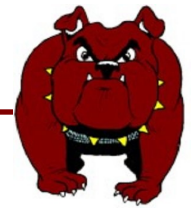


Blue Ridge Middle School Annual Report 2012 – 2013

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' social, emotional and academic needs are met. We are dedicated to providing a climate of high expectations and caring human relationships.

Blue Ridge Middle School: A School 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 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 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

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 the Western Loudoun high school, 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.

Blue Ridge currently can house over 1,000 students. The staff of teachers and paraprofessionals now number over 120.

Virginia Naturally School

Blue Ridge Middle School was selected as one of the Virginia Naturally Schools for the 2010-2011 school year. The goal of the school program is to recognize the efforts undertaken by Virginia schools that increase the 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>



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.
- 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 (e.g., tests, quizzes, assignments, exhibitions, projects, performance tasks, portfolios).
- 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

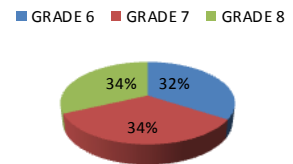
At Blue Ridge, we encourage students to reach their potential and to consistently exceed out high academic standards. Our students repeatedly show high levels of mastery on their SOL exams. To recognize this achievement, we have created a wall of fame for our 600 Club students. Over 128 of Blue Ridge 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 at BRMS. The Mountaineer and Voyager teams welcomed an enthusiastic grade of 308 students. With an emphasis on academic achievement, the eighth grade took part in several cross-curricular lessons and activities, many highlighted on their grade level field trip to the Newseum. Students participated in many interactive presentations during the trip. The presentations were directly linked to the students' civics curriculum. 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.

BRMS by Grade Level



House B Happenings!

The sixth graders had an excellent first year at BRMS! Their transition from elementary school to middle school was a smooth one, thanks to our 6th grade teachers. The Trekker and Trailblazer teachers challenged students at every opportunity. BRMS 6th graders gave back to the community by collecting "Sweats for Vets" in the fall and pet food donations for the Loudoun County Animal Shelter in the spring. In March, BRMS 6th graders took their annual "College in Six" field trip. They toured Shepherd University and hiked at Antietam National Park. In April, students had a field trip to the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. In late May, Mr. Richard Gillespie, Education Director of the Mosby Heritage Area Association, spoke to the sixth graders about local Civil War history in Loudoun County.

House C Happenings!

A fantastic year was had by our grade seven students! Teachers on the Explorer and Pathfinder teams challenged students with in the classroom and extended learning outside the classroom as well. The year kicked off with a get-to-know one another social activity. In November, 7th grade students visited the Newseum. This trip aligned with the students' history and language arts coursework. In language arts, students developed their reading and writing skills – including writing memoirs, poetry and triographies. They 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. Many hands-on, engaging activities brought history to life. It is rumored that Teddy Roosevelt (a.k.a. Mr. Dillon) was seen in the halls of BRMS. Students created skits about the Great Depression to demonstrate their knowledge of the time period. Honors history students created Chapter 33 projects - researching, developing, and writing the next chapter for their American history textbook. Math 7 and Algebra students continued developing number sense along with utilizing analytical and computational skills to solve an array of mathematical problems. Science students examined the area of life science, studying the smallest unicellular organisms through analyzing interdependence of organisms within complex ecosystems. Students were also on the move in PE throughout the year with activities such as dancing, roller skating, and training for and competing in 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 were showcased in both winter and spring concerts.



