Richard Gillespie, of the Mosby Heritage Area, spoke to the sixth graders about local Civil War history in Loudoun County.

SOL Passage Rates 2010 - 2011

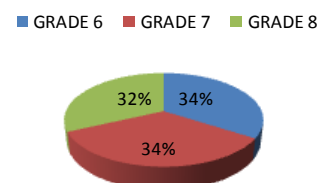


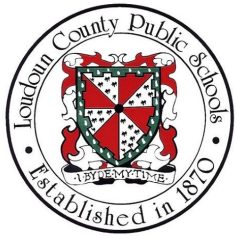
House C Happenings!

A fantastic year was had by our grade seven students. Not only did the Explorer and Pathfinder teams challenge students in the classroom, they extended their learning outside of the classroom as well. The 7th graders started out the year with a trip to the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History. This trip aligned with the students' life science coursework.

In their language arts classes, students shared original poems and invited their parents to join in this activity. Guest Speaker Larry Shea, a Vietnam veteran and 7th grade student's grandfather spoke to students about his experiences during the Vietnam War. In communications classes, students researched, planned, and conducted debates on relevant and current topics. Most recently, students in honors history classes worked on their Chapter 33 research project. In this activity, students research, develop, and create the next chapter for their American history textbook.

BRMS by Grade Level





Recognizing and Promoting Academic Excellence

Student Award Winners

- Mary Callihan earned the Certificate of Merit in the Scholastic Writing Competition for her short story "Spring Green and the Seven Hobbits."
- Alexandra Van Zandt won the Silver Key Award in the Scholastic Writing Competition for her personal essay "Keep Your Head Up."
- Emily Baer won the Gold Key Award in the Scholastic Writing Competition for the essay "Shots" in the category of humorous writing.
- Jasmine Lu was the winner of Loudoun County's VALOR Contest.
- Dasha Berringer was a National Novel Writing Month Winner.
- The following students were published by Creative Communications– Lizzie Bunce; Chris Cerne; Samantha Hinton; Isabelle Janda; Benna Jannings; Elena Larcia; Jordan Rivers; Riley Ruments; Erin Slupe; Harriet Smith; David Tunder; Lizzy Elliehausen; Jamie Heuer; and Mar Keane.
- The following students were Spring Festival Parent and Peer Best of Genre Winners– Book Review– Noah Wade; Essay– Riley Toohill; Parody– Benn Manning; Short Story– Hannah Waring; Rant– Sofie Saunier; Poetry– Gretta Simons; Letter– Samantha Hinton; and Memoir– Emilie Peterson.
- Chad Drake had his poem published by the Young Writers of America Student Poetry Contest.
- Lizzie Manero earned second place in the *Clean Air Partners 4th Annual Poster Contest*.
- Jasmine Williams was the winner of Blue Ridge's Black History Month Contest with her poem, "Dreams Become Reality."



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 female student from their team to be recognized during a nightly awards presentation. Students were awarded a cornerstone pin, BRMS bumper sticker, and a BRMS bulldog pendant in the categories of Citizenship, Leadership, Work Ethic, Scholarship, Best Effort in Math, Best Effort in Reading, and Best Effort in Writing. This is a great opportunity for the parents to see their children's academic effort. With the success of our first Cornerstone Awards, we will make this a Blue Ridge tradition.

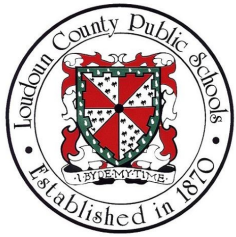


Character Counts: We're Dynamic Dawgs

At Blue Ridge Middle School, we embrace the golden rule, "treat others the way you want to be treated." In an effort to identify and promote good character, this year we implemented the Character Counts Program at BRMS. Character Counts! is a national program which highlights six key pillars of character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Caring, Fairness, and Citizenship. When students are "caught" displaying any of these traits, they can be nominated for an award. Student nominees are then recognized at a quarterly reception along with their parents. At these awards, students' good deeds and efforts are read aloud for all to hear. It is wonderful to see all the proud parents and the positive impact these students have had on our school.

