

BECKMAN NEWS

1325 9TH St. SE
Dyersville, IA 52040
(563) 875-7188 phone
(563) 875-7242-fax
Beckman Website Address:
www.beckman.pvt.k12.ia.us



March 2021

"Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere
in prayer." Romans 12:12

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 1 – No School

March 2 – Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30-8:00

March 3 – Parent Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:00 (virtual)

March 8 – Fruit pick 3:00-7:00

March 25 – 28 - Kairos

UPDATE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is hard to believe we are already to March! That means we are just about 3/4ths of the way through the school year. This year has definitely had its challenges, but we continue to persevere. I know I have said thank you multiple times this year for all of your patience and flexibility but it is truly appreciated. This month's update is a little longer than usual, so please bear with me!

COVID Update

Our overall COVID numbers continue to be on the lower side, with very few students out for COVID related absences. We continue to follow the guidance from the Iowa Department of Public Health, Dubuque County Public Health, and the Archdiocesan Office of Catholic Schools in regards to our social distancing, mitigation, and face covering requirements. As I mentioned in an update in early February, we continue to follow the practices that were in place as we started the school year, and as

we watch our case counts and the overall situation we look for ways to increase school activities and events, as we have done with weekly Mass attendance. Thanks to the coordination and efforts of the Dubuque County Public Health Incident Management Team, all school staff that initially indicated a desire to be vaccinated in late January received their first vaccine dose in a two week period in mid-February and will be fully vaccinated by mid-March. Thank you for all you are doing to help slow the spread of COVID and to allow us to continue to have in-person instruction!

School Choice Legislation Update

The governor's education bill, currently making its way through the legislative process, has the potential to provide impacts for families and students across Iowa. School choice legislation, like other "hot button" issues, can lead to strong opinions being shared by those both for and against these proposals. I'd like to take this opportunity to point out some of the items in this legislation to help build awareness of many of the provisions contained in SF159.

First, the portion of the bill getting the most attention is the provision for Educational Savings Accounts (ESA's.) ESA's are different from vouchers in a number of ways and to call them a voucher is not an accurate portrayal of an ESA. An ESA is similar to a medical flex spending account that many individuals have as an employee benefit. Annually, you receive an amount of money that can be spent for educational-related purposes. These funds are only able to be spent at eligible entities and can be used for items beyond non-public school tuition such as tutoring or other educational needs or supplies. These are not vouchers because the funding does not directly flow to a non-public school.

In the current proposal, the ESA (Student First Scholarship) would only be available for students who are currently attending schools in Iowa that have been identified as consistently underperforming. Based on that categorization there are only 34 schools in the state that currently meet this designation. It is estimated that 10,000 students would be eligible from these 34 schools and that only a few hundred students in total would opt to take the ESA. The initial cost is estimated to range from two to three million dollars for the first few years of the program. This equates to less than 1/10 of 1 percent of the total monies the state of Iowa spends on K-12 education, which is over \$3 billion annually. To put that in perspective, it equates to 10 cents out of \$100, leaving \$99.90 for current programming. As currently proposed, no current families at Beckman Catholic would qualify for the ESA program.

The bill also has a provision to increase the current Iowa tax credit for tuition, textbooks, and other eligible expenses from \$250 per student to \$1,000 per student annually. Currently, families receive a tax credit for 25% of eligible expenses up to \$1,000 for a maximum of \$250 per child annually. The proposal would increase this to 50% of eligible expenses up to \$2,000 for a maximum of \$1,000 per child. If passed, families would see an increase of \$750 per student annually, as you would receive a \$1,000 tax credit per child starting on your 2021 Iowa state returns. The tax credit for tuition and textbooks has not been increased for many years, while we all know education expenses have increased. This tax credit is available for all families, not just those who enroll children in non-public schools.

The legislation also has provisions for a statewide data system for all K-12 public and nonpublic schools to utilize, charter school legislation, changes to open enrollment rules, and an increase in tax deductions for teachers who purchase classroom supplies from their own pockets. For more information on this legislation, please visit www.iowaace.org. The legislation has passed the Iowa

Senate and is now being considered by the Iowa House of Representatives. I would encourage you to contact your member of the Iowa House of Representatives to share your thoughts on this legislation.

Tax Credit—don't miss out when you file!

As you work to file your 2020 returns, please remember you are eligible for an Iowa Tax Credit of up to 25% of \$1,000 for each child for tuition, materials, and extracurricular fees you incur while attending Beckman Catholic. The maximum credit is \$250 per child. Be sure to remind your tax preparer of this credit or if you file on our own, be sure to utilize this credit as you file your Iowa taxes.