Recognizing and Promoting Academic Excellence

Student Award Winners

- Taylor Justice: Summited Mt. Kilimanjaro and received Virginia Congressional Commendation from State Delegate Minchew.
- STEM SUMMIT Competition - 3rd place: Deryn Young, Reilly Canard, Jen Leonard, Saige Hamblin, Patricia Bostock, Riley Schnee, Jessica Lincoln, Emiy Haggard.
- You Be The Chemist participants - Camryn Fischer, Deryn Young, Adam Obedin, Varun Mosur, Adam Broshkevitch, Cole Sheffer, Charlie Pekin, Jack Liu, Zachary boner.
- Jackson Kennedy - Loudoun County Social Science and Global Studies Academic Award.
- Solar Research Team- Harveen Bhathal, Mia Burgess, Jacob Colman, Camryn Fischer, Mackenzie Fisher, Darius Fraser, Emily Haggard, Samantha Hinton, Taylor Kamhong, Kai Lin, Jasmine Mao, Casey Pineda, Hanna Tadie, Tyler Valentine, Sean Webster, Deryn Young.
- Taylor Kamhong - Valor Essay Contest winner for the Loudoun First Responders Foundation.
- National Current Event League winners- Jacob Coleman 1st place, Jackson Kennedy 2nd Place.
- National Science League winners- 1st place (3-way tie) Varun Mosur, Adam Broshkevitch, and Rebecca McFadden.
- Continental Math League winners - 1st place: Jack Liu, 2nd place: Paul Dudak, 3rd place: Jacob DiGirolamo.
- Malone Foundation award winners - Art: Deryn Young, Math: Johanna Tadie, Music: Allison Savage, Science: Jacob Coleman.
- President's Award for Educational Excellence - Jacob Coleman, Kimberly Donohue, Sandra Flores, Lauren Harris, Emily Hubbard, Jackson Kennedy, Jasmine Mao, Danielle McAlister, Rachael Milburn, Caroline Morrow, Allison Savage, Riley Schnee, Marissa Stark, Johanna Tadie, Charles Trochilil, Samuel Mcdonough.



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 their team to be recognized during a ceremony. In addition, students were awarded a cornerstone pin, BRMS bumper sticker, and a BRMS bulldog pendant in the categories of: citizenship (shows consistent regard for school rules and service towards others), effort (sustained work effort and positive attitude), scholarship (lives up to potential and shows renewed interest), leadership (effort to unify the class), best effort in mathematics, best effort in reading, and best effort in writing.



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, staff can nominate a student to be an award recipient. Student nominees are then recognized at a quarterly reception. 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 rich academic traditions at Blue Ridge, staff members recognized 2012- 2013 department winners in ten different 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 recipients represent an elite group of our most dedicated students. They will be honored by having their names included on a plaque that represents the outstanding accomplishments of all subject area winners.



Blue Ridge Spelling Bee and Geography Bee

The New Year started off with the annual Blue Ridge Spelling Bees. Our 8th grade winner was Andrew Wolfe. In seventh grade, Eric Hayes spelled his way to victory. In sixth grade, Jack Gibbs was the spelling bee champion. Each of these three students represented Blue Ridge in the Loudoun County Spelling Bee at Stone Bridge High School.

In January, several students participated in the school wide Geography Bee. Congratulations to Jacob Coleman, who took 1st place, and Varun Mosur, who took 2nd place. Jacob went on to represent Blue Ridge Middle School and place 3rd at the State Geography Bee. Congratulations!

LCPS Academic Challenge

Our 8th grade was represented at the county-wide Academic Challenge on April 20th by a stellar group of students. These students included: Rhunen Burrill, Chris Cerne, Camryn Fischer, Taylor Kamhong, Jennifer Leonard, Ethan Peek, Clayton Ramsey, and Emily Scott.

These students worked diligently with Mrs. Bowen 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 member continuously challenge themselves and grow as professionals. Below is a brief list of a few of our staff members academic accomplishments.

