

October School Highlights

10/20/2026

Bedford Elementary School Board



Spirit Week 2026

Social
Emotional
Development

Student
Experience

- Bedford Elementary School joined in the Homecoming 2026 traditions with Spirit Week from September 14th–18th. Students and staff showed their school spirit by participating in theme days including Pajama Day, Decades Day, Favorite Sports Team Day, Patriotic Day, and Blue and White Day.



October School Highlights

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Reading Under the Lights

Student Experience

Preparing for the Future

Social Emotional Development

Academic Performance

Extracurricular Activities

- The annual Reading Under the Lights event was held on September 23rd at the BHS football stadium. Families enjoyed reading together on the field, participating in literacy activities, and taking part in a basket raffle. The event provided a fun evening for families to celebrate reading together.



Bison Buddies Visit

Student Experience

Academic Performance

Social Emotional Development

- On September 23rd, Bison Buddies visited 1st grade classrooms for a social-emotional learning lesson focused on getting to know others and building positive peer relationships. Students participated in a "Mix, Freeze, Pair" activity, where they moved around the room to music, partnered with classmates, and answered questions about themselves.

*Continued on next page.

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- The Bison Buddies also read *Peanut Butter and Cupcake* and led a discussion about things that go together, giving students a chance to share their own ideas and make connections. The lesson provided practice with listening, speaking, taking turns, and interacting positively with peers. 1st grade students enjoyed the visit and are looking forward to future lessons with the Bison Buddies.
- 



Custodian Appreciation Day



- October 2nd was Custodian Appreciation Day, and students throughout Bedford Elementary found a variety of ways to show their appreciation for the staff members who work each day to keep the building clean and welcoming. One group of students decorated a door near their hallway with kind words and messages describing what they appreciate about their custodian.



October School Highlights

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Environmental Days

Student
Experience

Preparing for
the Future

Academic
Performance

- Each grade level at Bedford Elementary is participating in a fall Environmental Day. On September 25th, 2nd grade students learned about hibernation, the water cycle, and seed distribution with help from Mrs. Bowser's high school science students.



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Fire Prevention Week

Preparing for
the Future

Student
Experience



- During Fire Prevention Week, Bedford Fire Company 31 joined Bedford Elementary on October 5th to observe our monthly fire drill. Firefighters then presented to Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1st grade students about fire safety in the home and demonstrated their equipment and gear. Students ended the visit by receiving fire hats and becoming honorary firefighters.



Bullying Prevention Week

Student
Experience

Preparing for
the Future

Social
Emotional
Development

- Bedford Elementary celebrated Bullying Prevention Week with activities focused on kindness, inclusion, and standing up against bullying. Organized by Caroline Foster, the week included kindness-themed artwork, a 5th grade kindness quilt, “Chalk the Walk with Kindness,” and a “Give Bullying the BOOT!” spirit day. Students wrapped up the week by wearing orange to show their support for kindness and inclusion. The week was a great reminder that small acts of kindness can make a big difference.



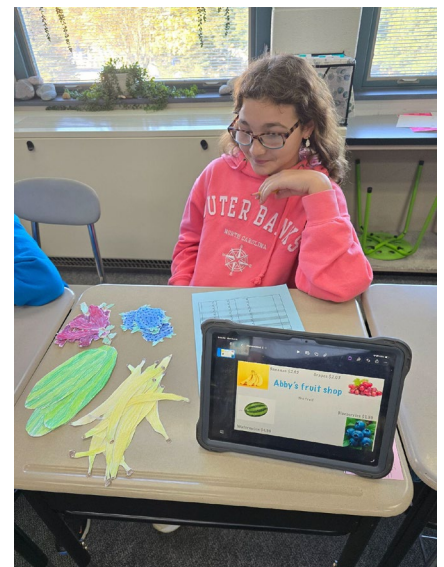
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Classroom Fun



- “Letters Across Generations” is a pen pal program connecting Mrs. Decker’s 5th grade students with attendees of the Bedford Senior Center. Each month, students will write letters on a variety of topics, sharing stories and everyday experiences while building connections across generations. The program is designed to spread kindness, create meaningful relationships, and show how something as simple as a letter can brighten someone’s day.
- In Mrs. Miller’s 5th grade class, students are applying their skills with adding and subtracting decimals through a food mall simulation. Students create food and drink products, work within a budget, and keep track of a “checking account” while taking turns as customers and shop owners. The activity gives students a real-life activity to practice writing checks, making purchases, and managing money.