Department Awards

Continuing Blue Ridge's rich academic traditions, staff members recognized 2011- 2012 department winners in fourteen different categories. These categories included Math, Science, Social Science, English, Foreign Language, Physical Education, Art, Band, Chorus, Guitar, Orchestra, Technology Education, Family and Consumer Science, and Spectrum. These students represent an elite group of our most dedicated students, and this year they will be honored with plaques on our Department Winners Wall. In helping to honor these eighth graders, Mr. Hartley's geometry classes helped measure and organize the layout of our new plaques. Mr. Bauer designed and painted the background to display these academic achievements. It is an inspiration for all of our BRMS students.



Blue Ridge Spelling Bee and Geography Bee

In January, we kicked off the year with the annual Blue Ridge Spelling Bees. Our 8th grade winner was Sarah McAllister. In 7th grade, Samantha DeHart spelled her way to victory. In 6th grade, Annabelle Coppersmith was the Spelling Bee champion. Each of these three young ladies represented Blue Ridge in the Loudoun County Spelling Bee at Stone Bridge High School.

In addition to our Spelling Bees, several sixth grade students participated in the school wide Geography Bee. Congratulations go to the school wide winner, Varun Mosur. The runner-up was 6th grader Adam Obedin.



LCPS Academic Challenge

Our 8th grade was represented at the county-wide Academic Challenge on April 21st by a stellar group of students. These students included: Teddy Froelich, Leila Francis, Jasmine Lu, Sarah McAllister, Cullen O'Hara, Isaac Peterson, Josh Stevenson, and Katie Weems. These students worked diligently with Mr. Morgan to prepare for this event. Their hard work paid off as they finished in 5th place against some extremely talented teams from the other thirteen middle schools in the county.

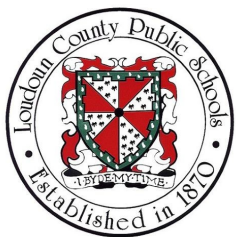
Staff Accolades and Accomplishments

At Blue Ridge Middle School, we strive to make our students life-long learners. Leading by example, staff members continuously challenge themselves and grow as professionals. Below is a list of a few of our staff members' academic accomplishments.

- Shannon Allen- **Shenandoah Teacher of the Year**; Presented at the Virginia Middle School Association 2011 Annual Conference; accepted to attend Trail to Every Classroom Summer Workshop
- Allyson White- Participant in Teachers College Reading and Writing Project Summer Institute through Columbia University
- Ian Stutzman- Foreign Language Association of Virginia Conference Attendee
- Conna Fiorello- Nominated for SEAC Recognition of Excellence Award
- Charles Smith- SEAC Recognition of Excellence Award
- Randy Morgan- Nominee for "Best Emerging Writer" with the West Virginia Writers Association; Instructor for LCPS New Teachers on Differentiation and Tiering
- Kathy Haggerty- Language and Learning Conference Attendee
- Roberta Pomponio- Trail to Every Classroom Summer Workshop Attendee; Presented at Virginia Middle School Association 2011 Annual Conference; presented on placed-based education
- Karin Nixon- University of Virginia- Nature of Science and Inquiry Training Attendee; LCPS Lab Safety Trainer; LCPS Core Experience Trainer; Member of LCPS Science Curriculum Committee



- Ginny Walker- Attended LCPS Most Influential Teacher Ceremony (nominated by a former student); completed George Mason Literacy Journey graduate course; attended Northern Virginia Writers Project and Nancy Atwell Conference; applied for National Board Certification, hosted student teacher
- Alice Schulhof- Facilitator of STAR Program; MANDT Relational Trainer; hosted a student teacher from GWU.
- April Rollins- Earned Special Education license and Masters in Special Education
- Katie Zebley- Participant on Virginia Standards Setting Committee for Math 7 SOL
- Angela Mosley- Attended Focused Fitness Training; earned Masters in Educational Leadership
- Sandra Duke- Attended Northern Virginia Writers Project
- Sarah Royse- Earned Masters plus 30 credit hours
- Patti D'Arcangelis- Completed 35th years of teaching at BRMS
- Shauna Cassidy attended a John Strebe Conference



Selected Schools to Watch Criteria: Social Equity

- 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.

Mix-It-Up Day

During lunch, students were asked to sit at tables according to their birthday months. An activity to promote student conversation was presented by Loudoun Valley PEER Helpers, allowing each table to participate together as a team and the chance to win prizes. The purpose of *Mix It Up Day* was to encourage students to make new connections and friendships.

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 their school, gaining information that will enable them to be decision makers and advocates in their children's education. Organized by Beth Stickley and Eric Kursman, Blue Ridge held four quarterly PEP events. At each dinner/session, we addressed topics such as scheduling, interims, and report cards.