Lent

I also hope this Lent is an opportunity for you and your family to grow spiritually. In my weekly talk after Mass on Ash Wednesday, I shared with students that during the season of Lent we are called to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. We often focus on not eating meat on Fridays and fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, but there are other ways we can fast. We can fast from our phones or social media or from gossip or excluding others. We are also called to do things in Lent such as taking more time to pray and to help others through practices of prayer and almsgiving. Take advantage of opportunities offered at your local parish such as faith formation sessions, reconciliation, bible studies, or other opportunities to grow in your faith. Check your local bulletin for events taking place at your parish. If you haven't been attending Mass on a weekly basis due to COVID, maybe now's the time to return to Mass individually or as a family, or to attend daily Mass when your schedule allows. There are also great resources available for daily reflections both in print and online, such as Bishop Barron's daily gospel reflections and Dynamic Catholic's daily Lenten reflections. I will again be leading rosary in the chapel on Wednesday mornings during Lent at 7:40. Everyone is welcome.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Our 2nd semester conferences will be on March 2nd and 3rd. We are utilizing an online sign up once again for conferences as we received positive feedback on that process for fall conferences. We did make a slight change in that appointment times are 5 minutes instead of 10 minutes in length, but you can sign up for 2 consecutive 5 minute timeslots. Tuesday's conferences on the 2nd are from 4:30 to 8:00 in the Jasper Center and Wednesday's conferences from 3:30 to 7:00 will be online. Please refer to the email from mid-February for the sign up links. Pending weather cancellations/delays we intend to have copies of student course requests for the 2021-22 school year for current 8th through 11th graders available to parents at conferences.

Snow Day Information

At the February board meeting, we discussed plans for making up snow days. With the challenges this year has brought, the board is in favor of not extending the school year beyond May 28th, 2021. As of now, we will be making up snow days on April 1st, April 26th, and May 26th. As long as we do not have any another stretch of multiple days, those will be the only days made up this year.

Strategic Planning Update

Work continues on our strategic planning process. In February, we restarted the SWOT process. If you are not familiar with SWOT, it's an acronym that stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. Individuals were invited in February to read through information the strategic planning team compiled which was then used to complete a survey identifying areas of

strength, weakness, opportunities and threats. The information gathered will now be reviewed and analyzed by the strategic planning committee to formulate an overall strategic plan ready to be implemented this July. Thank you to all who have played a role so far in this process! Your contributions have been greatly appreciated.

ISASP Tests

We will again be administering the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) as our annual school-wide assessment of students. We will be following a similar format for administering these tests as we did last year. This year we will be testing on March 16th, 17th, 23rd and 24th. Students will take one test per day, and we will adjust the daily schedules to accommodate for testing. We will test from 10:15 to 11:00 for the math, reading, and science tests and from 8:15 to 10:15 for the writing test. Reading will be March 16th, math will be on the 17th, science will be on the 23rd, and writing will be on the 24th. All students in grades 7-11 take the math, reading and writing tests. Students in grades 8 and 10 take the science tests. We will meet with seniors during the 10:15 testing times to discuss graduation and other senior items, and they will be able to come in late on March 24th. Parents, we would ask that you try to avoid scheduling appointments on these dates to assist us in giving these tests more efficiently. We also encourage students to get a good night of sleep the evening prior to the test and to be sure to eat breakfast on the days of these assessments.

Baccalaureate 2021

Looking ahead to some end of year activities please be sure to put Baccalaureate on your calendar. This will be on Wednesday, May 5th in the evening. Juniors that did not work at the fall breakfast and their parents help serve dinner, and all seniors and parents are invited as guests that evening. There will be more information coming at a later date.

Tuition Levels for 2021-2022

The Board of Education set the 2021-2022 tuition levels at the February meeting as part of approving the 2021-2022 school budget. **Included is a \$150 increase in tuition and this amount does include the \$200 technology charge to continue to allow each student to have a laptop for school use.** We include that charge in tuition costs for STO recipients. The chart that follows lists tuition levels for next year:

	High School	Junior High
First Child	\$4,765	\$3,335
Second Child	\$4,570	\$3,335
Third and Subsequent Children	\$3,930	\$3,250

These amounts include all course fees with the exception of college credit fees. The NICC course fee, \$150 per course, and the St. Louis University courses will be \$195. There is also an \$85 graduation fee.

STO Information

In February we sent out information regarding this year's STO process. Please be sure to review that information. Application information is available on our website (www.beckmancatholic.org) or at <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>.

Applications must be submitted and finalized by April 15th and you will need your 2020 tax information completed in order to file. There will only be one round for STO this year, so it is extremely critical that you file by April 15th if you wish to receive STO funding for the 2021-22 school year.

For questions regarding the application process, you can chat online with a representative or contact FACTS by phone at 866-315-9262. FACTS representatives are available from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM Monday-Thursday and 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Fridays.