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- 1st graders in Miss Straub's class learned all about apples through a combination of reading, writing, and hands-on learning. Students used what they learned to complete an informational writing project and also made homemade applesauce. They finished the activity by tasting their creation, which received mixed reviews from the class!



Bison Buzz Podcast



- Bison Buzz* is a weekly podcast designed to keep Bedford Elementary parents, staff, and students informed, connected, and up to date on all the exciting things happening in our school community!
- Each episode features four segments:
 - Bison Brags** – Celebrating student achievements, accomplishments, and positive moments.
 - Between the Horns** – Sharing important school news, announcements, and updates.
 - Buzzing Ahead** – Looking forward to upcoming events, activities, and important dates.
 - Bison Spotlight** – Highlighting the amazing students, staff, and programs that make our school special.

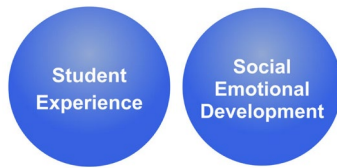


Scan the QR Code to check it out!

October School Highlights

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Breast Cancer Awareness Month



- During Breast Cancer Awareness Month, BEST in Action is once again raising money for the Pink Ribbon Fund. This year, students are taking part in three weeks of activities. On October 14th, students donated \$1 to create a ribbon honoring a family member or friend affected by breast cancer, and the ribbons were displayed outside the office. That activity raised \$414. Upcoming events include Hat Day on October 21st and Pink Ribbon Tattoo Day on October 29th.



Upcoming Events

BEST in Action
is hosting 3 special events to raise money for the Bedford County Pink Ribbon Fund in honor of Jennifer Hillenbrand.

Each \$1 donation will help support this meaningful cause while giving our students an opportunity to make a difference in our community.

- 1 Pink Ribbons of Love & Hope**
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13TH
\$1.00 per ribbon
Purchase a pink ribbon for \$1 and write the name of someone special you would like to honor. Each ribbon will be displayed in our school hallway as a symbol of love, hope, and support.
Every name matters!
- 2 Hat Day**
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21ST
\$1.00 donation
Wear your favorite hat to school and help us raise money for this important cause!
- 3 Pink Tattoos**
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29TH
\$1.00 each
Show your support by getting a Bison pink tattoo!

Together, we can fill our school with **PINK, HOPE and LOVE!**

Thank you for helping BEST in Action make a difference in the lives of others!

BEDFORD ELEMENTARY
VETERANS DAY LUNCHESES
NOVEMBER 3, 4, & 5

We look forward to honoring our Veterans!

The HERD Starts Here!

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Bedford Middle School



September 11th



- On 9/10 and 9/11, 7th grade students watched the new documentary: *9/11: 25 Years Later*. The new documentary visited the history of September 11, 2001 and people's firsthand accounts of the World Trade Center events. It examined their escape after the crash and the people they met along the way. It also visited eye witnesses from the Pentagon and Flight 93.
- In addition, for 9/11, 8th grade students shared stories they've heard from their parents and/or relatives. Mr. Rose explained how a lot of music came out after 9/11, and how it served as a way for people to mourn, remember the lost, and help them heal. He presented four such songs and gave students the last couple of minutes of class to write their thoughts, feelings, and emotions about the videos and events of 9/11. The four songs were "Into the Fire" by Bruce Springsteen, dealing with the first responders who went back into the buildings and never came out. "Let's Roll" by Neil Young about the heroes of Flight 93. "Where Were You When the World Stopped Turning" by Alan Jackson. And "American Soldier" by Toby Keith, about family members having to go off to war.
- Students and staff honored those lost with a moment of silence and many wore red, white, and blue in remembrance of 9/11.

*Photos on next page.

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Spirit Week 2026

Student
Experience

Social
Emotional
Development

- Bedford Middle School joined in the Homecoming 2026 Traditions with Spirit Week September 14th-18th. The students and staff showed their school spirit, got creative and participated in a week filled with fun and laughter. On Pop Icon Day, as a tribute to Mr. Harrold celebrating his 50th birthday, the 7th Grade Team dressed like him. Theme days included Cozy PJ Day, Pop Culture Day, Adam Sandler Day, Country or Country Club Day, and Blue & White Day.

*Photos continued on next page.



