



Blue Ridge High School

January 2012

Blue Ridge High School

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Happy New Year and best wishes for a successful 2012. Time has flown by this year. My hope is that second semester will bring new opportunities for students to surpass their first semester goals. Second semester is a new opportunity to make positive changes such as improved grades, appropriate behaviors, and good decision-making. I encourage everyone to have a positive attitude toward this semester.

*If you have not heard the exciting news: **BRHS ranked "Excellent"—South Carolina Report Card (2011).** I am so proud of our faculty, staff, students, and parents for the academic achievement this past school year. Public high schools in South Carolina are evaluated in the following three areas: graduation rate, HSAP passage rate, and EOC passage rate. We focused on those areas and worked together to increase our scores in all areas. As a result, Blue Ridge High has received an **Excellent Absolute Rating** and an **Excellent Improvement Rating** on the 2011 School Report Card. It's the highest possible rating. This assessment is a great achievement and reflects the culture of high achievement for all students we have in our building.*

New:

Beginning second semester 2012, BRHS will no longer accept doctors' notes via email or fax. All doctors' notes must be brought in by the student within 3 days to the Attendance Office.

Please take a moment to review all of the information in this newsletter. It is very informative. Last but not least, if I can be of assistance in any way, feel free to contact me.

Warmest regards,

Reena Watson, Principal

Reminders:

- Early dismissals are between classes: 10:20, 11:55, or 2:15.
- No early dismissal by telephone, email, or fax.
- No early dismissals during exams.
- All debts should be cleared from first semester as soon as possible.
- Class dues may be paid when homeroom meets. Class dues cover the expenses for "Senior Day" and graduation at Timmons Arena.
- The original receipt must be submitted for refunds. Please save your receipts.
- Monitor absences very carefully. Contact the teacher with questions.
- Submit documentation for absences within 3 days of return to school.
- Do not schedule trips or vacations for school days, exams, or snow days. Students can miss no more than 5 days in semester classes or 3 days in quarter courses.
- Cruises, weddings, vacations, mission trips, non - BRHS sponsored events, etc., are not excused absences.
- Beginning 2nd semester, we will no longer accept doctors' notes via email or fax. All doctors' notes must be brought in by the student within 3 days and given to attendance.
- Beginning January 18, 2012, detention will not be held on Wednesday. It will be held on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Students still have 5 days to serve any assigned detention.
- Self-addressed stamped envelopes need to be given to homeroom teachers.





Cell Phone

In compliance with the Greenville County School District Board Policy JDCA, students are allowed to have cell phones in their possession on school property for emergency purposes only. Otherwise, phones must be powered off and not used for any sort of telecommunication purposes including but not limited to phone calls, text messaging, internet usage, or checking time while on school property. Consequences for telecommunication devices are:

BOARD POLICY JDCA

First Offense: Confiscation of the paging device or mobile telephone and after a conference held the next school day with parent/legal guardian, the paging device or mobile telephone will be returned to the parent/legal guardian. The parent/legal guardian must sign an agreement acknowledging their understanding of Board Policy JDCA and the penalties for subsequent violations.

Second Offense: Confiscation of the paging device or mobile telephone and after a conference with the parent/legal guardian, the paging device or mobile telephone will be returned to the parent/legal guardian 30 calendar days after the confiscation.

Third Offense: Confiscation of the paging device or mobile telephone and after a conference with the parent/legal guardian, the paging device or mobile telephone will be returned to the parent/legal guardian 60 calendar days after the confiscation.

Returning of Cell Phone: An Assistant Principal is always here until 5:00 pm each day. If a parent would like to pick up a student's cell phone after 4:00 pm, the parent must call the school and let the Assistant Principal on call/duty know that they will be picking up the cell phone and what time. The parent has until 4:55 pm to get the cell phone.