Teaming at BRMS

At Blue Ridge Middle School, students are teamed throughout their entire middle school experience. This means that a group of students share the same four core subject area teachers. At BRMS, this student-centered approach allows for two teams per grade level. The use of teaming allows students to find their place in the context of the larger school community while affording these teachers opportunities to collaborate in their instruction and identify, discuss, and attend to the needs of their team's students. According to National Middle School Association research, teaming increases both student achievement and student self-esteem.

Black History Month Celebration

In February, BRMS recognized Black History Month with a month-long celebration of famous African American women. In the month of March, student work hung in Purcellville's Town Hall. Our capstone Black History Month project challenged students to reflect on their learning, summarizing their thoughts into poems, essays and pictures. Jasmine Williams captured the importance and the spirit of this event in her poem, "Dreams Become Reality."

Native American Day



In November, the 6th graders celebrated Native American Month by hosting Ray and Brenda Silva for the second 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. They brought to us their music and culture. Students danced Native American dances along with Mrs. Silva as her husband sang and played the drum he constructed.

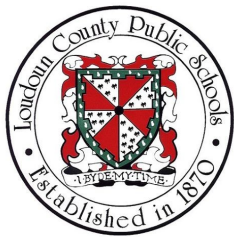
Veterans Day

The morning of Nov. 11th began when the entire school watched a video that featured the seven staff members who are veterans of the armed forces of the United States. Immediately following the video, all 905 BRMS students were given a small American flag and then with their classes, the students went outside and placed the flags along A Street, which runs in front of the school, as well as along the car loop that surrounds the school. The 905 flags were purchased through a grant sponsored by the BRMS PTO. The flag activity allowed each student to actively participate in this somber yet humbling experience. As the Veterans Day activities continued, some students created posters while other students wrote poems in honor of the service and sacrifice of America's veterans. A selection of posters and poems were then delivered to American Legion Post 293 in Purcellville, VA so that they could be displayed during the Legion's annual Veterans Day dinner. The culminating Veterans Day activity occurred when two classes of students participated in a "Skype" session with another BRMS student's father who is currently serving in Kabul, Afghanistan.



Safe School Ambassadors

Our guidance department hosted the Safe School Ambassador Program. This program actively supports our school's positive and safe climate by instructing kids in how to intercede and model character in situations throughout their day.