- Alisa Gladstone — Attended Brian Pete workshop on Professional Learning Communities, behavioral issues, and differentiated instruction.
- Gail Gallagher — Attended History Alive workshop and Poverty and Education class.
- Gina Raudabaugh — Attended John Strebe workshop on Professional Learning Communities, behavioral issues, and differentiated instruction.
- Stephanie Willingham — Certified instructor for National Archery in Schools.
- Elizabeth Nelson — Shenandoah Teacher of the Year nominee.
- Sheila Lightner — Presenter for professional development workshop entitled "Not your Mother's Library". In addition, Mrs. Lightner serves on the LCPS Library Advisory Committee as a middle school representative.
- Shannon Allen — Earned the University of Phoenix Community Service Award. Attended the Wilderness First Aid and Hike Leadership conference.
- Sara Bolen — Master's Degree in Educational Leadership. Attended Trail To Every Classroom (TTEC) training.
- Eric Kursman — Presenter at National Council for Teachers of English (NCTE) annual conference for heterogeneous classes in middle school.
- Allyson White — Presenter at National Council for Teachers of English (NCTE) annual conference for heterogeneous classes in middle school.
- Virginia Walker — National Board Certified. Presenter at National Council for Teachers of English (NCTE) annual conference for heterogeneous classes in middle school. Presenter of writing workshop seminar to Loudoun County middle school English teachers and National Montessori teachers.
- Brion Bell — Presented at Richmond Principal's conference featuring a mini workshop ideas for School's to Watch.
- Katie Victor — Master's Degree in Mathematics Education. Master's Thesis published in Virginia Mathematics Teacher Journal.
- Bob Lee — Attended the CASE SPED conference. Earned Master's Degree in Administrative Leadership at George Mason University.
- Victoria Jarvis — Tour Conference in Paris. Leading a student enrichment ten day tour of France (10 Blue Ridge Middle School students will be attending).
- Karin Nixon — Presented at the Virginia Middle School Conference 2012. Completed 6 hours of graduate credits in Educational Leadership through George Mason University.
- Lisa Gargiulo — Attended 3-day enrichment seminar with the Foreign Language Association of Virginia in Williamsburg, VA.
- Don Kawalek — Attended VTEEA summer conference "Every Child Should Study Technology". Led a student workshop "Banjo and Mandolian Building".
- Diana Kushner — Attended Brian Pete workshop on Professional Learning Communities, behavioral issues, and differentiated instruction.
- Elizabeth Stickly — National Board Certified. Attended conference for Foreign Language Association of Virginia.
- Susan Walker — CMS refresher training, John Strebe Teaching Strategies, Clarity Day, Science Core Experience training, ELL ACCESS Data Day, ELL Secondary PLC.
- Joe D'Arcangelis — Agnes Myer Outstanding Teacher nominee.
- Suzanne Hiller — Earned Ph.D. Received the Outstanding Dissertation Award from the faculty of the College of Education and Human Development, Graduate School of Education, George Mason University. The dissertation entitled, "The Impact of a Citizen Science Program on Student Achievement and Motivation: A Social Cognitive Career Perspective" was presented at the annual conference of the Association of Psychological Sciences.





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.

Mix-It-Up Day

The counselor team arranged for students to sit at tables according to their birthday months one day during lunch. An activity to promote student conversation was presented by Loudoun Valley PEER Helpers and allowed each table to participate together as a team and win prizes. The purpose of —Mix It Up Day was to encourage students to make new connections and friendships.

Doug Revis

On April 4th, students enjoyed a powerful and inspirational message by Doug Revis. This assembly supports Blue Ridge Middle School's vision of *Bulldogs Don't Bully*. Doug shared his life story and gave the powerful message of treating each other with kindness and respect.

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. The capstone Black History Month project challenged students to reflect on their learning over the month and summarize 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 third 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 that are veterans of the armed forces of the United States. Immediately following the video, all 905 BRMS students were given a small American flag to place along A Street, which runs in front of the school. They also placed the flags along the car loop that surrounds the school. The 905 flags were purchased through a grant that was 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.



Safe School Ambassadors and Peer Helpers

Our counselors continued the Safe School Ambassador and Peer Helpers program for students in grades 6, 7, and 8. This program actively supports our school's positive and safe climate by instructing students how to intercede and model good character in situations throughout their day. Students learn strategies to encourage positive behavior and kindness.

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 Marnie Hawk, Blue Ridge held four quarterly PEP events. At each dinner/session, topics such as scheduling, interims, report cards, and college preparation were discussed.





