

memo

To: Blue Ridge Board of Education
Mr. Ryan Peyton, Superintendent

From: Brian Easter, Blue Ridge High School Principal

Date: September 10, 2026

Re: BRHS Board Report

Upcoming Events:

SEPT

- 11 - Boys Golf Invitational at Woodlawn (1:00), Football at Flanagan
- 12 - Marching Band at Washington
- 14 - Home Boys Golf (4:00), Soccer at SJ-O
- 15 - Home Volleyball (5:30)
- 16 - JV Boys Golf Invite (3:30) at Woodlawn, Soccer at Home (4:30)
- 17 - Home Volleyball (5:30)
- 18 - Home Football (6:30)
- 19 - Home Volleyball Tournament (8 a.m.), Boys Golf at Westville Invite (9 a.m.)
- 20 - Wall of Fame Ceremony & Coronation (6 p.m. - Moore Gym)
- 21-25 HOMECOMING WEEK
- 21 - Boys and Girls Golf at Villa Grove, Soccer at Schlarman, Home Volleyball (5:30)
- 22 - Volleyball at Villa Grove (5:30 p.m.), Boys & Girls golf at LPC Tourney (South Shores CC)
- 23 - FFA Horse Judging at Rochester
- 24 - Home Soccer (4:30), Volleyball at Heritage
- 25 - Homecoming Parade (4:00), Home Football (6:30)
- 26 - Marching Band at EIU, Homecoming Dance (7 pm)
- 28 - Home Boys & Girls Golf (4:00-Senior Night), Home Soccer (4:30), Home Volleyball (5:30)
- 29 - Girls Golf at IHSA Regional (U of I Blue), Home Volleyball (5:30), FFA at LTS
- 30 - Boys Golf at IHSA Regional (Highland)

OCT

- 1 - Home Soccer (4:30), Home Volleyball (5:30)
- 2 - Home Football (6:30)
- 3 - Marching Band at Mt. Zion
- 5-8 LPC Volleyball tournament at CG-B
- 5 - Boys and Girls at IHSA Sectional (qualifiers only), Soccer at Meridian
- 6 - Parent-Teacher Conferences (3:45-6:45), FFA at Greenhand Conference
- 7 - FFA at Section 16 Land Use
- 8 - Soccer at Fisher, Parent-Teacher Conferences (3:45-6:45), FFA at Section 16 Expo
- 9 - Teacher Institute Day (no school for students)

FYI:**By the numbers -**

We have 159 students enrolled at Blue Ridge High School.

Average Daily Attendance Rate for the month of August was 95.0%.

Discipline data as of September 10th:

- Detentions - 6
 - Lunch detentions accounted for 5 instances.
 - Before/After school detentions accounted for 1 instance.
- Saturday Schools - 0
- In-School Suspensions - 1
 - 1 student received ISS during this reporting period.
 - Suspensions totaled 1 full day during this reporting period.
- Out of School Suspensions - 0
 - 0 students received OSS during this reporting period.
 - Suspensions totaled 0 full days during this reporting period.
- Electronics referrals - 3
 - 3 students have received a referral for electronics.
 - 0 students have reached at least level 2.
 - No student is on a contract.
 - There have been no contract violations to date.

Our Alternative Education students (through the Edgenuity program) have collectively completed 2 classes for a total of 1 earned credit as of September 10th. Eight students are enrolled in at least one hour of alternative education.

Benchmark Diagnostics (I-Ready)

Based on Fall benchmark testing in Math:

- We looked at where all of our 9th grade students placed based on the diagnostic. On this diagnostic 28 out of 41 students (68%) tested at 8th grade level or higher.
- 50% of our 10th grade math students performed at the high school level on the fall diagnostic.

Based on Fall benchmark testing (i-Ready) in English:

- 61% of our 9th grade students (25 out of 41) performed at 8th grade level or higher.
- 43% of our 10th grade students performed at the high school level.

Congratulations and Kudos:

*Staff and Student of the Month (Exemplary Knights) -

Our staff winner for Exemplary Knight for the month of August/early Sept is **Alex Mann**. Alex is a third year social studies teacher here at BRHS. Here are some insights about Alex.