AFJROTC, SC-20023

Accomplishments for 1st semester 2011-2012

- 23 Blue Ridge AFJROTC Cadets attended Converse College Leadership School
- Cadets provided a Color Guard for all varsity football and basketball games
- Cadets assisted in conducting orientation at the high school
- Bi-Lo Bonus fundraiser raised \$1,500
- Conducted 9/11 ceremonies for Greer and Greenville
- Cadet skate night at Taylor Skating Rink
- Color guard at BRHS cheerleading competition
- Color Guards at all open house events
- Adopt-A-Highway collected 26 bags of trash.
- Cadets placed 1st and 2nd at an Orienteering competition at Kings Mtn.
- AF Heritage of America Candle fundraiser raised over \$900 for cadet fund , \$1200 for March of Dimes. .
- Our Awareness Presentation Team conducted three middle school events and two events at elementary schools.
- Conducted Veterans Day ceremonies at the high School and middle school also one at Crestview Elementary.
- Conducted a flag retirement ceremony at Travelers Rest City Hall Color Guard and escorts provided for Beauty Pageant in Greenville
- 40 Cadets participated in both the Greer and Travelers Rest Christmas Parades, providing color guards and marching formations
- AFJROTC sponsored another successful blood drive, screening 191 people.76 were donors. Resulting in 170 pints of blood collected.
- 24 Cadets participated in an AFJROTC Bowling event





Senior Day 2012

Graduation will be here before you know it! In accordance with our long-standing tradition, Student Council will honor the Class of 2012 with a day just for them! Our day will start with a catered breakfast followed by hypnotist David Fontenot. We are also planning several surprises for our seniors.

After the hypnotist, the Yearbook Staff will present the Senior Slide Show. Lunch will be provided for the seniors as well. The day will wrap up with senior yearbook signing.

Parents, we are in need of parent volunteers to supervise the day's activities. We are also in need of donations. If you would like to help out or would like more details, please contact either Justin Lowman or Paula Rouse. Thank you for your help and support!

Justin Lowman
355-1816
jlowman@greenville.k12.sc.us
Paula Rouse
355-1871
phrouse@greenville.k12.sc.us



TIGERS OF THE MONTH

Each month the Blue Ridge High School faculty nominates and selects one student "Tiger of the Month" based on personal conduct, work ethic, demonstrated academic achievement or improvement, and citizenship. We are pleased to announce the students listed below have been selected so far for the 2011 – 2012 school year.

September - - Josh Shaffer

October - - Kayla Bullock

November - - Taylor Bowen

December - - Jake Lancaster & Geneva Hastings

January - - Charlie Rickette



Spring Open House Drop-In 2012

Wednesday, Feb. 15th from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 pm. The purpose of this event is to allow parents an opportunity to personally receive their student's progress report from the school. After receiving the progress report, parents may visit teachers to briefly discuss grades, attendance, and other matters. If a conference is desired, it can be arranged at that time.



**"Alive @ 25" Class at
Blue Ridge
Sign up now!**

BRHS will offer Alive at 25 on February 2, & March 22 at 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Remember, only those completing this class will be eligible to buy a parking pass for the 11-12 school year.

Please go to www.scaliveat25.org to register

GUIDANCE NEWS



SENIOR UPDATES

If you have not already completed your college applications, time is running out. May 1st is Commitment Day for all colleges. You need to submit your application as soon as possible. If you need assistance with the application process, please make an appointment to see Mrs. Fevrin or Mrs. Reese.

Test scores must be submitted directly from the testing agency. Colleges must have an official copy which comes from the testing agency. If you did not list the college on your registration form to receive your scores, you will need to request an additional copy and pay the fee.

You must complete a **transcript request form** to receive transcripts to submit to colleges which you have applied. The first three transcripts are free. Per District policy, after the first three there is a \$5.00 per transcript charge. **Please note:** It is now the responsibility of the student to pick up their transcript. Students will receive the transcript in a sealed envelope to mail to the respective college or scholarship organization.

We are getting in new scholarships every day, so it is very important for all seniors to regularly check their school email, check Mrs. Reese's website, and school announcements on the BRHS homepage. www.fastweb.com is another great source to find scholarships. Each scholarship has its own requirements, so you must read the scholarship criteria to see what you are qualified to apply for. It is the student's responsibility to research and apply for scholarships, but the resources listed are valuable tools.

