

NEWSDAY

APRIL 2026



Upcoming Events

Annual Auction	Apr 24-25
Spring Concert	May 9
Commencement	May 27
Homecoming	Oct 2-3

The 61st Annual Auction is this weekend!

There is a growing anticipation and flurry of activities across campus as we count down the days until the auction. With fantastic food, merchandise, and certificate options, in addition to special getaway experiences and a unique youth auction, there is something for the whole family to enjoy!

Visit our auction site for event details and a full listing of items to be featured:

<https://annualauction26.cbo.io>

Core Values Impact the Student Experience

At BCS, community is more than one of our core values nicely displayed on the wall. It is a tangible presence that can be felt across campus.

Families that visit during Open House or special events often comment about what they sense, and it is one of the most deeply appreciated aspects of the educational experience.

Community is defined as a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals. In our classrooms, hallways, and relationships, it is a valuable reality cultivated by God's presence. 1 Thessalonians 5:11, 15 invites us to "Encourage one

another and build each other up, just as you are doing. See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone."

That verse guides our intentional efforts to provide opportunities for relationships to be built throughout the entire student body. Pep rallies, fundraisers, service, and special programs all create a sense of community where students can know and care for one another.

We pray that the outcome will be students who invite God into every aspect of their lives and are empowered to impact their communities for Jesus Christ wherever they go!



Student Perspectives

Academics enveloped in meaningful relationships inspires learning.

"I appreciate BCS because of the support from faculty and staff, and all the friends I've made here. I am thankful for all that BCS has taught me throughout the years, the memories with friends, and how this school has prepared me for my future. Learning how to think, problem-solving, developing friendships, and exploring my interests have been valuable to me!"


- Jackson Baker, Junior

"Coming to BCS has not only given me a firm foundation in my faith, but also a great system of friends and teachers who care

about me and have had a positive impact on my life. I know that the teachers have my best interests at heart; they have demonstrated that to me time after time. They have given me countless opportunities over the years to excel.

BCS has given me the opportunity to be part of a great student body and many activities that I wouldn't have been able to do anywhere else, like being part of our worship team or being a Student Senator and helping to plan some of the events that we have here at school."

- Joey Gagliardo, Senior



"I appreciate BCS because of the relationships I've formed with teachers, other staff, and students. The small class size has allowed me to get to know people on a personal level, not just recognizing them in passing. These relationships, in turn, have helped me grow in my faith and understanding of Christ."

- Angie Weaver, Senior

Cultivating a Love for Worship

Gina (Hartzler) Spicher, class of 1986, recently reflected on her school experience and the multi-generational impact of BCS on her family.

"I look back on my BMS days as one of the best times in my life!

This is the place where I found friendships that have lasted a lifetime. But the part that played a big role for me was music. I can recall learning how to lead a hymn . . . and the highlight was being in the touring choir."

"Interestingly enough, music impacted our children greatly too. As a result of the start of a worship team when our children attended, all three of them now lead on worship teams at their churches and in their communities. I praise God for that because that's something money or tuition can't buy - the

love for worshipping our Creator. And yet God used BMS as the facilitator."

With seven of her grandchildren currently enrolled at BCS, Gina now has the joy of watching them experience many of the same opportunities she had.

Weekly music instruction and worship alongside peers and teachers who love the Lord is a routine part of their education. Christmas & Spring Concerts continue to be annual highlights for students - and the entire BCS community!

Read what other families, students, and alumni value most about their BCS experience at bcsthunder.org/about/testimonies.cfm.



Athletics at BCS

Challenging students to succeed in what matters most.

Although the fall & winter athletic seasons have come to a close, Belleville Thunder athletes will not soon forget these moments.

Each new season provides the opportunity for student-athletes at BCS to grow in their knowledge of the game alongside one another, both on and off the field or court. And while they may join a team for their love of the sport or the camaraderie it affords, the students also have unique opportunities to engage with the broader student body.

A much anticipated example of this is the annual Math Matters & Read to Succeed programs, through which varsity athletes take part in recognizing students in the elementary grades for their

excellence in math and reading. Once during each season, the athletes join the younger students in their classrooms for exciting games and fellowship with one another.

Freshman player Izzy Weaver reflected, "Math Matters & Read to Succeed are fun programs. I enjoyed playing games with them and answering their questions about high school."

While these students show support for one another, they are also led by strong coaches who prioritize Christlikeness and focus on more than a sport.

This year varsity soccer coaches continued an annual tradition of selecting a theme to guide their

season. They challenged their team with the word "leader" - and its meaning to them has had a far-reaching impact. For the student-athletes, this signified their role as leaders in their individual positions on the field and served as a reminder that they contribute to a team.

During the winter months, the girls basketball program sought to build excitement, unity, and continuity between the varsity, junior high and elementary teams with a focus on 2 Corinthians 13:11. Now that spring is here, the track team is being challenged to grow in new ways as well!

Indeed, it is these relationships that are often most memorable to players. Senior Bryson Peachey reflected, "Looking back through my years playing sports at BCS, I am reminded of the challenges, failures and successes, and the amazing memories that I have made along the way; from the character that it has instilled, to the friendships made, it has been a great time."



Wish List

- **Portable Speaker for outdoor student events** (\$1,000)
- **Playground Safety Fencing** (\$850)
- **Folding Tables for student displays & special events** (\$600)

Special Thanks

to Metzler Forest Products, Zook's Masonry, Kish Valley Electric, OreBank Farm, Mountainside Wood Products, and Full Circle Supply for generous contributions of wood chips, concrete work, and mulch to improve and sustain our playground areas!



JOIN OTHERS IN SUPPORTING STUDENTS & HELPING US MEET OUR \$250,000 GOAL!

25-26 FAITH PROMISE ANNUAL FUND

Strengthen & Secure Campaign

Every day, the Faith Promise Annual Fund delivers the unrestricted income needed to maintain BCS's educational programs as well as the facilities in which they take place, all while helping to provide student opportunities that promote academic, spiritual, and social growth. Gifts to the Faith Promise Annual Fund go to work immediately and are essential to fulfilling the school's mission.

Annual Fund Update

We have begun a new initiative, the Strengthen & Secure Campaign, which expands our Annual Fund budget to include funds that can support an infrastructure update project that will be featured each year. This year's project includes replacing our aging boiler system in the secondary (middle & high school) building, which was installed nearly 50 years ago, following the fire of 1976.

Our Annual Fund goal reflects an increase of \$150,000 that will help to fund this critical need. Many of our faithful donors have given generously. We invite you to join them! With gifts and pledges to date, we are currently at \$172,025 of our \$250,000 goal. Please consider how you can join this effort and support BCS!

Why Give?

"I'm passionate about Christian education, about the way the teachers care for their students, the way the teachers give of themselves, and how the faculty at BCS supports and prays for each other.

We were determined to make it work financially for our children to attend BMS. It wasn't always easy and I know many others helped to support the school. Now our grandchildren have also graduated, but I can still support the education that other children receive at BCS by volunteering and giving!"

- Phyllis Yoder

Give Today!