Developmental Responsiveness at BRMS

| 2011-2012 Clubs | Sponsors | Notes |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 8th Grade Kickball | M Bolen, Boyer | 8th graders play kickball |
| Apples to Apples | P D'Arcangelis | Compete individually and in groups |
| Babysitters Certification | S Bolen, Whitbeck, McKay | Learn basic skills for safe & responsible babysitting, earn certification |
| Basketball | Armstrong | Enhance basketball fundamentals and sportsmanship |
| Board Games | Haggerty, McDole | Play various board games |
| Chess | Lee, Miller | Novice to accomplished players |
| Computer- selected games | Allen, Griffith-Cochran | Flight simulator for Google Earth, cool math games |
| Creative Writing | MacWhorter | Do you love to write? |
| Cup Stacking | | Speed cup stacking practice and competitions |
| Drawing | Blanchard, Gillis | If you love to draw, this is your club. |
| Edge | Scherer | Share your love of God with fellowship, food, and fun |
| Engineering and Inventors | Hartley, Zebley | Building spaghetti bridges, noodle structures, robots, egg-drops... |
| Environmental Stewardship | Jefferson | Maintain and improve the outdoor classroom |
| First Read | Duke, Lightner | Get to check out and read the newest BRMS books. |
| Football Predictions | Bauer, Dillon | Make NFL predictions, watch highlights, play football outside |
| Four Square- 6th Grade | Wood, Gage | Play 4 Square Outside |
| Four Square- 7th Grade | Newman and Music Dept. | Play 4 Square Outside |
| Four Square-8th Grade | Johnson | |
| Hand-Eye Activities | Kushner | Hackey sack, juggling, yo-yo, ping pong, myachi |
| Healthy Living | Thomas, Chao | Learn ways to improve your health and fitness |
| Homework- Pathfinders | Cassidy | Need more time to complete your homework? |
| Homework- Trail-blazer | Pittleman | Need more time to complete your homework? |
| Homework- Trekker | Raudabaugh | Need more time to complete your homework? |
| Homework-8th Grade | White | Need more time to complete your homework? |
| Homework-Explorers | Denbow | Need more time to complete your homework? |
| Just Dance | Morgan, Willingham B-day | Wii Dancing |
| Karaoke | Blythe, Hiller | Sing and be a supportive audience member |
| Lacrosse | Bell | Learn and practice the fundamentals of lacrosse |
| Legos | Kawalek | Design and build with legos |
| Marvelous Mind Games | Taylor | SET, Blokus, and Banana Grams |
| Paint It Forward | Gallagher, Pearson-Weese, Witt | Paint wooden items to be donated |
| Peer Helpers | Counselors | Must have recommendation from counselor |
| Photography | Graf, Kirk | Take pictures, learn creative techniques |
| Puzzle | Burk | Work on jigsaw, word, and thinking puzzles |
| Running | Pomponio, Stuart, Kursman | Improve your physical fitness, train for a 5K race |
| Safe School Ambassadors | Counselors | Must have recommendation from counselor |
| Save Our Snakes | Snyder | Must love snakes and want to protect snakes. |
| SCA | Nixon, Royse | Student government elected by classmates |
| Scrabble | Smith Cindy, Schulhof | Play scrabble for fun and competition |
| Scrabble | Miske | Play scrabble for fun and competition |
| Sketching | Gladstone | Landscape sketching-outside, weather permitting |
| Soccer | Lipovsky, Stutzman | Play soccer |
| Song Writing/Guitar | Kave | Write songs, using the guitar and guitar maintenance |
| Spanish Club | Garguilo | Learn about Spanish cultures and language |
| Textiles | O'Neill, Helble, Holcomb, Balinger | Making friendship bracelets, weaving, crocheting, knitting |
| Walking for Fitness | TBD | Improve your physical fitness. |
| Weight Training | McWilliams, Mosley | Workout in the weight room |
| Wii Sports + Dance | Stickle, J D'Arcangelis | Participate in Wii Activities |
| Yoga | Walker | Learn and practice yoga |

Selected Schools to Watch Criteria: Developmental Responsiveness

- The staff creates a personalized environment that supports each student's intellectual, ethical, social, and physical development.
- Students are provided multiple opportunities to explore a rich variety of topics and interests in order to develop their identities, learn about their strengths, discover and demonstrate their own competencies, and plan for their futures.
- 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 in sponsoring a student club.

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

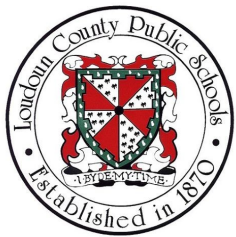
This is an opportunity for students not only to have a fun and unique learning experience, but also to develop and sustain meaningful relationships with adults at BRMS through their middle school journey.



The Name Game

The *Name Game* was played during December; a team of administrators (Dean, Counselor, and Assistant Principal/Principal) from each grade successfully named every student in every grade. Knowing all our students is an important part of the family atmosphere at Blue Ridge, tying directly into our school's mission. This activity helped strengthen our school climate and gave each Blue Ridge 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 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 students' success.
- District and school staff possess and cultivate the collective will to persevere, believing it is their business to produce increased achievement and enhanced development of all students.

Blue Ridge Middle School's Improvement Plan at Work

Just as we push our students to grow and achieve, we consistently push ourselves to grow as professionals and as an organization. Below are goals from our School's 2011- 2012 School Improvement Plan as well as recent professional development opportunities and business partnerships.

Blue Ridge Middle School SIP Goals 2011- 2012

1. Create high expectations for student success.

2. Promote professional collaboration.

3. Foster school climate.

BRMS Climate Activities

Various team and grade level events to promote team building.

Fall Parade- Students and staff celebrated Halloween, showing off their costumes in a school wide parade.



"Let's Make a Difference" food drive- Peer Helpers helped collect food for the needy in Loudoun County.

School Spirit Days- Students participated in College Shirt Day, Disney Day, Twin Day, and Pajama Day.

Bingo Night- Students and their families joined together for a night of Bingo fun, hosted by our PTO.



Mardi Gras- Students, staff members, and their families celebrated a night of games and fun thanks to the hard work and efforts of our PTO. A great time was had by all!

Spring Festival- This whole-school activity showcased all the creative projects, hands-on labs, and wonderful things that kids do every day throughout the building. It's was our spring Back-to-School night filled with activities, student work, and lots of fun!