October School Highlights

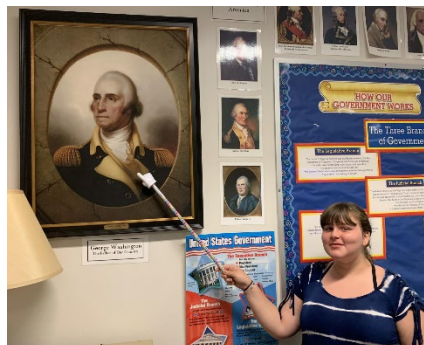
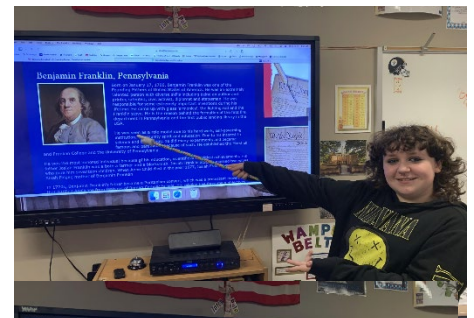
10/20/2026



Constitution Day



- On September 17th (Constitution Day), 8th grade students in Mr. Rose's Early American History class participated in activities celebrating the 239th anniversary of the Constitution. Mr. Rose gave a brief history of why the Constitution was presented. Students worked in small groups to quickly form a rough generalization of the seven Articles of the Constitution, which they then presented to their classmates. Each student was then assigned one of the 27 Amendments, and they had to quickly come up with a basic example and explanation of what their amendment meant. The importance of the Bill of Rights was explained and analyzed as well.



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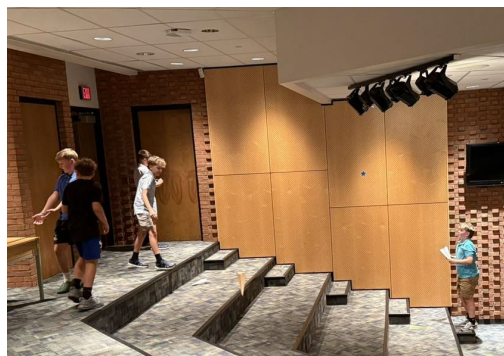
First Club Days of 2026

Student
Experience

Social
Emotional
Development

Preparing for
the Future

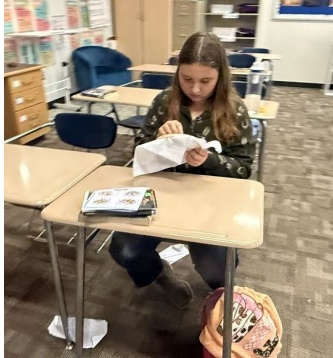
- Bedford Middle School has hosted three club days this school year. With a total of 23 clubs to choose from, students can enjoy a wide variety of activities including embroidery, tennis, card games, Legos, guitars, and historical movies. Our newest club this year is the Archery Club. As part of the Archery Club, students have focused on tying knots, archery stance, and target practice.



*Photos continued on next page.

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Hunter Safety 2026

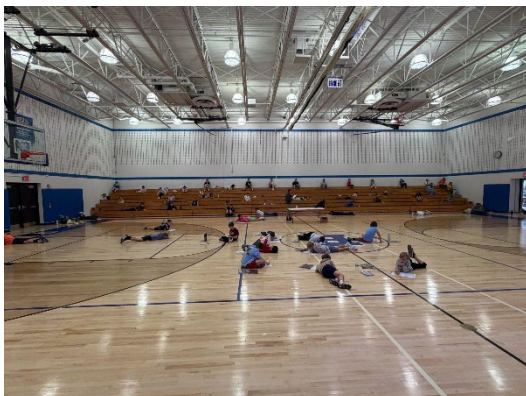
Preparing for
the Future

Academic
Performance

Student
Experience

Social
Emotional
Development

- During late September over a three-day period, the 6th graders at BMS had the opportunity to take the Hunter/Trapper Education course in order to be certified to hunt in PA. There were 102 graduates this year. Mr. Harrold and Mr. Barnes instructed the students on topics ranging from the parts of firearms and bows, to tree stand hunting and trapping basics.



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New Student Get-Together

Student
Experience

Social
Emotional
Development

- Our annual New Student Get-Together was held on September 25th in the library. Students played a bingo game and enjoyed time getting to know one another. We had 18 students attend the New Student Get Together.



Flight 93 Memorial - Presentation

Student
Experience

Social
Emotional
Development

Preparing for
the Future

Academic
Performance

- On October 1st, ten Bedford Middle School students, along with Mrs. Felix and Mrs. Rose, were invited to the Bedford Area Senior Center to attend a presentation about the Flight 93 National Memorial. Mr. Stephen Clark, the Superintendent of the National Park Service of Western Pennsylvania, was the guest speaker, and he gave each member of the audience a Flight 93 Memorial commemorative coin.