I cannot stress enough **how important** it is that Beckman families take advantage of the tuition assistance offered through this program. The pool of money that has been restricted to Beckman will go to families in other schools if we do not demonstrate need at least equal to our funds. Also, please remember that **anyone needing local assistance must apply to STO first.** Again, there will only be one round of funding this year, so please be sure to get your application submitted by the April 15th deadline. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Niki Burchard, our business manager.

Foreign Exchange Students

In the past, we have had families that generously opened their homes to Foreign Exchange Students from various spots in the world. As a teenager, we hosted three exchange students and it was a beneficial experience for me and my family. If you are interested in hosting a student but are not sure on how it works, don't hesitate to confer with some who have experienced the host family dynamics. If you need more information, please contact us. We do offer a tuition discount to families willing to host an exchange student for their own children, and we do have students interested in attending for the 2021-22 school year.

Educatius, one of our exchange student placement agencies, is also looking for a local host coordinator. Responsibilities include recruiting local families and serving as a contact and support person for students and host families. Online training, flexible hours, and the direct support of a regional manager are also available. For more information on this position, please contact Stephanie Burlison at 407-404-3311 or by email at Stephanie.Burlison@educatius.org

Music in our Schools Month

March is Music in Our Schools Month. I would like to take this time to thank Mr. Adam Denner and Mrs. Terry Slade for all they do to provide our students with access to quality music education. To celebrate Music in Our Schools Month, everyone is invited to the band and choir concert on Thursday, March 4th at 6:00 PM.

Our Spring Musical, "Godspell, Jr.," under the direction of Mr. Douglas Mackie and Mrs. Terry Slade will have performances on April 16th-18th. Everyone involved has put in a great deal of time and effort to put on a great show and I encourage you to attend. Watch for more information on the musical and tickets later this month.

I also want to thank our Music Parents Association for all of the time and efforts they put in to support our music programs. Their work allows access to additional resources that would not otherwise be possible for students involved in our music programs. They allow our students to have many opportunities to learn and share music both here at school and beyond. If you are interested in learning more about the MPA, what they do, or how you can get involved, please contact me for additional information.

Submitted by Marcel Kielkucki, Principal

CURRICULUM NEWS

Walk-Through Data

We have conducted over 100 walk-throughs since the beginning of the year. We forward the results of each walk-through to teachers to provide immediate feedback. Additionally, we periodically review aggregate walk-through data.

Course Registration Meeting

We had a great turn out for our course registration meeting in January. I have included highlights in the curriculum report. If you would like to review the content of the entire curriculum presentation, then please copy and paste the link below in your internet browser:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1jcL9fSU5W5uNVZ6D3M_4L3kPdr5jfb4KG0S_xgG6hjU/edit#slide=id.gc6f75fceb_0_0

College Credit Opportunities

Beckman offers 14 course opportunities that allow its students to earn college credit. These opportunities include concurrent classes through NICC and SLU in addition to AP and articulated courses.

College Prep Opportunities

For the 2020-2021, Beckman Catholic offers 39 units of college preparatory courses. If you would like to learn more about these offerings, copy and paste the link below in your internet browser:

<http://rai.admissions.iastate.edu/>

Persistence Rate

Persistence rate is the percentage of students who return to college at any institution for the second year. The statistics below compare Beckman's 2016 and 2017 graduating classes to the national averages for persistence rates.

School Year	Beckman average	vs	National average
15-16	87.5 %		75.5%
16-17	81.9%		75.6%
17-18	90.9%		76%

Also attached below is the Class of 2016 Postsecondary Enrollment and Progress. In the class of 2016, over 65% of students graduated from college in 4 years or less. The national average is 41%.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VhyUpFaaSambwTVtKJxWZhObS5KBkH-w/view?usp=sharing>

The chart below shows where most of Beckman Catholic students are attending college in the last 4 years:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_9s1Eue3E8eVBfa9Pvj4z9Ptptk673j_/view?usp=sharing

ISASP Practice/testing dates

We will have in-service on February 26 that will allow teachers to experiment with the test administration features and to complete the security training. We plan to utilize Blazer Time to allow students to acclimate themselves with ISASP tools and the question methodology for the assessment.

At this time, we plan on ISASP testing on March 16th, 17th, 23rd and 24th. The plan is to complete one test a day. Here is the breakdown:

March 16--Reading (Liturgy Schedule)

March 17--Math (Liturgy Schedule)

March 23--Science (Liturgy Schedule)

March 24--Writing (2 hour delay, psychology would meet as scheduled)

Submitted by Steve Lueck, assistant principal

STUDENT GOVERNMENT NEWS

Beckman students had a great time during Catholic Schools Week. We had many activities planned each day, such as faculty-student basketball game and Donut Days.

