



SUMMER 2017

WWW.BADAXEPS.ORG

BLUE & GOLD GAZETTE

BAD AXE PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A HATCHET- NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION

Want to enroll your child in a district that was designated a REWARD SCHOOL by MDE in 2017? Want to enroll your child in a district that also earned the distinction of being one of the top High Schools in America in 2017 by US News and World Report? Are you new or know someone new to the Bad Axe area? Then contact one of our offices to enroll your child for the upcoming school year. Bad Axe Public Schools also participates in Schools of Choice. In fact, nearly a quarter of our student body registered under schools of choice. Contact information for our schools is:

Kdg-3rd Grade – Bad Axe Elementary

Phone: 269-2736
Address: 404 Hatchet Dr.
Sharon Taylor, Secretary
Sharon Brighton, Principal

8th-12th Grade- Bad Axe High School

Phone: 269-9593
Address: 200 N. Barrie Rd
Denice Palmer, Secretary
Kurt Dennis, Principal

4th-7th Grade – Bad Axe Middle School

Phone: 269-2735
Address: 750 N. Van Dyke
Tammie Holz, Secretary
Pete Batzer, Principal

HS Alternative Ed- Ascent High School

Phone: 269-2737
Address: 310 N. Outer Drive
Betty Durr, Secretary
Russ Clark, Principal

NEW ADDRESS? LET US KNOW

If you have moved over the summer months, please contact your child's school to update your mailing address and contact information. This will help ensure any information that is sent home will be delivered to the correct location. Also if any contact information changes during the course of the school year including cell phone numbers, emergency contacts, and address please contact us as soon as possible so those changes can be made to your child's file.

OPEN HOUSE SET FOR AUGUST 31:

On Thursday, August 31, parents and students will have the opportunity to attend the district wide Open House from 6:00-7:30 p.m. At the open house, parents and students will be able to visit with their teacher(s), learn and practice their locker combination, and receive general information about the upcoming school year. Students in grades 6-12 will receive their class schedules during the evening's event.

IS SCHOOL CLOSED TODAY? SIGN UP FOR THE REMIND APP

Bad Axe Schools uses the REMIND app for parents, students, teachers, and staff for notifications in the event of a school cancellation, delay, early release, other important information. REMIND is an app available to you using an iPhone or Android device to receive messages via push notifications, text message, or email. All attempts will be made to limit messages for these purposes only. Parents will need to “opt-in” if you desire to receive these messages to your phone or email.

You can “opt-in” by the following methods:

1. Download the REMIND app from iTunes App Store or Google Play and when prompted enter the class code @basn.
2. Or join via SMS by texting the number (989) 321-2359 with the message @basn.
3. Or visit the link www.remind.com/join/basn



Those who wish not to take part will still be able to learn of school cancellations and delays through the local media such as WLEW radio, television, Facebook page (Bad Axe Public Schools), or Twitter (@BA_Hatchets).

WHAT IS THE ASCENT HIGH SCHOOL?

Ascent High School is an alternative to the traditional high school classroom setting set up for students within Huron County. Ascent High School is located in the former Greene Elementary Building and is part of Bad Axe Public Schools. The program offers smaller class sizes and personalized instruction. Staff and students work cooperatively to create a personalized learning environment. Ascent is not designed to be an easier way, but a different way for students to earn their high school diploma.



Ascent High School is designed for:

- Students in the 9th – 12th grade (up to 20 years old, depending on birthdate);
- Students currently behind in credits;
- Students that will not graduate with their designated high school class;
- Teen parents;
- Students with poor high school performance;
- Students that have recently dropped out of high school;
- Students that desire a non-traditional academic environment;
- Students that prefer to learn in a variety of ways;
- Students who desire a high school diploma rather than a GED.

Students are referred to the Ascent from a variety of sources. Local school districts, parents, grandparents, or other interested parties are encouraged to contact the Ascent High School office to schedule an interview. This process also is approved through the local school district. Students are admitted periodically during the year. All students and an adult advocate must participate in an interview with the Principal and teaching staff if they desire to enroll. Interviews are conducted to determine if the student and the Ascent High School program are a good fit for each other.