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Youth Band Night

Preparing for
the Future

Student
Experience

Social
Emotional
Development

Extracurricular
Activities

- This year, 23 students from grades 6–8 had the opportunity to perform alongside the Bedford High School Marching Band during pregame and in the stands during the football game. Our BMS students also proudly performed the BMS Fight Song on their own during the game.
- All 23 students did an awesome job representing the Bedford Middle School Band! We are extremely proud of their hard work, confidence, and accomplishments, and we look forward to seeing them continue to grow as musicians.



September Bison Awards

Social
Emotional
Development

Preparing for
the Future

- Three students were recently recognized with Bison Awards in September at Bedford Middle School. To be eligible for the award you must be “caught” doing a Random Act of Kindness. 22 students were included and 3 winners were chosen in this drawing. The winners received a \$25.00 gift card to Wal-Mart.



Pictured L-R Cannon Barkman (6th Grade), Duke Moyer (7th Grade), Silas Weber (8th Grade) and Officer Phil Vaught.

October School Highlights

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Fire Prevention Week

Student
Experience

Preparing for
the Future

Social
Emotional
Development

- On October 5th, the Bedford Fire Department visited BMS to assist with the monthly fire drill and presented information regarding fire safety to Mrs. Hannah Clites' classroom. Thank you to the Bedford Fire Department for taking time to make sure our students and staff are well prepared.



BMS Fall Cookout

Student
Experience

Social
Emotional
Development

- We were fortunate to have beautiful weather for our Fall Cookout on October 7th. Students ate lunch outside and enjoyed some extra time to participate in activities such as soccer, 9-square, and volleyball. Students enjoyed foods such as hamburgers, hot dogs, and corn. Thank you to Nutrition Inc. and Food Service for the extra effort to make the cookout a success for all students!

*Photos continued on next page.



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Novel Project

Preparing for
the Future

Student
Experience

Academic
Performance

Social
Emotional
Development

- Mrs. Dunn's 6th grade ELA class recently read the novel, *Summer of the Monkeys* by Wilson Rawls. In the novel, the main character of the story fondly eats pie made by his grandmother. Marissa Sechler made a pie and shared the process with the class. The pie was made with help from her mother using a recipe of her great-grandmother's.



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BMS Fall Social

Student
Experience

Social
Emotional
Development

Preparing for
the Future

- Bedford Middle School hosted the first social of the year on October 9, 2026. The Fall Social offered activities such as a dance, tennis, whiffle ball, volleyball, computer games, fishing, and a quiet room to name a few. Students had a great time and we were lucky to have excellent weather for the students to enjoy outdoor activities as well.



Upcoming Events:



STUFF THE BUS

for the **BISON**

WEEKEND BACKPACK PROGRAM



NOVEMBER 14, 2026
FROM 9 AM TO 4 PM

Go to www.weis4school.com and link your rewards card to the Bedford Area School District. The Bison Weekend Backpack Program will earn rewards too!

Bedford Middle School Musical

The Wizard of OZ



COURAGE
KINDNESS
FRIENDSHIP
LEADS THE WAY

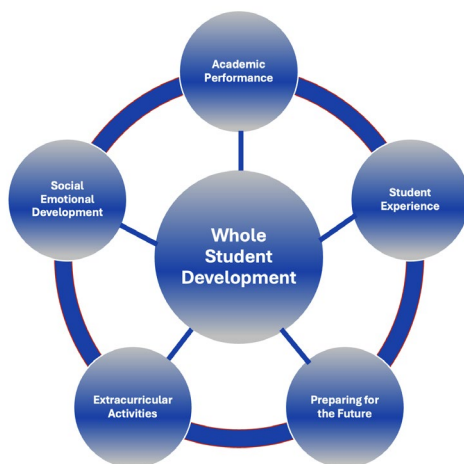
November 13-15, 2026
BHS Auditorium

Follow the yellow brick road to an unforgettable performance!

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Bedford High School



Bedford Celebrates Homecoming



- Pictures from the Homecoming Pep Rally and Dance



October School Highlights

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Homecoming Decorators - Student Council



Homecoming Court



Homecoming Queen, Lily Dague
Homecoming King, Cuyler Hale

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September Bison Buddies Visit



- National Honor Society kicked off its first Bison Buddies visit of the school year with the 1st grade students at Bedford Elementary School on September 23rd.
- The Buddies read *Peanut Butter & Cupcake*, a heartwarming story about friendship, kindness, and finding the perfect friend. After reading together, students got to know their Buddies better by playing a “Share Your Favorite” version of musical chairs. They finished their time together by creating their very own “Favorite Pairing” art and writing activity, coming up with fun pairs that belong together.



