

# BELLEVILLE HENDERSON CSD

## PANTHER PRESS

Winter 2024

Volume 29, Issue 2



# HAPPY HOLIDAYS



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To the Belleville Henderson School District and Community;

Belleville Henderson School District Safety Committee would like to start by letting everyone know that here at Belleville Henderson, we take the safety of every student, staff member and visitor, very seriously. Studies have shown that when schools provide a safe and secure learning environment for students, in this case your children, they have better attendance, improved grades and less mental health issues.

This said, Belleville Henderson has many safety policies in place that are proven effective and highly recommended by state and federal agencies, some are even mandated due to the proven effectiveness. Just one example of these safety measures has proven over recent years to be one of the most effective safety measures and has been adopted by nearly all public and private schools. This safety measure is the limiting of access into the building itself, to a '*single point of entry*' for **ALL** visitors during school hours . While this may seem for some, to be unfriendly, or an unwelcoming way to enter the school building, this is a first line approach that minimizes cross traffic. This safety measure also allows us to keep a visitor log for documentation of who's in our building and actually minimizes confusion for the administration and staff.

By being able to control the point of entry, we greatly minimize the possibility of even the smallest threat to safety and/or security, leading to a more manageable, productive and relaxed environment for the students to learn and the teachers to share their knowledge with students .

Respectfully,  
BHCS Safety Committee

## From the Desk of Superintendent Jane A. Collins

Season's Greetings from all of us at the Belleville Henderson Central School District to all of our families, friends and members of the community. We hope you are enjoying the festivities that come with this time of year.

In this newsletter, you will find lots of pertinent information as we enter 2025 and continue through the remainder of the school year.

First, please take a moment to meet and welcome the newest members of our staff who have joined the District this year. They are highlighted in this newsletter and we are proud to have them as part of our Panther team.

Our annual Winter Concert was held on Wednesday, December 11 and highlighted the tremendous musical talent displayed by our students. We hope you had a chance to attend and enjoy the sounds of the holiday season. Congratulations and thank you to Mrs. McGrath and Mrs. Gleason of our Music Department for their efforts and work to make this year's concert a huge success. We also want to thank all of our chorus and band students for their hard work and their families for their ongoing support and encouragement.

The new year will mean preparation from the District on a proposed budget for 2025-26. Our budget development process will begin in earnest in January. More details on the proposed spending plan will be released in the weeks and months ahead. The following budget meeting dates with the Board of Education have been scheduled: January 13, January 27, February 10, March 10 and March 31. Interested members of the community are encouraged to attend these public meetings.

Also on the agenda for 2025 are EV buses. The New York State Education Department is requiring all school districts to develop a plan for these buses and the matter is currently being studied by the Board of Education. We have secured a \$345,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency and are continuing to seek further funding avenues as well. The study will also look at ways to convert our bus garage to accommodate EV buses. The Board of Education will be discussing the matter as part of the upcoming budget process and determine whether to purchase an EV bus for the District.

Have a safe, healthy, and happy new year. We thank all of you for your continued support of Belleville Henderson Central School. Together we are Panther Strong!

Sincerely,

Jane Collins,

Superintendent

## Principal's Message

Some families spend time together watching movies. Others spend time on vacation. Still others spend time cooking, cleaning, or doing chores together. Christmas is meant to be a time of togetherness.

This past weekend our family decided to break out the board and card games. I knew we were in for a long night when my son and his friend came up from the basement with six board games and a deck of cards. We started with a game of Sevens and proceeded to Rummy. After those two games and a piece of homemade cheesecake we ventured into the board games. Most of the games were tattered and worn, but still possessing all their pieces.

Together we played Masterpiece, Clue, Careers, Taboo, Yahtzee, and Balderdash. Social skills, the ability to win and lose with dignity, and spending quality time as a family were each displayed this past weekend. Spending time around a table with family, talking and laughing, seemed more valuable than everyone on their own tablet or cell phone. In fact, we decided the next game night would include Monopoly, Scattegories, and Pictionary.

During this holiday season may I encourage you to spend time with family members playing board or card games. These games bring value to children and adults alike. What better way to spend a warm, snowy night inside the house than together in competition around a pile of games and homemade cheesecake!

## Welcome to the newest members of the Panther Family !



Hello, My Name is **Emily Worden** and I am the CPSE/CSE Chair here at Belleville Henderson. I am excited to be at Belleville and have been getting to our students. My goal this year is to support all students' needs and work together to help students be the best they can be!