If you have any questions or concerns about your student's senior year, please feel free to email or call us:

Jessica Fevrin, Senior Counselor (A – L) (864) 355-1813 - email: jfevrin@greenville.k12.sc.us

Amy Reese, Senior Counselor (M – Z) (864) 355-1815 - email: areese@greenville.k12.sc.us

Seniors and Parents of Seniors:

To avoid any confusion at Graduation about what can and cannot be worn as part of the graduation attire, BRHS is issuing the following statement: Any stole, collar, cord, tassel, medal, etc. that is not issued by a Greenville County School entity are not permitted to be worn at graduation. If you purchase an item outside of school, you will not be able to wear it during the graduation ceremony. At this time the allowable items are: Beta Club cord and tassel, NHS stole, AFROTC cords, honor graduate metals issued at Awards Night, Fine Arts Center cords and Career Center Cords, FBLA cords, and German Honor Society cords.

GRADUATION REMINDERS:

March 28 – Graduation supplies delivered during lunch. Orders must be paid in full prior to that day.

April 17 – April 19 – HSAP Exam (for seniors who have not passed both parts)

May 1-11 – AP Testing

May 12 - Prom

Week of May 21 - Senior Final Exams & Exam Make-up day

May 18 – Senior Day

May 29 – MANDATORY Graduation Meeting at BRHS at 10 am. **

May 29 – MANDATORY Graduation rehearsal at Timmons Arena 3:30 pm**

June 1 GRADUATION!! – at Timmons Arena 3:30 pm. **

** Students will receive a limited number of graduation tickets, so please be selective about who you plan to invite. If you miss either graduation rehearsal, you will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony, as per District Policy.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR 2012

January 30th	PTSA Curriculum Night at 6:30 pm
February 4th	Miss El Dorado & Mr. Blue Ridge Pageant at 6:00 pm in the Auditorium
February 15th	Spring Open House Drop-In at 5:00-7:00 pm
February 15th	Interim Progress Reports
March 3rd	Relay for Life Pageant at 6:00 pm in the Auditorium
April 2-6th	Spring Break
April 14th	Little Miss and Master Pageant at 6:00 pm in the Auditorium
April 17-19th	HSAP Testing
April 20th-21st	BRHS FFA Farm Day at Lindsey Plantation
April 23rd	FBLA 3rd Annual Blood Drive
May 4th-5th	Spring Drama Production at 7:00 pm
May 7th- 11th	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 12th	Prom at Flour Daniel at 8:00 pm
May 18th	Yearbook Day
June 1st	Graduation at Furman at 3:30 pm

COURSE REGISTRATION FOR 2012-2013

Course registration for the 2012-2013 year will begin in March. The on-line catalog of courses will be available the week of January 30th. There will be flow charts for all subjects and information on AP courses on the front page on our school website. Teachers will begin making course recommendations in the academic classes for students at the beginning of March.

Beginning March 5th – March 15th the online registration “window” opens for parents and students to select their academic classes recommended by teachers and to request electives. Small group sessions will be conducted for students to register in the Media Center and to conduct IGP conferences to determine Individual Graduation Plans. Please review the course requests for your child and make any necessary changes directly on the signed registration forms. We make every effort to place students in the courses of their choice, however due to changes in the master schedule it may be necessary to place students in alternate courses. **Please review the registration dates for registering and submitting required documentation.**

February 27th & 28th: Class Meetings for Rising 10th, 11th & 12th grade students

March 5th: March 15th: Online registration window is available on the portal.

March 27th: Registration forms go home to parents for review.

March 30th: Signed registration forms to Guidance with any changes.

April 27th: Last day to make changes to course requests.

Tiger Time (T^2)

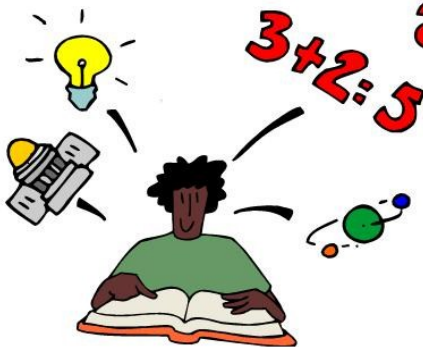
EVERY

Tuesday & Thursday

8:15-8:40

**ALL teachers will be
available to help**

**ALL students.
Guidance will be
open for assistance
as well.**



What is the quadratic equation? When was the War of 1812 fought?
How do you punctuate correctly! What does H_2O represent?
What's the difference in a teaspoon and a tablespoon?

Visit with your teacher in the mornings for extra help to find the answers to these questions and many more!