Photo 1: Lara Bulger reads to Mrs. Wissinger's class



Photo 2: Ben Schrock helps a little buddy



Photo 3: Allison Dunn participates in musical favorite

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Challenge Program Assembly Awards \$3000 to BHS Students



- The Challenge Program held its annual kickoff assembly at BHS on September 24th. During the assembly, students who excelled in the areas of Academic Excellence, Academic Improvement, STEM, Attendance, or Community Service were awarded \$200 for their efforts last school year. The program awarded \$3000 to our junior and senior students. We would like to thank The Challenge Program and our Program Sponsors: Hometown Bank of PA and Corle Building Systems.



Award Winners: Row 1: Sophia Genditzki, Olivia Ritchey, Alivia Snyder
Row 2: Hannah Corle (Corle Building Systems), Ethan Witt, Caydyn Sharp, Madison Torbet-Clapper, Landon Winters, Stephanie Cessna (Hometown Bank), Maura Foor (Hometown Bank).
Not Pictured: Westen Nicodemus and Sophia Raymond



Student Volunteers: Tucker Boone, Holly Tran, and Carter Kozelec

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2026 Club & Activity Fair



- The second annual BHS Club & Activity Fair was held September 23rd and 24th in the BHS gym, giving students the opportunity to discover new ways to get involved in their school community.
- Clubs and organizations filled the BHS gym with tables and displays, giving students the chance to explore each group, ask questions, meet current members, and sign up for more information. From service and academic organizations to the arts and extracurricular activities, the fair highlighted the wide variety of ways students can become involved at BHS.
- By the end of the second day, the event was a clear success, with more than 100 students expressing interest in joining at least one club or activity. The strong turnout reflected students' enthusiasm for getting involved, meeting new people, and becoming an active part of the BHS community.



Photo 1: Lucy Redinger,
Kenlyn Huffman, Eden Becker,
Sophia Dehaven



Photo 2: Coleton Clark,
Brittian Wilt



Photo 3: Thomas Blackburn,
Sean Cessna, Ethan Witt

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2026 NHS Chapter of Distinction Award



- Bedford High School's National Honor Society has been recognized as an NHS Chapter of Distinction, a national honor recognizing chapters for excellence in leadership, service, student governance, and chapter operations. To earn the recognition, the BHS chapter completed a comprehensive review of its operations and activities. The process included an audit of chapter practices, validation by school leadership, the NHS adviser, and student officers, as well as an application highlighting areas of community service and literacy through the Bison Buddies program.



BHS visits the PA Renaissance Faire



- BHS students enjoyed spending the day at the PA Renaissance Faire on Oct. 1st in Manheim. Students enjoyed dressing up and attending multiple Renaissance-themed events. Highlights included a bagpipe band complete with pyrotechnics, a fire dancer, and watching the knights battle each other at the royal joust.



Row 1 l to r: Zahli Lashley, Lily Dague, Kinlee Jones, Kiara O'Brien, Amira Wullshleger, Row 2: Connor Dawson, Layla Eagleson, Molly Bullington, Emily Yokum, Gwen Smith, Elaina Lang, Ciara Morris, Olivia Sparks, Piper Appel, Emilia Koontz, Elli Holtschneider, Addison Heming, Bella King, Julie Winesickle, Natalie Adams
Row 3: Brianna Miller, Landon Sigel, Jayden Seacrest, Gannin Shoemaker, Andrew Kidd, Sean Cessna, Halina Corle, Gabby Brallier
Row 4: Jonah Graham, Thomas Blackburn, Max Hoover, Luke Crownover, Chloe Beltz, Huck Diehl, Logan Cotchen, Isaac Raymond, Graham Paxton, Alice Miller, Stella Ebersole

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From Classroom to Boardroom

Student
Experience

Extracurricular
Activities

Preparing for
the Future

- BHS students Gabriel Bordi, Harrison Leap, Simeon Locke, Elijah Lohr, and Preston Pyle have traded textbooks for fragrance bottles as they prepare to launch Vivarenza, their very own line of perfumes and colognes. What started as an idea among friends has quickly turned into a student-run business, complete with its own name, brand, products, and website. They were most recently inducted into the Bedford Chamber of Commerce as the newest Young Entrepreneur Members in a ribbon-cutting ceremony on October 5th.