"Hello! My name is **Stephany Quick**, and I am the Community Schools Coordinator here at BHCSD. My position is made possible through an amazing grant that allows me to bring fun, educational, and engaging science-based programs and activities to students, families, and the community through the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Jefferson County. This year my goal is to better understand the needs of our community so I can do my best to find the right supports to enhance the lives of our students, families, and the community as a whole. "





Hi, my name is **Jerrica White** and I am looking forward to being back at Belleville Henderson! I am very excited to have the opportunity to contribute to the success and betterment of our district and the students who live here. As a former student and mother of two children who attend BH, the school will always feel like a second home to me. This year I will be in the Guidance Office as Mr. Gagan's secretary, the District Data Coordinator. Have a SchoolTool issue? Can't get into Parent Square? Call or email me anytime during school hours and you can count on me to help. My main goal this year is to be a dependable, knowledgeable, and helpful resource for our community as we continue to raise the next generation of students.



My name is **Ashley Loura**, I am a licensed practical nurse and have been for six years. I have two children that attend Belleville Henderson School. I am a teacher's aid in first grade. This year I hope to develop the skills necessary to help the students reach their full potential and succeed in school.



My name is **Kelsey Glenn**, I grew up in New Bremen, NY, a very small town outside Lowville. I graduated from Beaver River Central School in 2012 and attended college for early childhood at JCC. I did not finish college but instead started a family and just had my fourth baby in the spring. I have spent over 10 years working with children. I was a teacher in a daycare and have been a teacher's aide for the last 5 years. I look forward to sharing my experiences and knowledge with the staff at Belleville Henderson. I hope to share with children the opportunities that come with succeeding in school.



My name is **Ms. Abel**! I am teaching Chemistry, Physics and 7th grade Science this year at BHCS. I went to SUNY Oswego for my BS in Adolescent Education and a BA in Chemistry. I am currently working on my M.Ed. in Secondary Education at SUNY Brockport. I grew up in Albany, NY and I currently live in Mexico, NY. This is my third full year of teaching the secondary sciences. My goal for this year is to get my students excited about learning science and enjoy coming to school!



My name is **Vicky Landers**. I have worked in the field of education for 38 years. I taught 7th grade science and I was also a special education teacher. As a special education teacher, I worked with students who had significant emotional and behavioral issues.

For the last 29 years I have worked as a school psychologist at Carthage Central School District. My role there was somewhat specialized in that I was fortunate to work primarily with middle school and high school students who had significant behavioral needs. I have also taught for SUNY Oswego in their Counseling and Psychological Services Department. Although I retired in June, I was not quite ready to fully retire!

I have two sons, Noah and Seth. Noah recently was married (10/12)! In May, he graduated with his masters in architecture and works at a firm in Watertown. Seth recently graduated from RIT and is living in Boston. He works for Meta. In my free time, I love to walk (when it's warm), enjoy yoga, and love to travel.

I am very excited to be at Belleville Henderson!



Hello, I am **Laura Killenbeck** and I work in the Learning Center. I have been a teaching assistant since 2004. I have worked in the elementary grades and have experience working with students with special needs and behaviors. I love working with students and helping them overcome their challenges and struggles. I am a mom of two and grandma of three. I reside in Sandy Pond with my fiancé and love spending time with my family. I am a New York Giants fan and love going to Syracuse football and basketball games. I hope this year that in the Learning Center I will be able to get to know the students and help them become successful in their studies. I also look forward to getting to know all of you.

# BELLEVILLE HENDERSON COACHING STAFF

## Fall Sports

Varsity Girls Soccer - Kate Costello

Varsity Boys Soccer – Eric Vaughn

Modified Girls Soccer - Katie McGrath

Modified Boys Soccer – Olivia Ososkalo



## Winter Sports

Varsity Girls Basketball – Kylee Rosbrook

JV Girls Basketball - Kate Costello

Varsity Boys Basketball – William Magovney

JV Boys Basketball – Jacob Hess

Modified Girls Basketball - Katie McGrath

Modified Boys Basketball – Gregory Gibbs

Varsity Cheer - Jessica Winter



## Spring Sports

Varsity Girls Softball - David Green

Varsity Boys Baseball - William Magovney

Modified Girls Softball - Katie McGrath

Modified Boys Baseball– TBD



# Belleville Henderson Coaching Staff

My name is **Kate Costello**, and I have spent 15 years as a teacher, 8 of which have been at BHCS. I have two children: a son who has graduated from BHCS and a daughter who is currently in 8th grade. I am passionate about soccer and have had the privilege of serving as the head coach of the girls' varsity soccer team for the past 5 years. My love for the sport drives me to inspire my players and share that enthusiasm on the field.