Submitted by Steve Lueck, assistant principal

BCHS CHAPLAIN NEWS

In February, a group of ten guys from Beckman, juniors and seniors, traveled to the Cathedral of St Raphael in Dubuque for what's known as a PITA dinner, an evening of prayer and discussion about following God's call, a vocation, particularly how to listen if God is calling a young man to the priesthood. Ten guys choosing to spend an evening of their busy lives listening and open to what God may be calling them to is an AMAZING thing (Beckman made up half the group there!). It says a lot about the quality of the young men at Beckman, and it is one sign that the Holy Spirit is moving and active in our students.

It is an affirmation of the work and mission of our schools, and the kind of culture we are building and have built that encourages our students to seriously think about not only what they want in life, but what God wants for them too. Thank you, parents, for supporting your children in listening to God's call. I especially want to thank the faculty and staff for promoting and witnessing to God's love and power which helps our students be open and free to be disciples of Jesus, wherever He is calling them. Pray for vocations, to the priesthood in particular, especially from Beckman. May the Lord continue to bless our work in forming our young people into saints for eternity!

Submitted by Fr. Tyler, BCHS Chaplain

NEWS FROM THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT **ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT FRUIT SALE PICK UP DATES**



I would like to thank everyone who purchased fruit from Beckman students during the month of February.

Pick up date: Monday, March 8th from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. – IN GYM ENTRY WAY
Beckman Catholic coaches and athletes will be in the gym to assist you in loading your fruit.

Submitted by Todd Troutman

MEET THE SPORTS MEDICINE TEAM

This year Beckman Catholic has a few new faces. Select Physical Therapy has partnered with Beckman Catholic to provide Athletic Training and Physical Therapy services. Emily Burkle is our new athletic trainer who will be at the school every day. Emily grew up in Delhi and currently resides in Dyersville with her husband Blake. Emily graduated from Clarke University with a Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training and minor in Biology. Emily specializes in sports medicine, emergency medicine, and dorsaVi functional assessments. Emily currently is a Nationally Registered EMT on BiCounty Ambulance here in town. Emily enjoys working with high school students because she can help them grow into young adults.

Holly Hunt is our school Physical Therapist. Holly grew up and currently resides in Cascade and is getting married in November to her fiancé Derek Lieurance. Holly graduated from Clarke University with her Doctorate of Physical Therapy and Bachelor of Art in Biology. Holly enjoys spending time with family and friends, exploring nature, hiking, and drinking coffee. Holly looks forward to coming to work every day striving to make a positive difference in other's lives. Holly enjoys working with all patient populations but has a special interest in sports medicine and neurological diagnoses.



SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT NEWS

Students and parents don't forget to check out Mrs. Atwater's school counseling website for announcements, scholarship information, college representatives, mental health resources, and more! <https://beckmancatholicschoolcounseling.weebly.com/>

Academic Awards Announced

The Academic Awards Assembly was held on Monday, February 22nd in the Beckman gymnasium.

The following seniors were awarded an ACADEMIC LETTER for earning a 3.5 cumulative grade point (or higher) after seven semesters: Kennedy Arens, Kayla Bonert, Emma Coohy, Rachel Friedmann, Kayla Funke, Megan Funke, Owen Gaul, Jackson Gehling, Nicholas Hageman, Leah Hansel, Jacob Hermsen, Morgan Hermsen, Sean Hinerichsen, Isabelle Kluesner, Makayla Koelker, Kailey Koopmann, Luke Koopmann, Leah Krantz, Melanie Lutgen, Laina Marbach, Nell McDermott, Madelyn Michel, Samuel Oberbroeckling, Savannah Oberbroeckling, Nicholas Offerman, Eli Pottebaum, Mason Recker, Sydnie Reitzler, Kylee Rueber, Tyler Salrin, Nathan Schaefer, Amber Scherbring, Maria Schilling, Keeley Schmitt, Macy Sigwarth, Andrew Soppe, Sydney Steger, Tyler Thole, Nathaniel Valant, Jadyn Welling, Elizabeth Wessel, Mason White, Shea Wilgenbusch

The following juniors were awarded an ACADEMIC LETTER for earning a 3.7 cumulative grade point (or higher) after five semesters: Aiden Bagge, Paula Braun, Mariah Cherne, Kaitlyn Clemen, Sheldon Corkery, Ty Fangman, Carter Gaul, Connor Grover, Annie Gulick, Joseph Hermsen, Evan Hoeger, Jasmyn Hoeger, Olivia Hogan, Gabrielle Kielkucki, Kamryn Klas, Erik Koopmann, Frances Koopmann, Jason Koopmann, Sadie Koopmann, Lane Kramer, Isabell Kruse, Jami Kruse, Jadyn Ludwig, Ben Lueck, Brian McGrane, Cassius McGrane, Valery Meyer, McKenna Milbert, Mitchell Naber, Elliot Naughton, Emma Oberbroeckling, Lauren Osterhaus, Auden Recker, Sydney Reiter, Nicholas Schmidt, Kiersten Schmitt, Samantha Schmitz, Grace Schuckert, Wyatt Schulte, Augustine Smith, Maria Sperfslage, Paige Ungs, Olivia Wegmann, Leah Wessels, Anya Westhoff