The goal of Ascent High School is to help each student reach his/her ultimate potential while earning a high school diploma. Students receiving the maximum benefit and achieving the highest degree of success should generally be able to do the following:

- Be motivated from within
- Work independently
- Positively contribute verbally and/or physically in small or large group activities
- Be willing to read assigned material and write reflectively
- Adapt quickly to change
- Be willing to try (to the best of their ability) everything the instructors ask of them

- Take responsibility for their own actions
- Respect themselves and others
- Work as part of a team – Be willing to give and receive help to/from other students
- Participate in all activities and do their best to help create the best possible school environment for EVERY student!

Ascent High School students are required, by the state of Michigan, to meet ALL the requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum. This is the same as any other high school student. We require 24 credits to be obtained to graduate. These requirements are met via direct instruction and utilizing various online curriculum programs. Core academic curriculum and electives are delivered primarily through direct instruction and self-paced online courses.

ANNUAL TITLE PARENT MEETING

Bad Axe Public Schools receive Title I funds to help support programs offered in the school. To learn more about the Title programs offered at Bad Axe Public Schools, please attend our annual Title meeting which will be held on Thursday, August 31 at 5:30 p.m. in the Middle School Library prior to the district Open House.

BAD AXE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SCHEDULE

Regular Board of Education meetings take place on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:15 p.m. in the High School Media Center. The following dates have been set through the reorganization meeting in January.

August 28, 2017	September 25, 2017	October 23, 2017
November 27, 2017	December 18, 2017*	January 22, 2017**
	*Meeting one week earlier due to holiday.	**Reorganizational Meeting

CREATING A LEGACY THROUGH THE HATCHET FUND

The Hatchet Fund was created two years ago through the Huron County Community Foundation. The Hatchet Fund is set up to benefit Bad Axe Schools for years to come. School funds are a great way for alumni, employees, and communities to support local schools permanently by giving to an endowment.

Gifts to the fund will provide support for academic and extracurricular programs such as classroom projects, classroom equipment, field trips, fine arts programs, and more. Bad Axe joined other schools in the county and across the state who have created such a fund that helps donors know that their donation will be sustainable and has an impact for the students. Once the fund has grown through HCCF, the distributing of the money will be determined through a committee using a mini-grant application process. Help from our great community is welcomed and needed to get the fund endowed.

If you would like to make a gift to the Hatchet Fund, please make checks out to HCCF, writing Hatchet Fund in the Memo line, and send them to the Huron County Community Foundation at PO 56, Bad Axe. Gifts via credit card can be made online at www.huroncountycommunityfoundation.org. HCCF is a 501(c)3 organization that can accept estate gifts, in lieu of gifts, stocks, investments, gifts of land and crops. You can contact the Foundation for more details on supporting the Hatchet Fund at 269-2850 or by visiting the HCCF website listed above.

DISTRICT WEBSITE

Checking our website will provide an excellent source of information. Part of the website includes each building having their own page to share pertinent information including current and upcoming activities, lunch menu, staff and classroom information, Daily Bulletin, schedules, and the Student Handbook. This information can be found by going to www.badaxeps.org.



SKYWARD

Skyward is a valuable district information system to help monitor your student's progress. Parents and students are able to access grades, attendance, messages, and class information. If you need assistance to access your account, please contact your student's school office.

For those on the go, you can download the Skyward mobile app through the Google Play Store or iTunes Store and monitor on any apple or android device.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Academic Support is available for all High School and Middle School students on Tuesday & Thursday from 3:25-4:25. Whether it is needed for makeup assignments or tests, more one-on-one assistance, a quiet place to complete assignments, or if struggling with a class, this is an excellent opportunity for students to receive additional help.