BRHS Highlights for 1st Semester - 2011-2012Fine Arts

- The Blue Ridge Wind Ensemble performed at the 9/11 ceremony at Taylors First Baptist Church that started at 9:11 am on Sunday, September 11th. Blue Ridge High School was well represented as they performed pre-service music, The Star Spangled Banner, and As All the Heavens Were a Bell (written as a tribute to the NYPD and NYFD) in front of 4,000 people including One United States Senator, Three State Senators and several other elected officials.
- Congratulations to the Marching Band for winning first place in their class at the Byrnes High School Tournament of Bands. In addition to winning first place, the Corps of Cadets also received awards for Best Drum Major, Best Drum Line and Best Horn Line.
- Congratulations to the Marching Band for winning 1st Place in their class this at the Old English Festival of Bands in Rock Hill. In addition to winning 1st Place, the Corps of Cadets also won the trophy for best color guard.
- Congratulations to the Marching Band who qualified for the AAA Marching Band Playoffs for the 17th year in a row with a solid 3rd place finish at the AAA Upper State Band Contest.
- Congratulations to the Marching Band for their 3rd place finish at the AAA State Finals. The band has finished in the top 3 at State 9 of the last 10 years.
- BRHS's Corps of Cadets Band was nominated Band of the Week by WYFF4 against Greer.
- Congratulations to the BRHS Chorus students listed who have been selected to participate in the Greenville County Schools 2012 District Honor Choir: Soprano: Melanie Seppala, Alex White, Laura Harrison, Kristen Dilleshaw-Alto: Virginia Bishop, Barrett Tyler, Lizzy Brown Tenor: Luke Schneider, Michael Cheek, Jacob Neeley, Clayton Sudduth-Bass: Jack Downie, Zach Arms, JP Teague, Jake Fowler.
- Congratulations to Anri Ballew and Kelsey Moser. They successfully represented Blue Ridge High School in an audition for the Senior Region Honors Orchestra. They played in a concert with honors level students from the Region on November 5th in Anderson.
- Congratulations to BRHS Chorus students who auditioned and were selected for the 2012 SC All-State Choir: Luke Schneider, Barrett Tyler, Michael Cheek, Zach Arms, and JP Teague.
- On December 10, 2011 the BRHS Honors Concert Choir performed with the Greenville Chorale at their annual Christmas Concert. It was held at Furman University. The Choir, featured by invitation of Dr. Bingham Vick, performed several selections alone. This was the third time the BRHS Honors Concert Choir has been invited to perform with the Chorale.

Misc.

- Congratulations to Mr. Lowman's third period class, who raised \$194 for the Red Ribbon Week fundraiser. Mrs. Moore's third period was in second with \$168, and Mrs. Quatrone's class came in 3rd with \$44. A special thanks goes out to all who participated and helped make Red Ribbon week successful.
- The Blue Ridge High FFA and Student Council wish to thank the entire school for your participation in Can Food Drive Challenge with Greer. All food and money will be distributed to Greer Community Ministries, The Soup Kitchen and Greer Relief. The results of the challenge were Blue Ridge 2400 and Greer 5636.
- *LATIN STUDENTS:* For a brand new Junior Classical League (JCL) chapter, it couldn't have gone better or more smoothly for the Blue Ridge JCL. Nine students attended the SCJCL Fall Forum at Lexington High School in Lexington, SC. The students (and/or chapter) won a number of awards: our Novice Certamen Team (Certamen is like quiz bowl), consisting of Ray Hill, Asheton Casey, Kiersten McNeely, and Taylor Gibby, placed 2nd; our chapter placed 2nd in the spirit competition; Miranda McKinney placed 2nd in level one vocabulary, and Steven Shock placed 1st in mythology.
- Congratulations go out the Academic Team in its showing at the North Greenville Academic Tournament. With victories over Southside, Chapman, Thomas Jefferson, and Seneca, Blue Ridge ended the tournament with a 4 and 3 record. Titus Snyder did particularly well finishing the tournament ranked number 3 out of approximately 150 students.
- Congratulations to Blue Ridge High School: The Eat Local Food project has earned the "Champions of the Environment Seedling Award." The amount of the award was \$500.
- Kevin Rhoney, a senior at Blue Ridge High School, received the honor of being selected as the Valedictorian of Furman University's "Bridges to a Brighter Future" summer program. "Bridges to a Brighter Future" is a college enrichment program. Kevin had the highest grade point average of all students. After graduation, Kevin would like to attend the University of South Carolina. He wants to major in Physics. Then, he wants to attend their graduate program for Theoretical Physics.
- Adam Wilson was one of thirty-two students chosen to attend the South Carolina Physics Scholars Institute at Francis Marion University last month. Students from North and South Carolina attended the three day institute where they took part in laboratory experiments and college lectures ranging from Nuclear Radiation to Cosmic Acceleration.
- Congratulations to Ashley Wardlaw!! Mrs. Wardlaw has been selected as a recipient of a 2012 Target Field Trip Grant.
- BRHS is the recipient of the FY2012 Recycling Education Grant.