Developmental Responsiveness at BRMS

CLUB	SPONSOR
Apples to Apples	Ms. Raudabaugh, Ms. Hite
Board Games	Ms. Taylor, Ms. Klimek
Board Games	Ms. McDole, Ms. Pittleman
Bulldog Adventure Club	Mr. Hanselman, Mr. Wells
Bulldog Book Club	Ms. Lightner, Ms. Duke
Cardmaking & Scrapbooking	Ms. Robertson, Ms. Witt
Chess	Mr. Lee, Mr. Miller
Computer Games Club	Ms. Allen
Crazy Crafters	Ms. Cohen, Ms. Cassidy
Creative Writing	Ms. Pomponio
Dominos	Mrs. Stuart
Drawing Club – 6 th grade	Ms. Gladstone
Football	Mr. Bauer, Mr. Martz
Four Square – 6 th grade	Ms. Smoot, Ms. Scherer
Four Square – 7 th grade	Ms. Jarvis, Ms. Nelson
Frisbee Club	Mr. Costello
German Club	Mr. Stutzman
Homework- Trekkers	Ms. Kushner
Homework- Trailblazers	Ms. MacWhorter
Homework - Voyagers	Ms. White
Homework - Mountaineers	Ms. White
Homework- Pathfinders	Ms. Mueller
Homework-Explorers	Ms. Walker
Jazz Band	Ms. Newman, Ms. Galang
Jigsaw Puzzles	Ms. Blythe, Ms. Hiller
Kickball – 8 th grade	Mr. Bolen, Ms. Boyer
Kickboxing	Ms. Turner, Ms. Fiorello
Lacrosse	Mr. Bell, Ms. Hawk
Legos	Mr. Kawlek, Mr. Smith, Ms. Burk
Literary Magazine	Ms. Haggerty, Ms. Griffith-Cochran
Nerd Club	Mr. Hartley, Ms. Victor
News on the Ridge	Ms. Bowen
Orienteering	Ms. Willingham, Mr. Fiolek
Outdoor Classroom	Mr. Dillon
Paint it Forward	Ms. Gallagher, Ms. McKay, Ms. Whitbeck, Ms. Pearson-Wease
PEER Helpers/Safe School Ambassadors	Mr. Peterson, Ms. Sullivan-Burns, Ms. Cohen
Photography	Ms. Kirk, Mr. Graf
Save Our Snakes	Mr. Snyder
SCA	Ms. Nixon, Ms. Johnson
Scrabble	Ms. Miske, Ms. Schulhof, Ms. Smith
Soccer	Mr. Kursman, Mr. D'Arcangelis
Song Writing/Guitar	Mr. Kave
Spanish Club	Ms. Gargiulo
Textiles	Ms. O'Neil, Ms. Holcomb
Time to Draw – 7 th and 8 th	Ms. Gillis, Ms. Stallard
Volleyball - 7 th and 8 th grade	Ms. Bolen, Ms. Mosley
Walking	Ms. Walker, Ms. Midolo, Ms. Frame
Wii Dance	Ms. McWilliams, Ms. D'Arcangelis
Yearbook	Ms. Helble

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 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 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 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 2012- 2013 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. Improve professional collaboration.

3. Improve school climate.

Climate Activities



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

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

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

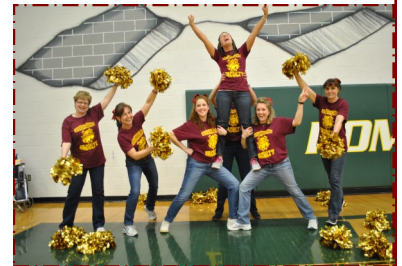
Mardi Gras- Students, staff members, and their families celebrated a night of games and fun thanks to the hard work and efforts of our PTO. A great time was had by all!

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

Staff vs. Student Basketball Game: The 8th grade students challenged the staff in a basketball game that was played at Loudoun Valley High School. We hope to make this a tradition as the event was attended by over 800 community members and students. In the end it was a close game, but the staff won 47 to 46. Mr. Wells scored the winning two foul shots with less than one second left. We are proud of all the participants for their hard work to prepare for this game and the outstanding sportsmanship which was displayed.

Bulldog Mile: The second annual Bulldog Mile was an exciting race. All participants did extremely well. The following students won this year's race: Emmy Donlon and Jacob Windle in 6th grade, Alexandra Major and Matt Traub in 7th grade, and Hanna Tadie and Noah Hunter in 8th grade.

Field Day: 6th and 7th grade students enjoyed a fun-filled day of activities: dancing, yearbook signing, socializing, and watching movies. It was a great way to celebrate all the hard work they put forth this school year.



John Strebe and Brian Pete Conference

This year, our staff participated in many professional development workshops. Two that took place at Blue Ridge Middle School were Brian Pete and John Strebe. These workshops focused on differentiated instruction, Professional Learning Communities, and teaching strategies. Through collaboration, formative assessments, common assessments, data tracking, time on task, lesson hook, and lesson closure, we ensure that each child receives meaningful instruction.