BREAK FOR BREAKFAST

A proper breakfast is essential for a student to be productive. All students may eat breakfast before starting their school day. Again this year students in grades K-5 have the opportunity to have breakfast in the classroom at the start of the day. In addition, all 6-12 grade students have the additional opportunity to eat breakfast between 1st and 2nd hour for "2nd Chance Breakfast".

NEWS FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Bad Axe Middle School is looking forward to a great year of team building. Our motto for the year is "Teamwork Makes the Dreamwork!" Students and staff will be working on fun team building activities throughout the school year in their Advisory classes. The Advisory class will also focus on character education, study skills, and expectation lessons. Class time may also include special student assemblies. Students may also complete community service and mentoring activities. We are excited to see the Advisory program return to BAMS and be able to enjoy a time of fun student and staff bonding!

Specials for our 4th & 5th grade students will include Physical Education each day for 30 minutes, computers twice per week for 30 minutes, and Art once per week for 30 minutes. Exploratory classes for 6th and 7th graders lasts for nine weeks. All students may participate in the following: Explore Careers, Explore Computers, Explore Art, Explore Ag. Science, Choir, and Band.

Many academic, social and extra-curricular opportunities are available for Middle School students. These events occur both during and after the school day, and include:

Student Council	Science Olympiad	Quiz Bowl
Destination Imagination	Technology Club	Vex Robotics
Football	Volleyball	Basketball
Cross Country	Track	Wrestling

DESTINATION IMAGINATION MAKES PRESENTATION AT SVSU



On August 3rd, eleven students, in grades first through eighth, from the Bad Axe Destination Imagination program were invited to speak at Saginaw Valley State University. This presentation was set up after Mr. Ernie Paulick, SVSU Board of Fellows member and Bad Axe resident, heard a small group of BADI students speak at a Bad Axe Rotary Club luncheon. The students showcased their DI projects as well as the skills they've gained and opportunities they've had through the BADI program. Their audience included Dr. Bachand (SVSU President), Dr. Huntley (SVSU Provost), Dr. Hall (Dean of Science, Engineering and Technology), Dr. Douglas, (Dean of Education), Ms. Cole, (SVSU STEAM program manager), Ms. Pahl (Admissions Director), guests from Dow and the Gemini Group and additional SVSU staff. Supporting the students in this presentation were BADI adult volunteers and Ted Grossncikle, the Michigan DI coordinator.

After students shared their experiences and had SVSU staff participate in an engineering instant challenge, students were treated to lunch on campus, time in the mobile STEM lab, a tour of the Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum, a campus tour, and a computer coding activity. Students left with a much better understanding of the programs and activities available at SVSU. Partnership opportunities were discussed which will have positive impacts for not only the BADI program and students, but for the larger school community as well.

Bad Axe Destination Imagination is completely run by volunteers and supported by fundraising. The BADI students and volunteers want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported the program in the past with your kind generosity. We are looking forward to another great year of student-led creativity. Bad Axe DI is available to all K-12th grade Bad Axe students. Information about joining BADI will be coming home with students in the first couple months of school. For more information, please contact Rikkii Clarent (rikkiic@yahoo.com) or visit the BadAxe BADI Facebook page.

2017-2018 KEY FALL & OTHER DATES

August 31	Open House K-12 (6:00-7:30pm)
September 5	First Day of School
November 3	End of First Marking Period
November 9	Parent-Teacher Conferences
November 10	Early Dismissal
November 15	No School
November 22	Early Dismissal-Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 23-24	No School- Thanksgiving
December 20	Early Dismissal- Winter Break
Dec. 21-Jan. 1	Winter Break
Jan. 2	Classes Resume
February 15	Parent-Teacher Conferences
February 16	Early Dismissal
February 19	No School- President's Day
March 30-April 6	Spring Break
June 2	Ascent High School Graduation
June 3	Bad Axe High School Graduation
June 8	Last Day of School

For the complete 2017-2018 school calendar, check out our webpage www.badaxeps.org.

SCHOOL CONTACT INFO:

Elementary School	269-2736
Middle School	269-2735
High School	269-9593
Ascent High School	269-2737
Board Office	269-9938

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