



# VIKING VOICE

Bronson Community Schools Newsletter • 2019 Volume 5 Issue 2

## THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR AT BCS

Bronson Families -

Welcome to the 2019-20 school-year!

Bronson Community Schools is committed to providing a quality education to **Every Student, Every Day!** How do we do that? It begins with a highly qualified and talented staff. Not just in terms of their training, but also in terms of their ability to relate to and connect with students. For the second straight year, a majority of exiting graduates state that our TEACHERS are the best thing about our schools! The relationships we provide give your children the best possible opportunity to succeed.

Another quality element is our variety of programs. Bronson elementary students receive targeted services for their identified needs in addition to the general focus on literacy each day. The jump to the Junior High will feel different this year as sixth grade teachers will have a dedicated homeroom group of students, much like the elementary program they are coming from. Our high school program includes opportunities at the Branch Area Career Center, dual enrollment classes through Glen Oaks Community College, and our new Branch Early College program through KCC.

In addition to all of this, we will increase our support for the social/emotional needs of our students with the addition of a full time Guidance Counselor and a Social Worker in the district.

We thank you for the chance to serve the needs of your children! Thank you for choosing Bronson Community schools!

Richard Hilderley  
Superintendent



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## NUMBERS TO KNOW

Anderson Elementary  
517.369.3234

Ryan Elementary  
517.369.3254

Bronson Jr/Sr  
High School  
517.369.3230

Administration  
517.369.3260

EVERY STUDENT  
*Every Day*

# DOWNLOAD IT TODAY!

Bronson Community Schools now has an app! Get news, calendar events, lunch menus, and Skyward access all in one spot on your phone. Available for both Apple and Android phones.

PREVIEW ON DEVICE



News



Events



Schools



People



About



Athletics



Food Services



Skyward



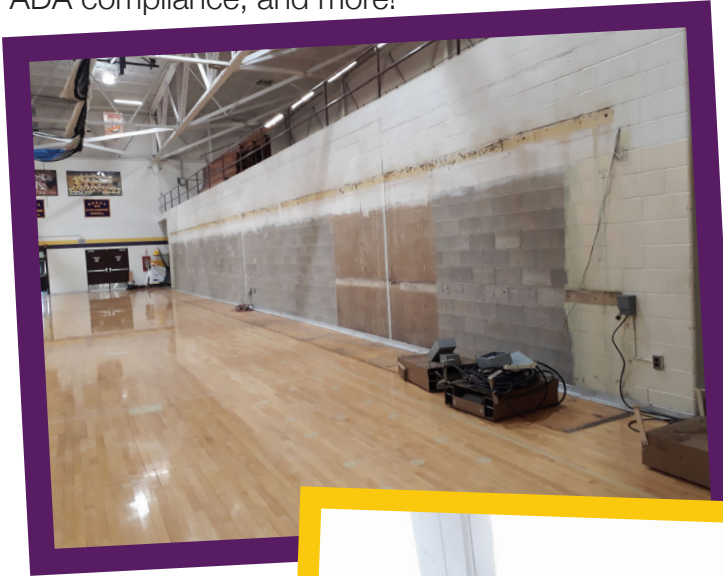
Employment

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# SINKING FUND PROJECTS CONTINUE

As summer draws to a close, we are finishing the final projects from the first sinking fund in the district. Those projects included replacing bleachers in the gym, and replacing old univents with new, more energy efficient units.

Because of the generosity of Bronson School District taxpayers, our buildings have undergone tremendous facility upgrades since the sinking fund was approved in 2014 including new boilers, new roofs and soffits, upgrades in plumbing fixtures, windows, fire alarm systems, ADA compliance, and more!



*(Left) The high school gym walls after the old bleachers were removed.*



*(Right) Ventilators in rooms have been removed to make room for new univents.*

The First Day of School  
is  
Tuesday, August 20!



**SEPT  
1**

It is recommended that you register your child for kindergarten if they will be 5 years old by September 1st

**Required documents for registration:**

- Certified birth certificate (not the hospital copy)
- Immunization records (immunizations need to be complete prior to the start of the school year)
- Proof of residency (driver's license, rental agreement, utility bill)
- Any court documents for any legal/custody issues for your child



## Kindergarten Registration

Call 517-369-3234

**"Anyone who does anything to help a child is a hero to me."  
-Fred Rogers**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## August

- 12 Board of Education Meeting
- 14 High School Registration (for new students), Schedule Changes, Locker Check Out
- 19 Open Houses
- 20 First Day of School
- 30 No School - Friday before Labor Day Holiday
- Fill the Stands Football

## September

- 2 No School - Labor Day
- 4 High School Picture Day
- 9 Board of Education Meeting
- 27 Homecoming

Looking for athletic events?  
Visit the Schedule Star link on our website under Athletics  
[www.BronsonSchools.org](http://www.BronsonSchools.org)



You can now find us on Facebook and Instagram!

Get the latest news and updates!  
Search for **Bronson Schools!**



**FREE ADMISSION  
FOR THOSE WEARING PURPLE  
FOR THE FIRST HOME GAME VS PRAIRIE HEIGHTS  
FILL THE STANDS EVENT**





# BRONSON OFFERS EARLY COLLEGE THIS FALL

Last spring, the Bronson Board of Education approved partnering with Kellogg Community College to offer Early College in the Fall of 2019.

Like dual-enrollment, early college programs involve high school students enrolling at a local community college (in this case, KCC) while still attending high school. Early college programs generally begin prior to the beginning of the student's junior year of high school and run through an additional "fifth year" extending one year after traditional high school graduation.

Early college students take a variety of KCC courses intermixed with their high school schedules and graduate after their fifth year with an associate degree in addition to their high school diploma.

Below are some Frequently Asked Questions about Early College:

## What is an Early College?

An early college is a bonus year of high school that includes: financial assistance for up to 62 college credits, tuition, books, and fees; additional support for your first year in college; college visits; FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) assistance; college application assistance; and scholarship assistance.

## Who can apply to be a part of the Branch County Early College?

High school sophomores who meet academic eligibility.

## Who might NOT fit in the Branch County Early College Program?

There are a few types of students who may not want to pursue the early college pathway: (1) students who plant to attend a four year university immediately after graduation; (2) students who are not interested in attending a college or university after high school; and (3) students who are hoping to play a sport at the college level immediately after graduation.

## How far can this program take a student?

Pretty far! Students can earn an Associate Degree from Kellogg Community College by taking 2 classes per semester in 11th grade, 3 classes per semester in 12th, and 30 credit hours in the "13th year." Credits are also transferable to other colleges and universities, they have the opportunity to earn an industry certificate, or a MEMCA (Michigan Early Middle College Association) certificate.

## Do students leave the program?

Sometimes. Some students have finished their degree early, graduated early with MEMCA, moved away from the district, or decided the program wasn't a good fit for them.

## Have more questions about Branch County Early College?

Please contact Jennifer Searls with the Branch ISD & KCC Early College & Career Development. Jennifer can be reached by email at [searlsj@branch-isd.org](mailto:searlsj@branch-isd.org)