Business Partnerships

This year, Blue Ridge Middle School began several business partnerships with local businesses. These businesses include Magnolias at the Mill, Market Street Coffee, Vocelli's, Domino's, Coach's Corner, and Haute Dogs and Fries. These businesses provided opportunities to reward student and staff efforts.

Music and the Arts

In the Spring, BRMS presented CATS to a sold out crowd! Students worked diligently as both performers and stage crew pulled off an amazing production. Blue Ridge Middle School was the first middle school in the State to perform this Broadway musical. Congratulations!

Chorus: All-District — Lauren Harris, Jessica Kidder, Elizabeth Wordham. In addition, Jessica Kidder auditioned for the Regional Governor's School in vocal performance and will represent Blue Ridge Middle School this summer. All-County Chorus — Vaughn Biesecker, Kerry Blake, Andrew Burks, Danielle Conover, Jennifer Eubanks, Grace Hylton, Maddy Jenkins, Casey Lanigan, Mia Schaeffer, Suzanne Tunder.

Representing Blue Ridge in the District Band were David Tunder, Allison Savage, and Jacob Coleman.

Representing Blue Ridge in the All-County Guitar Ensemble Luciana Estremadoyro, Tessa Hutchison, Taylor Kamhong, Gretel Kreider, Katie McGroddy, and Christa Spillane

Solo and Ensemble Festival: Emily Pathirana, Mia Burgess, and Kimberly Donohue

Orchestra: All-County — Sydney Cox and Casey Lynch. All-Region — Sydney Cox

Cooley Art Gallery: Chris Cooley invited Loudoun County students to exhibit their art work in his gallery in Leesburg. The following students were asked to display their work for Blue Ridge Middle School: Harriet Smith, Marissa Stark, Lizeth Res-indiz, and Deryn Young



School and PTO 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	For	Purpose
IXL Math	Julie Pearson-Weese	Math aid for all students
Peer Helper Tees	Penny Cohen	Student Climate
Library	Sheila Lightner	New and replacement books
ELL Library	Susan Walker	Books for ELL library
A-Z Science Subscription	Nelson & S. Walker	Differentiated science instruction to meet the needs of all students
Junior Scholastic Magazine	McWilliams, Martz, Dillion, Cassidy, Burk, Mueller, Witt, Miller	Provide students with current event articles written on a reading level for middle school students. The issues provided students with election coverage and present multiple points of view. Students were also able to use topics for advance proficient level debates.
Recess Equipment	Brian Hanselman	New outdoor equipment for recess
PE Student of the Month	Sara Bolen	Student recognition program
SCA	Karin Nixon	SCA sponsored activities
QUIA	Robert Graf	Online source of student activities, formative assessment, and remediation.
Scholastic News/Weekly Ready Magazine	D'Arcangelis, MacWhorter, Pearson-Weese, Pomponio, Stuart, Turner	The Weekly Reader will provide desk copies of nonfictional, topical reading to all students. These magazines will build general knowledge, inferential thinking skills, and support comprehension.
Yearbook	Karen Helble	Supplies
Bulldog Mile	Stephanie Willingham	Cardiovascular incentive program
Versa Tiles	Diane Taylor	Math Lab versa tiles. Hands on math tools for students to improve math skills. Help with reaching SOL goals.
STAR program	Julie Pearson-Weese	After school snacks – student climate
Distiller	Kathy Holcomb	Steam distiller to make their own distilled H2O – student enrichment
Science Carts	Kathy Holcomb	Science carts
Periodic Tables	Jackie Robertson	Laminated periodic tables for all students
Digital Photo Frame	Marnie Hawk	An 18.5" digital photo frame
Native American Day	Elizabeth Stickley	3 rd annual day for 6 th grade to study Native American Tribes
LVHS PTO	K. Dillon	Student scholarship
Backpack Buddies	Pam Clardy	Student climate
STAR Party	Nancy Griffiths-Cochran	Pizza party to celebrate the hard work of the STAR students
Student Agendas	Matt Bolen	Academic achievement