An important principle I integrate into my coaching is accountability. I encourage my players to look inward, focusing on their own actions and decisions rather than pointing fingers at their teammates. This approach not only fosters personal growth but also strengthens camaraderie among the team, creating an environment where everyone supports one another. Prior to my current role, I coached modified boys' soccer and volunteered with the Eastern Shore Youth Soccer program. In addition to soccer, I also coach the JV girls' basketball team and assist with the varsity team. I've always strived to create a positive and competitive atmosphere for all our athlete and I look forward to continuing to build strong relationships and achieving success together on and off the field.



My name is **Eric Vaughn**, and I am the head coach for the varsity boys' soccer team and the assistant coach for the girls softball team. I have three children currently enrolled at BHCS and three who have graduated. I've spent 24 years as an agent with the US Border Patrol.

My coaching journey began at the youth level with Eastern Shores Youth Soccer and SJ Youth Softball. Since 2017, I've coached softball at BHCS, starting with the modified team, then moving up to JV, and now serving as the varsity assistant coach. In the fall of 2017, I joined the boys' varsity soccer staff as an assistant. Over the years, I've also coached the modified and JV soccer teams while fulfilling my role as varsity assistant. I stepped into the role of head varsity boys' soccer coach in the fall of 2023. I look forward to fostering a competitive and supportive environment for our players as we aim for success in the seasons to come.



**Katie McGrath-** Modified Girls Soccer, Basketball, and Softball Coach

As an alumni athlete at Belleville Henderson, I'm thrilled to share my coaching experience and passion for mentoring young athletes. During my time at Belleville Henderson, I was an all-star and captain in soccer, and also played softball as well. In 2011, I graduated from Roberts Wesleyan with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. I then went on to complete my Master's Degree at SUNY Potsdam for Literacy Specialist B-6th, 5-12th grades. My husband, 7-year-old son, and I reside in Henderson. During the summer, I enjoyed attending a few sports camps to better myself as a coach. Outside of the classroom I direct our BHCS marching band, perform in musical productions, help with my son's Cub Scouts Pack, teach private lessons, and I am the Music Club Advisor. This is my 11<sup>th</sup> year teaching in this district.



Hello, my name is **Olivia Ososkalo** and I am a new teacher and coach at Belleville Henderson Central School. I am teaching Global History 9, Global History 10, and Government and Economics 12. I am also coaching the Boy's Modified Soccer team. It has been wonderful to be welcomed at Belleville Henderson and I have enjoyed the opportunity to get to know students, staff, and families.

I graduated from SUNY Oswego with a Bachelors of Science in Adolescence Education: Social Studies 7-12. As a history teacher, my role is to create an engaging and thought-provoking classroom environment. I believe that understanding our past and present empowers us to make informed decisions for our future and I am excited to encourage students to think critically of the world around them.

In addition to my role as a teacher, I am also the soccer coach for the Boy's Modified Soccer team. Sports have been a passion of mine for many years, and I am looking forward to working with our student-athletes to develop their skills both on and off the field. I believe that sports play a vital role in building teamwork, discipline, and leadership. I recognize the value that small schools such as Belleville Henderson have on students and athletes as I graduated from Lyme Central School where I had the opportunity to play soccer and basketball. I was named Frontier League All-Star for soccer and basketball and was named to the NYSSWA All State team for basketball as well.

I am eager to create a supportive and engaging environment for all my students and I am excited to see what this year brings!



### **Kylee Rosbrook** Varsity Girls Basketball

I am excited to be entering my second year as the varsity girls' basketball coach here at Belleville Henderson. Before coaching, I had the privilege of playing four years of college basketball at SUNY Brockport, and I currently hold the scoring record at General Brown High School. My goal for this season is to lead our team to success by instilling the values of hard work, dedication, and teamwork. I look forward to seeing players grow both on and off the court as we strive for a great season!



I'm **Will Magovney** and I am the new varsity boys basketball and baseball team at Belleville Henderson. I am a graduate of Immaculate Heart Central and was a three sport athlete there. After high school I attended Jefferson Community College for two years where I played baseball. After JCC I attended SUNY Cortland where I majored in Physical Education. I am now a physical educator with BOCES. Before coaching at BHCS I coached at JCC as their pitching coach as well as coaching soccer. I come from a family of five boys who all played sports throughout high school and college. In my time here coaching I hope to help these young athletes turn into better young men who are functioning members of society as well as helping them with their athletic career. I hope that we can continue the tradition of success here at Belleville. I hope that I can help these athletes with their future endeavors and help them to become good young men. Go Panthers!