- *Alex is an educator who continues to pour his best efforts into his students. His energy is second to none; the smiles that leave his classroom testify to his character and his effort to include all students. He has been a fantastic peer to collaborate with and explore lessons to better equip our students. Looking forward to building the social studies department at BRHS with ya; thanks for being you, Coach Mann!*
- *Mr. Mann is truly exemplary. He is passionate about his subject and the learning of his students. He holds his students to high standards and is always trying to find fun, new ways to engage them. His energy is contagious!*
- *Mr. Mann has been such a great addition to our staff here at BRHS. His constant awareness of what is working and what is not working allows him to be a continuous learner. His positivity and energy is fantastic. He is also steadfast in looking for ways to be involved with students outside of the classroom - coaching football, being a class sponsor, supporting them at extracurricular events. Blue Ridge is better off with Alex on our team!*

We have 2 students that we are recognizing this month - **Elias Nolan (Sr.)** and **Cheyenne Smith (Sr.)**. These students were nominated for this recognition by staff members. Staff then voted for their top choices based on all nominees. Here are some things that teachers say about these awesome students:

Elias Nolan (Sr)

- Elias is one of the most consistent students I have ever seen. He is a hard worker and he doesn't just carry his brain around with him, he uses it.
- Elias is the epitome of what a model student is. He is always ready to go in class and shows great academic knowledge.
- Elias has quiet leadership. He is constant and shows up ready to learn and give his best everyday
- Elias is a good student who works hard in his academic and social endeavors, setting a good example for all of our Knights.
- Elias is a quiet, hardworking student who consistently excels academically and leads by example. He is always willing to help wherever he is needed, whether in the classroom or on the sports field, and his positive attitude, dependability, and willingness to serve others make him very deserving of this recognition.

Cheyenne Smith (Sr)

- Cheyenne has matured a lot during high school, has good values and is just fun to be around.
- Cheyenne always is in a positive mood. She makes others feel included and shows great work ethic in class.
- Cheyenne has clear communication skills, is self advocating and is accountable and reliable
- Cheyenne is a great senior leader. She volunteered to help get all of the fall sport locker signs up and is willing to help anyone who asks.
- Cheyenne has started off the year early with establishing healthy routines, asking great questions during class, and making sure people around her feel welcome.

- Cheyanne took a big risk to help a classmate in need. She has faced some social consequences for it, which she has taken in stride. Cheyanne has a big heart and wants to help. She seems genuinely interested in the welfare of others, and seems dedicated to self-improvement.

Our Athletes of the Month for August are:

Girls Golf - Aubrey Kile - Aubrey always shows up to play. She doesn't get down on herself even when she has been uncertain about the game, being new to formal competition as a Freshman. Aubrey puts in a lot of time and effort, and was seen practicing on the course a lot during the summer. Aubrey consistently challenges herself and tries new techniques and ideas to help herself improve. Aubrey has a great balance between fighting hard to do better, and keeping the game fun.

Boys Golf - Henry Freden - Henry is a positive force on our team. He is encouraging to the other golfers and doesn't let the frustrating game of golf get him down. He puts in a lot of time and effort into golf, and is often seen on the course outside of practice time. Henry is a natural leader and connects well with his partners and opponents during competition. Henry knows how to have fun and to work hard at the same time.

Football - Chase Ellis - Chase has rushed for 467 yards in August on 40 Carries for an average of 11.7 yards per carry. He is currently ranked #10 in the state for total yards this season (as of 9/8/26). Chase has also contributed 12 tackles on defense with 1 tackle for a loss. Chase is a positive leader for the team on and off the field.

Volleyball - Ava Hammer - Ava is consistently giving it her all on the court. She is stepping up to fill her role and pushing others to fill theirs. She is a leader and a bright light on and off the court!

Cheerleading - Cheyenne Smith - Cheyanne Smith shows leadership, reliability, and responsibility for the cheerleading team during and after practices. She knows what needs to be done, and provides aid and support for her team members to help improve and prepare for game time.

Soccer - Karson Carter - He is the top goal scorer as well as being a leader at practice and on the field at games