Athletics

- Bryton Griffin was named the Greer Citizen Offensive Player of the Week.
- Caleb Rowe was named the Greer TD Club Offensive Player of the Week. Caleb Rowe, Bryton Griffin, and Brennen Griffin were named the Greenville TD Club's Players of the Week.
- Congratulations to the BRHS Varsity Football Team for making it to the playoffs.
- Congratulations to Bryton Griffin who was chosen to play in the North/South All-Star game.
- Congratulations to Caleb Rowe for being named to the 2011 Shrine Bowl Team. The Shrine Bowl is an all-star football game that takes the best high school football players in South Carolina and matches them against the best players from North Carolina.
- Congratulations to the Varsity cheerleaders for their win at Hillcrest. They defeated TR, Wade Hampton, Eastside, BHP, and Walhalla.
- Congratulations to the Girls Cross Country Team for repeating as the Region 3 AAA Champs. They also qualified for the State Championship by taking 6th place in the Upper State Championship.
- Congratulations to the Boys Cross Country Team for taking 2nd in the Region 3 AAA Championship. They also qualified for the State Championship by taking 9th place in the Upper State Championship.
- Congratulations to the BRHS Swim Team for qualifying for the State Swim Meet.
- Congratulations to the BRHS Volleyball Team for finishing 3rd in the Region and qualifying for the State Playoffs.
- Congratulations to the boys and girls cross country teams for their performances at the State Cross Country meet. The boys were 15th of 24 teams, and Patrick Stephenson was the top runner for the team, finishing the 3.1-mile course in 17:57.
- The girls finished in 6th place with the Tigers' top runner, Catherine Harvey, placing 16th overall in 20:03.
- Congratulations to the Varsity Cheerleaders for qualifying for the State Championship at the Bi-Lo Center.
- Congratulations to the Varsity Cheerleaders for placing 6th at the SC State Cheer Championship.
- Congratulations to the Varsity Girls Basketball team being runner up in the Battle of the Borders tournament at Landrum High School over the Christmas Break. The girls made it to the championship round and lost to a talented East Rutherford NC team.
- The following students made All Region for Region III 3A for the fall season:
 - Girls' Tennis: Emily Turman and Kelley Chapman
 - Volleyball: Hannah Dockery and Alexis Sellers
 - Football: Caleb Rowe, Bryton Griffin, Tyshawn Richardson, T. J. Howard, Sam Nunamacher, and Cory Dogan
 - Girls' Golf: Taylor Lance and Kaycee Blackwell
 - Girls' Cross Country: Jacey Holombo, Catherine Harvey, Abbey Kyzer, Aysia Cooper, and Casey Cox
 - Boys' Cross Country: Rodney Johnson, Patrick Stephenson, and Davis Ross
- Congratulations to the Varsity Girls Basketball team being runner up in the Battle of the Borders tournament at Landrum High School over the Christmas Break. The girls made it to the championship round and lost to a talented East Rutherford NC team.
- Lady Tigers Golf Team, Casey Fowler, Kaycee Blackwell, Taylor Lance, Megan Miller, Emily Tate, Lindsay Styles, and Avery McAlhaney won their region again this year. The team is back to back regional champs.
- Congratulations to Ross Mathis and Courtney Robinson who were recognized by the Upstate Basketball Club and received awards for outstanding performances. Courtney was also named Greer Citizens Athlete of the Week during January.