The following sophomores were awarded an ACADEMIC LETTER for earning a 3.85 cumulative grade point (or higher) after three semesters: Brady Bockenstedt, Ean Brown, Addisyn Burlage, Stephanie Cortes, Gavin Davis, Hunter Douglas, John Paul Grebner, Grace Hinerichsen, Elisabeth Kerper, Sage Klostermann, Elizabeth Knipper, Samuel Krapfl, Jenna Lansing, Mia Maiers, Hannah McDermott, Claire Olberding, Shelby Pirc, Spencer Rea, Ellie Recker, Evelyn Sadler, Trista Schmidt, Joseph Schneider, Shea Steffen, Tessa Tauke, Jordan Thier, Leah Thier, Adam Wedewer, Isaac Westhoff, Elyse White

The following freshmen were awarded an ACADEMIC LETTER for earning a 4.0 cumulative grade point (or higher) after one semester: Teresa Braun, Maria Dudzik, Emerson Kramer, Maria Kruse,

Isabel Lutgen, Ty Lynch, Julia Mertz, Hope Naber, Maxwell Oberbroeckling, Caitlin Petsche, Sarah Roling, Andrew Salrin, Kelly Snyder

The **Sister Mary Clare Miller scholarship** was given to five Beckman Catholic juniors. This scholarship was voted on by the staff members of Beckman. They are asked to choose students who demonstrate outstanding academic efforts and show characteristics of service, respect, responsibility, integrity, and initiative. The candidates chosen for the Sister Mary Clare scholarship were Conner Grover, Jasmyn Hoeger, Jami Kruse, Sydney Reiter, and Maria Sperfslage. Congratulations!



Pictured above: Jami Kruse, Maria Sperfslage, Sydney Reiter and Jasmyn Hoeger (absent from photo Conner Grover)

Submitted by Mackenzie Atwater, school counselor

ATTENTION PARENTS OF INCOMING 7TH AND 12TH GRADE

The Iowa Department of Public Health has made changes to the Iowa Immunization law for incoming 7th and 12th grade students. This change requires that all students entering 7th grade have both a Meningococcal vaccine (MCV4) and a Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis/whooping cough) booster before school starts this fall.

For all students entering 12th grade, the Meningococcal vaccine (MCV4) is required before school starts this fall.

There will be no grace/extension period for the implementation of this requirement. Please bring an updated immunization card to school. These immunizations should be scheduled soon since these requirements affect many students in this district. Doctor's offices fill up quickly during the month of July and August. Your child may have to have a physical if they haven't seen a doctor for a while. Avoid the back-to-school stress by setting up an appointment this spring or early summer.

Incoming 9th grade students are required to have a dental health screening before entering school in the fall. If your child has an appointment scheduled with a dentist within the next few months, have the

dentist complete the dental screening form. The form can be faxed to Beckman at 563-875-7242 or brought to school.

If you have any questions on the above requirements, feel free to contact the school nurse at Beckman.

Beckman had a great turn out for the American Red Cross Blood Drive. Thank you to the parents and students who donated blood.

Submitted by Jolene Bagge BSN, RN

JSHS NEWS

Beckman Catholic Science Students Share Research at Virtual Iowa Junior Science and Humanities Symposium

The 2021 Iowa Regional Junior Science and Humanities Symposium accepted research projects for a scholarship competition to be held March 1st and 2nd. The symposium is sponsored by the University of Iowa and the Belin Blank Center. Three Beckman Catholic High School projects were among the ten chosen from across Iowa for this year's virtual event. Tyler Salrin, Jasmyn Hoeger, and Lauren Cherne will represent Beckman.

- Tyler will present his research entitled, "Design of Raman Spectrometer for Analysis of Graphitized Sucrose on Silicon Dioxide"
- Jasmyn's work investigated a novel media for use in culturing mammalian cells.
- Lauren will present her paper, "Soil Quality Analysis of Glyphosate Alternatives"

Submitted by Cheryl Kluesner

FFA NEWS

Beckman Catholic FFA has been extremely busy during the month of February. Highlights include:

Six students attended the Iowa FFA Legislative Symposium in Des Moines. Students had the opportunity to interact with Senator Carrie Koelker and Shannon Lundgren at the capital as well as lobby for Agricultural Education in Iowa.