Hi My name is **Jacob Hess**,

Here's a little about myself. I graduated from South Jefferson Central School but I have had a lot of my family graduate from Belleville Henderson including my father. I went to JCC for 2 years and played basketball then went onto SUNY Canton to finish my career. Basketball is truly a great passion of mine and I love being able to give back to a community that deeply cares about its sports.

As you can guess I am the Junior Varsity Men's Basketball coach. I have been coaching at Belleville for three years now and it is truly one of my greatest joys. To be able to work with the athletes that walk the halls at Belleville is truly a blessing that I do not take for granted.

My goal for this year is to keep building on what Belleville basketball is. I take great pride in being able to work with the athletes and sharing my passion and knowledge with them. I also want to build relationships with the athletes because I feel that it is important for them to be comfortable playing the game but also asking questions if they don't understand something, and if the athletes and coaches have good relationships then not only does that lead to winning ball games it also leads to the young athletes becoming confident young men.



Hello all, I am **Greg Gibbs**, an alumni from Belleville-Henderson's 2003 class. I will be coaching the Boy's Modified Basketball team this year. While in school at BHCS I played soccer and basketball, and was a frontier league all star. After school I coached soccer briefly at Sackets Harbor. I have held a position in law enforcement for the last 17 years and am looking forward to providing structure and team building for the athletes this year. We will have a strong focus on fundamentals and skill building that the athletes will be able to carry with them to JV and Varsity, and lastly will we learn that winning requires an entire team effort.

I am **Jessica Winters** I am excited to begin my 12th season coaching varsity cheerleading at BHCS alongside my mom and co-coach, Sarah Sugden. I was a cheerleader at BHCS for six years with my mom as my coach, which makes returning to the program each year feel especially meaningful.

With 11 years of coaching experience here I bring a deep commitment and passion for cheerleading to our team. I have so much pride for this school and our team, and I am eager to inspire our athletes to reach their full potential. My goal is to continue building a strong, supportive cheerleading community that values growth, teamwork, and success on and off the mat.

I am looking forward to bringing both new experiences and cherished traditions to our athletes this season. In addition to offering fresh opportunities at competitions, I'm excited to revisit some classic aspects of cheer, like performing at select home basketball games and cheering on our basketball athletes. These experiences will not only enhance our athletes' skills but also deepen their sense of community and pride in representing BHCS.



Hello, my name is **David Green**. I live in Belleville with my wonderful, supportive wife Patty. Our children Ashley and Ryan graduated from Belleville Henderson as student athletes with many academic and athletic achievements. I also graduated from our great school in 1988. I received my Mathematics Education degree from SUNY Potsdam. I have been a teacher and coach in this district since 1997. I have always been open to coaching any sport and level, to help the students at our school find the pride and successes that I have experienced. I coached JV Boys basketball in 1998, Varsity Boys Basketball from 1999- 2015, JV Boys Soccer from 2000-2002, Varsity Boys Soccer from 2003-2010, was the assistant Girls Varsity Soccer Coach from 2015-2019, current Assistant Modified Boys Soccer Coach, JV Girls Softball Coach in 2015 and 2016, and I have been the Varsity Girls Softball coach since 2017. I was also active as a youth coach for basketball, soccer, and softball, both locally and through the YMCA leagues.

My life has been spent as a member of this community. In addition to the academic and athletic experiences over the years, I am also a member of the Belleville United Methodist Church, a member of the Union Academy Board of Trustees, and I am on the executive committee of the BHTA. I have enjoyed numerous experiences over the years. It is rewarding to work with the youth of our community, whether youth sports or high school sports. Seeing the growth in our student athletes firsthand and being part of several Frontier League Championship Teams as a coach in various sports and the successes in the Section 3 tournaments has made all the hours over the years worth it. It is awesome to have continuing conversations with these student athletes since they have graduated. They still remember those successes and the memories that they created. I am proud to be a lifetime Panther, and I will continue to instill this pride and self-motivation in our students so that they know hard work and dedication will lead to success in anything that they do.



## ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Both our Boys and Girls Varsity Soccer Teams qualified for the **Scholar Athlete Award**. Ten boys and thirteen girls will receive pins at our annual Booster Club award ceremony. Congratulations Panthers for your accomplishments both in the classroom and on the field!

Thank You Coaches for your dedication, commitment and countless hours spent guiding our student athletes to be the best versions of themselves on and off the fields !



## MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Music Department would like to extend our heartfelt thank you for your support during our Band and Chorus Winter Concert on December 11, 2024. The student performances were outstanding and truly spread the holiday cheer to everyone in attendance. The trip to see *The Lion King* musical on December 14th, 2024 at the Landmark Theatre was a wonderful experience for 48 middle and high school band and chorus students.