Photo: Harrison Leap, Gabe Bordi,
Preston Pyle, Elijah Lohr
(missing Simeon Locke)

2026 Fall Foliage Queen

Student
Experience

Extracurricular
Activities

Preparing for
the Future

Academic
Performance

Social
Emotional
Development

- Bedford's Fall Foliage Queen scholarship competition is a cherished tradition that celebrates outstanding young women from across the county. Contestants represent their schools and communities while showcasing their confidence, character, accomplishments, and leadership. Congratulations to Lara Bulger, who was our very own 2026 Fall Foliage Queen. Also, a big thank you to the Bullington family for the continued support and financial backing for the Fall Foliage program and scholarship.



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Tennis Team wins District 5 Team Championship

Student
Experience

Extracurricular
Activities



Students Attend Chamber Business Community Showcase and College Fair

Student
Experience

Preparing for
the Future

Academic
Performance

Social
Emotional
Development

- Students attended the Chamber's Business Community Showcase and College Fair at the Bedford County Airport on October 15th. The students were able to meet representatives from over 65 businesses and schools. We would like to thank the Bedford Chamber of Commerce and Bedford Airport for planning, hosting, and inviting our students to attend.



Jonah Miller and Brock Patten

Students Attend Business Quest

October School Highlights

10/20/2026



- Bedford High School students traveled to Mount Aloysius College on Friday, Oct. 16th to attend Business Quest. While at the event, students learned about employment opportunities in business-related careers and business majors and minors available at Mount Aloysius. Students also participated in interactive activities related to business and toured the campus.



Business Quest Photo:
Left to Right. Emilia Koontz,
Lucy Redinger



Business Quest Photo:
Isabel Leydig, Addy Howsare,
Kenneth Dutil, Elli Holtschneider

Business Quest Photo (L-R):
Emelia Koontz, Lucy Redinger,
Elli Holtschneider, Kenneth Dutil,
Isabel Leydig, Addy Howsare,
Gwendolyn Smith, Amber Maish
Penn State Low Voice



Festival

October School Highlights

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Student
Experience

Extracurricular
Activities

Preparing for
the Future

- Six Bedford students traveled to Penn State on October 17th for the Low Voice Festival. They sang with over 100 young men from across the state. The day included rehearsals, food, and a performance at the Eisenhower Auditorium. Dr. Christopher Kiver and the Penn State Glee Club directed and managed the festival.



L to R: Mrs. Leap, Logan Cotchen, Ben Berkey, Graham Paxton, Mason Bullington, Henry Leap, and Jack Miller inside the Eisenhower Auditorium.

September Pride and Grit Award Winners

Academic
Performance

Social
Emotional
Development

Student
Experience

- The Bison Pride Award recognizes students who distinguish themselves by being deserving of special praise, recognition, or thanks for a job well done at BHS.

Bison Pride Award winners for September were Ian Paugh, Gavin Wagoner, Tucker Boone, Holly Tran, Carter Kozielec, Paisley Perrin, Cheyenne Nelson, and Eli Shaw.

- The Bison Grit Award recognizes students who consistently demonstrate hard work, dedication, and perseverance in difficult situations.

Bison Grit Award winners for September were Daniella Pineda, Aiden Bennett, Declan Long, and Joshua Uber.

*Photo on next page.

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Pictured above: Ian Paugh, Gavin Wagoner, Declan Long, Tucker Boone, Joshua Uber, Eli Shaw, Paisley Perrin, and Cheyenne Nelson.

BHS Students Help with Environmental Day at BE



- Students from the BHS Envirothon worked with 3rd graders at BE during Environmental Day.



October School Highlights

10/20/2026

9th Grade Students visit Flight 93

Student
Experience

Social
Emotional
Development

- On October 14th, 9th grade students from BHS visited Flight 93. The students were given a guided tour of the memorial and visited the museum. When the students returned to BHS, they participated in social-emotional learning activities relating to decision-making, and they watched a documentary relating to the events of 9/11.



Bedford Tennis Wins District 5 Doubles Championship

Student
Experience

Extracurricular
Activities

- On October 19th, Taylor Ruhlman and Samantha Ednie won the District 5 Doubles Championship. They advance to the PIAA Class 2A Doubles Championship in Hershey.



Pictured (L-R):
Samantha Ednie and Taylor Ruhlman