February 3rd was District Review Night in Decorah. Beckman was represented by 2021-22 District Officer candidates Jasmyn Hoeger, Isabell Kruse, Tessa Tauke and Grace Helle who took tests, had record books evaluated, and participated in numerous interviews. Grace Helle was balloted as District Reporter candidate and Jasmyn Hoeger was balloted as subdistrict Vice President. They will present speeches on March 13th. Also that evening, five students submitted Iowa FFA Degree applications which are the highest degree the state can bestow upon its members. Approved Iowa Degrees that will be presented on stage at State FFA Convention on April 20th in Des Moines were Kayla Bonert, Mason Recker, Jasmyn Hoeger, Isabell Kruse and Sydney Reiter.

February 23 was Subdistrict FFA Contest. Beckman was represented by:

Kayla Bonert- Ag Broadcasting
Grace Helle- Extemp. Speaking
Sage Klostermann- Ag Sales

Drew Thier- Creed Speaking

February 27th, was State FFA Proficiency judging in Ankeny. Beckman Catholic submitted 22 applications to state. Proficiency applications are based on students SAE's. All 1st and 2nd place winners will be recognized on state at the Iowa FFA Convention in April, stay tuned for results.

- Lauren Cherne- Vegetable Production Placement
- Carter Gaul- Goat Production Entrepreneurship
- John Paul Grebner- Poultry Production Placement
- Grace Helle- Agriscience Research Plant Systems
- Jasmyn Hoeger- Agriscience Research Animal Systems
- Sage Klostermann- Ag Mechanics Design and Fabrication Entrepreneurship
- Libby Knipper- Ag Sales Placement
- Jay Loeffelholz- Dairy Production Placement
- Ben Lueck- Beef Production Entrepreneurship
- Laina Marbach- Ag Processing Entrepreneurship
- Olivia Mensen- Swine Production Entrepreneurship
- Jackson Oberbroeckling- Landscape Management Placement
- Spencer Rea- Outdoor Recreation Placement
- Ellie Recker- Diversified Horticulture Placement
- Mason Recker- Diversified Agriculture Placement
- Joe Schneider- Environmental and Natural Resource Management Placement
- Grace Schuckert- Diversified Livestock Production Placement
- Tessa Tauke- Agriscience Research Integrated Systems
- Leah Thier- Equine Science Placement
- Jordan Thier- Ag Services Placement
- Tyler Thole- Beef Production Placement
- Charley Wulfekuhle- Swine Placement

February 22-27 was National FFA week and students planned and hosted a variety of activities including daily trivia and staff luncheon.

As FFA students look to March, the month will also be busy with District Convention which has 57 members participating in contests, Officer Applications due, Delaware County Ag Leaders Luncheon, officer elections and State Agriscience Fair as well as planning for the Annual Parent Member Banquet.

FFA Banquet formal invitations will be mailed soon. The banquet will be held on Monday, April 5th at Awards and will be presented as well as a state convention contest showcase after the banquet featuring Agriscience Fair projects, Ag Communications and Marketing Plan. We look forward to showcasing the accomplishments of the Beckman Catholic FFA chapter.

In addition, the month of March will be unique in that students will have the regular monthly meeting on March 4th at 7:30 a.m. and then they will have officer elections on March 22nd at 7 p.m. in the auditorium.

Submitted by Dawn Mausser, FFA instructor

MATH DEPARTMENT NEWS

On February 10th, eight students competed in the American Math Contest. The eight students were Nathan Schaefer, Nick Hageman, Owen Gaul, Savannah Oberbroeckling, Tyler Salrin, John Paul Grebner, Spencer Rea, and Joseph Schneider. We are awaiting the results of how our students did for our region and if they will move on to the next round of competition.

On the week of March 14th, we will be celebrating Pi Day. The Math Club is planning a Pi themed math contest on Monday, March 15th.

We are looking into when we will have the Trig-Star contest provided by our local land surveyors. As well as an in-school version of the Platteville Math contest that is typically in the fall. More to come.

Submitted by Matt Naber Beckman math and science teacher

JUNIOR HIGH NEWS

Upcoming JH Events

- **Friday, March 26th**, will be the JH Game Night from 6:00 – 9:00 pm. This is a night for Beckman JH students to come and participate in team tournaments (basketball, volleyball, ping pong), and to play games (ping pong, video games). Sign up for tournaments with Mr. Naber or on the JH bulletin board. There will be no snacks or drinks this year due to COVID restrictions. Please bring a water bottle to refill throughout the night. This is held in the Jasper Center, commons, and library. Doors will open at 5:30 pm. Admission is \$3. Students must be picked up from the Beckman parking lot.
- There will be no JH Spring Dance due to COVID restrictions.

Submitted by Matt Naber, Beckman Math and Science Teacher

“LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION” LENTEN RETREAT

On the morning of March 10, area 6th grade students will participate in a Lenten retreat hosted at Beckman titled, "Lead Us Not Into Temptation." Faculty members, Ron Broxson and Beth Derr, have planned a retreat based on Jesus' 40 days of fasting and prayer in the desert when he was tempted by the devil. Speakers and activities will help personalize the retreat theme for retreat participants. High school students will assist as small group leaders.