Team Leaders Retreat with Jack Berckemeyer

In the fall, team leaders had the privilege of working with Jack Berckemeyer in a workshop on teaming and the middle school child. Mr. Berckemeyer shared best practices for teachers in working with middle school students and the importance of teaming at the middle school level. Mr. Berckemeyer helped our teachers have a better understanding of the needs of adolescents. Using many of Mr. Berckemeyer's techniques, BRMS teachers have created structured learning environments where teachers hold students to high academic and behavioral standards.

John Strebe Conference



In April, several staff members took part in a professional development conference with educational consultant, John Strebe. Mr. Strebe shared new strategies to utilize formative assessment and actively engage students. His strategies for teambuilding among students has really resonated with staff members and you can see his techniques being used throughout many BRMS classrooms. We are all excited to have Mr. Strebe back in the summer to present to the entire staff.

Business Partnerships

This year Blue Ridge began several business partnerships with local business. These business include Magnolias at the Mill, Market Street Coffee, Vocelli's, and Paisanos. These businesses have provided opportunities to reward our students' and our staff's efforts.

Music and the Arts at BRMS

- In the Spring, BRMS presented the family favorite *Annie* to sold out crowds! Students worked diligently as both performers and stage crew to pull off an amazing production.
- Representing Blue Ridge in the District Chorus were Jenna Anderson, Jenna Gilberg, Meegan Hall, Abigail Hemby, Jessica Kidder, Victoria Krommenhoek, Kiana Lucas, Molly Magoffin, Bailey Martin, Isaac Peterson, Alexis Randall, Joshua Stevenson, and Elizabeth Wordham.
- Representing Blue Ridge in the All-County Chorus were Caitlin Blake, Jackson Borneman, Sophie Bosse, Samantha Huff, Graham Martin, Christine O'Neil, Claire Poirier, Antonia Serafin, Savannah Spears, and Evan Winnett.
- Representing Blue Ridge in the District Band were Jonathan Bell and Jacob Coleman.
- Justin Ager, Leila Francis, Victoria Freiberg, Megan Gannaway, Mikayla Howitz, represented BRMS in the All-County Guitar Ensemble.
- Teddy Froelich, Malcolm Miller, Matt Eberhart, Maddie Clark, Sydney Cox, and Sarah McAllister were in All-County Orchestra.
- Teddy Froelich participated in Regional Orchestra.
- The following students participated in the LCPS Dulles Town Center Arts Festival: Ashton Bouffard; Derek Goings; Brooke Ewin; Zahl Azizi; Katie Reely; Claire Deely; Jessica Lu; Aliza Bucci; Emily Sellards; Natalie Morris; Erin Corkrey; Savannah Baer; Jill Weems; Jonathan Puhl; Kyle Weller; Mackenzie Forno; Seamus Wade; Ian Carlson; Blake Carlson; Alex Hoffman; Katie Stine; Brianna Lehman; Colton Bogucki; Adam Broskevitch; Anthony Shaphat; Nick Dize; Christine O'Neill; Erica Widdifield; Isabella Valentino; Elena Munzell; Camille Munday; Azriah Bryant; Emanuel Ibarra; Abby Haraburda; Sofia Kessari; Kathryn Boal; Kyle Eberhart; Jessica Hickman; Anna Klotzko; and Connor Miller.



Festival Awards

At Festival this year, all Blue Ridge groups earned a Superior Rating. Congratulations to our Band, Orchestra, and Chorus!



School and PTO Grants

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

- *Randy Morgan received a grant to join several Academic Leagues.*
- *Grade 6 Reading Teachers earned a Weekly Reader grant for non-fiction reading, current events, and journaling.*
- *Robert Graf received a grant to fund QUIA subscriptions.*
- *Beth Nelson received a grant to use the IXL Math program in her classroom.*
- *Sara Bolen earned a grant to start a new club where students could earn their Babysitter's Certification.*
- *Elizabeth Witt received a grant to incorporate the SOL Pass program into the history and civics classroom.*
- *Karin Nixon received a grant to purchase several new physics stands.*
- *The Textile Club received a grant for new materials for their club.*
- *Paul Hartley received a grant to participate in the Virginia Math League.*
- *The PE Department received grant to start the annual Bulldog Mile to highlight student physical fitness.*
- *The Paint It Forward Club earned a grant for club supplies.*



BLUE RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL
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