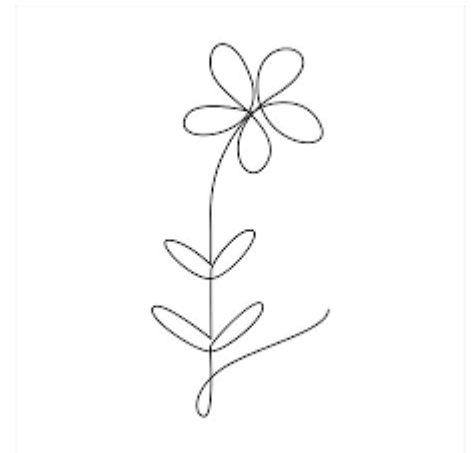
Looking ahead, we have an exciting musical event coming up, Back to the 80s, the Totally Awesome Musical on March 7th and 8th. Additionally, we would like to highlight that William Gleason, Jennifer Cobb, Lucas Dockstader, and Ashlynn O'Brien represented our school beautifully at the Jr. High Band Bi- County Festival. Savannah Baldwin, Colin Crooker, Kendra Stevens, and Lucas Valley sang in the Elementary Bi-County Chorus while Kyan Abbott, Paige Maitland, Addison Miner, Trentin Misercola, Olivia Muldovan, Joseph Zehr, and Ronald Zehr represented us in the Sr. High Chorus. This year we had 5 vocalists participate in the Area All State Chorus and they were Paige Maitland, Trentin Misercola, Olivia Muldovan, Joseph Zehr, and Ronald Zehr. All of these students put in the effort to participate in the NYSSMA solo festival last spring to be eligible. Congratulations to them!

Thank you once again for your dedication and support. Let's continue to inspire our students together!

Best regards,  
Mrs. Gleason and Mrs. McGrath

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH & APRIL

Jan.	1-3	<b>Christmas / New Year's Recess - NO SCHOOL</b>
Jan.	6	Return from Christmas / New Year's Recess
Jan.	11	Winter Ball 7:00 - 10:00 PM
Jan.	13	Modified Winter Sports Begin
Jan.	13	Board of Education Meeting 7:00 PM
Jan.	20	<b>Martin Luther King Day - NO SCHOOL</b>
Jan.	22	PTO Meeting 6:30
Jan.	27	Board of Education Meeting 7:00 PM
Jan.	29	<b>Lunar New Year - NO SCHOOL</b>
Jan.	3	20- Week Report Cards Distributed
Feb.	1	Stockwell Invitational Tournament - Consolation Game 1:00
Feb.	1	Stockwell Invitational Tournament - Championship Game 3:00
Feb.	6	Booster Club Meeting 6:00 PM
Feb.	10	Board of Education Meeting 7:00 PM
<b>Feb.</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>President's Day - NO SCHOOL</b>
<b>Feb.</b>	<b>18-21</b>	<b>Winter Recess</b>
Mar.	6	Booster Club Meeting - 6:00 PM
Mar.	7- 8	School Musical
Mar.	7	25 - Week Progress Report Distributed
Mar .	10	Board of Education Meeting 7:00 PM
Mar.	31	Board of Education Meeting 7:00 PM
April	3	Booster Club Meeting 6:00 PM
April	9	Spring Band Concert 7:00 PM
April	10	National Honor Society Recognition @ Watertown HS
April	11	30 - Week Report Cards Distributed
April	14	Board of Education Meeting 7:00 PM
<b>April</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Good Friday - NO SCHOOL</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>21-25</b>	<b>Spring Recess</b>



## BOARD OF EDUCATION

John Allen, President  
Anthony Barney, Vice President  
Roger Eastman  
Dennis Jerome  
Adam Miner  
Gary Ramsdell  
Kristin Vaughn

### **Administration**

Jane A. Collins, Superintendent

Scott A. Storey, Principal

Colleen M. Bellinger,  
Business Manager

Sally A. Kohl, District Clerk

Barry Davis, Interim Administrator  
/Athletic Director

Emily Worden, CSE Chairperson

## 2024-2025 Board of Education Meeting

Monday, January 13, 2025  
Monday, January 27, 2025  
Monday, February 10, 2025  
Monday, March 10, 2025  
Monday, March 31, 2025  
Monday, April 14, 2025  
Monday, May 12, 2025  
Tuesday, May 20, 2025  
Monday, June 9, 2025  
Monday, July 14, 2025

Special Board of Education meetings will be  
scheduled as necessary.

Belleville Henderson CSD

### ***PANTHER PRESS***

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