Submitted by Beth Derr

SPEECH TEAM NEWS

Beckman Catholic large group speech team competed virtually at Cascade on January 22th, where the team competed in the group improvisation category and received a one rating. This group advanced to state competition on February 6 and received a two rating. Congratulations to Gabby Kielkucki and Anya Westhoff for their efforts!

Submitted by Margaret Hogan, speech coach

BAND NEWS

It is MIOSM this month! Music in our Schools Month (MIOSM) is an important time to acknowledge and celebrate the honor and privilege our students has to be supported in their musical endeavors.

Music is such an integral part of life and teaches many life skills, such as teamwork, cooperation, confidence, flexibility, and the joy of community. These programs in our schools cannot happen with

support from the whole community and from families, just as music can't happen without the ensemble working together. This is our month to celebrate this success!

To celebrate Music in Our Schools Month, the Beckman Bands and Choirs will host a concert in three parts in the competition gym. It will feature musicians from Xavier and Beckman, and quite a wide variety of different music.

6:00: 5-8th Bands

6:30: All Choirs

7:15: H.S. Jazz and Concert Band

We look forward to seeing you there or via livestream!

Upcoming Events

- Thursday, March 4th - Music In Our Schools Month Band and Choir Concert in Three Parts, Main Gym (Xavier and Beckman Bands, Beckman Choirs)
 - 6:00--5th, 6th, 7th-8th Bands. (Call time 5:30)
 - 6:30-- Choirs
 - 7:15-- H.S. Jazz and Concert Bands (Call time 6:30)
 - Enter through music hall due to ongoing concert
- Saturday, March 13th - St. Patrick's Day Parade
 - Call Time 11:30, Band Room
- Saturday, April 17th - Virtual State Solo / Small Ensemble Festival
 - Videos due before April 14th
- Wednesday, May 5th - Baccalaureate
- Wednesday, May 12th - Junior High and High School Band Spring Concert at 5:45pm in the Auditorium
- Sunday, May 16th - Graduation
- Sunday, June 6th- Corpus Christi @ Basilica
Submitted by Adam Denner director of bands

CHOIR NEWS



March is Music in Our Schools Month. This year's theme is "Sing From Your Heart." Students all over the world are learning the same song to perform at their March concerts.

Beckman's concert is Thursday, March 4 in the gym. St. Francis Xavier band and 6th grade choir will be joining us. Due to COVID restrictions, the concert is divided into three parts: 5 - 8 bands will perform at 6:00 pm, choirs at 6:30 pm, and high school bands at 7:15. These performances will be livestreamed. For those attending the concert, we ask that you socially distance and wear masks.

Submitted by Terry Slade, choir director

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Blazer Saver Coupon Books

Book sales begin on March 25th and will run until April 12th this year. Currently I have Disc Golf, JH Student Council, NCYC, Wrestling and Boy's Golf organizations selling them. The books are \$20 each and have over \$600 in savings available. If you like to golf, you will make the \$20 bucks back by using the 4- \$5 off green fees at Dyersville Golf and Country Club, save \$25 on a recliner at Furniture-land, get 4 - Small 1 topping pizzas at Happy Joe's for free when you buy a large, and receive 4 - 10% off your entire purchase at JR Fashions just to name a few deals we have in store for you. You will be able to get these books from students in the above organizations or order them online at the following link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeqOL64Q-sFmayqY8J9AhYcFf9bxsOzZ2VH7_JAZy_BS2NEzQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0&gxids=7628 - link is also available under Development and Blazer Saver Coupon Book 2021)

Remember that the organizations and students selling these books profit extremely from the sale of each book, so please help them raise the funds they need for their groups and shop local while doing so!!!! A big thank you goes out to all of the businesses that provide the discounts!

Bracket Buster Raffle

Parents, Approximately 50% of you have requested tickets so far and we could not be more appreciative. Thank you for taking the time to reach out to your friends and family to see if they would like a ticket or for your purchase of some of them. This raffle is very important because we net approximately \$30,000 from it if we sell out. Now that we can't mail tickets out, it is even more crucial that our families pitch in. We ask that each family attempts to sell 6 Bracket Buster (previously March Madness Raffle Tickets.)

Please fill out a short form out and let us know how many tickets you would like to try and sell. Once you submit your amount and fill this out, I will prepare them and send them home with the child of your choice. I will email your son or daughter when they are ready for pick up and they can pick them up in the office.

Copy and follow this link to claim your tickets.

Link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeC5KhTx34D1BnJhEaYudiAxYy9v9yvfJLLSgWlyQ4I1V-PoA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0&gxids=7628>

Please remember that every dollar raised from this raffle does benefit all of our families even without the direct payouts. The more money that we are able to fundraise, the better chance we have at not seeing things like our tuition increase. Please do not discard any unsold tickets! If you do have any unsold, please return them to Beckman for redistribution by March 15th.

They are \$20 a piece this year. Prize Payout is \$6,300.

Dueling Pianos

ORDER YOUR TICKETS TODAY

Join us on Saturday, June 12th, 2021 in the Jasper Center for our rescheduled Dueling Pianos Event. Tickets are only \$25 each; this includes food from our sponsors so come hungry. Pizza, sweets, and sandwiches will all be available and then some for free. A cash bar will also be available. You must be 19 to attend. Doors open at 6:30, and the duel begins at 8, so don't be late!

The website is up and running so if you would like to get a group together and purchase tickets, please go online and order today! Here is the link: <http://bidpal.net/bchsdp2021>

If you previously had tickets and did not request a refund, your tickets will be honored at the event. Kristie will be reaching out this month to touch base and see if the new date works for you.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR EVENT

We could use help in the following areas: registration, host/hostess, bartenders, food management/replenishing, clean-up crew on Saturday/Sunday and waiter/waitresses. Please copy and paste the follow the link to sign up early:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScx8BLxqRURZn-IG43u8O9_e6KaNymkiSLaYJiB8Anbd_iJ9Q/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0&gxids=7628.

- link is also available under Development and Dueling Pianos 2021

If you are able to help some of the positions only require a couple hours of work beforehand so you are more than welcome to stay and enjoy the show for free as well.

SILENT AUCTION INFO FOR EVENT

Preview Auction Items the week before

Opens for bidding on Wednesday, June 9th at 10 AM

Closes on Saturday, June 12th at 9 PM

Donations are still being taken for Silent Auction. If you would like to contribute please reach out to Kristie 563-875-7188 or email her at kthier@beckmancatholic.org.

Thank you all for everything you do for BCHS!!!!

Submitted by Kristie Thier, Fundraising Coordinator

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Annual Appeal

The Archbishop Beckman Annual Appeal letters have been mailed for this year. If you haven't received a letter, please contact Larry Wilson or Kristie Thier at Beckman. We had a good response to last year's Appeal, but we didn't quite reach our goal. We are confident that with everyone's help, we will be able to reach our goal of \$200,000 this year. If you are looking to do something good with your stimulus check, why not think of sending some of it to Beckman. All of our Annual Appeal gifts go into the operating funds of Beckman. The more we raise, the more ability we have to keep tuition affordable. Thank you for your generosity to Beckman Catholic High School.

CARES Act

The CARES act of 2020 has been extended into 2021. This means that you again are entitled to claim a \$300 charitable donation deduction even if you don't itemize. The COVID relief legislation also establishes a \$600 deduction for couples filing jointly who do not itemize. The new law also extends

for 2021 the deductions of charitable donations for people who itemize, keeping it at 100% of adjusted gross income (instead of reverting to 60%). For corporations charitable giving, it remains at 25% for 2021 (instead of reverting back to 10%). I hope you took advantage of these deductions in 2020 and will again in 2021.

Submitted by Larry Wilson, Development Director

MUSICAL NEWS

Spring Musical.... **“Godspell Jr.”**

After the devastating let down of our production last spring, we have rebounded and are very excited to showcase our extremely talented cast in our presentation of this year’s show **“Godspell Jr.”** Prepare for a timeless tale of friendship, loyalty, and love, all based on the original Broadway Musical that inspired a generation. Our amazing students will sing, dance, and act out the parables, primarily the book of Matthew, with their storytelling techniques, along with a hefty dose of comedic timing. This is absolutely a perfect show for the entire family.

Rehearsals are underway and opening night is set for Friday April 16th at 7:00 PM with an additional shows set for Saturday April 17th at 7:00 PM and a Sunday matinee on the 18th at 3:00. Ticket details for our in-person seating will follow; we are also planning to do live-streaming shows for each performance. We feel blessed to be able to offer you this show, and our cast is working hard, so we hope you will make a plan to enjoy one of these performances.

The creative team putting together this production:

Teresa Slade – Director/Music Director

Douglas Mackie- Director /Choreographer

Jeff Jacque- Assistant

Student Directors – Olivia Wegmann, Jacyn Ludwig , Paige Ungs.

Submitted by Jeff Jacque director

PROM/POST PROM

The 2021 Prom and Post Prom is fast approaching! Planning has already begun! Please see attached flyers with more information.

Submitted by Lori Wessels and Diane Tauke



Irish Blessing

**May St. Patrick guard you wherever you go,
and guide you in whatever you do –
and may his loving protection be a blessing to you always.**