
MEMO

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

From: Burton Huddleston, Principal, Blue Ridge Intermediate and Junior High School

Date: 5/7/2026

RE: Principal Report

UPCOMING EVENTS

May

- 1 JH SVC Track Meet at Fisher JH @ 2:00pm
- 2 Mansfield Alumni Banquet
- 5 Rain-date for SVC Track Meet @ 2:00pm
- 9 JH Track Sectionals at Catlin
- 13 JH Museum Open House
- 14 Spring Pops Concert @ 6:30pm
- 15&16 JH Track State Meet at East Peoria
- 18 8th Grade Promotion @ 9:00am
- 20 Last Day of Student Attendance-Dismissal at 2:20pm
- 21 Teacher Institute Day

Behavior

There were 39 behavior referrals written in the month of April. There were 64 referrals recorded in April of 2025. There were four out of school suspensions in April.

7th Grade Music Appreciation Exploratory

Blue Ridge Intermediate and Junior High School will introduce a new 7th grade exploratory course for the 2026–2027 school year. Mr. Colin Norsworthy will teach a quarter-long music appreciation class designed to broaden students' exposure to music and musical concepts. As in previous years, junior high students will continue to rotate through exploratory courses each quarter, allowing them the opportunity to participate in four different exploratory classes throughout the school year. We are excited to expand these learning opportunities for our 7th grade students through the addition of this new course.

Junior High Track and Field

Our track and field season is approaching its conclusion, with student-athletes preparing for the IESA Sectional Meet on Saturday, May 9, in Catlin. Competitors will be working to achieve qualifying times in running events or qualifying marks in field events to advance to the IESA

State Meet, which begins on Friday, May 15. In addition, first-place finishers in each event will automatically advance. We extend our best wishes to all participants as they represent BRIJHS at Sectionals.

Spring Academic Achievement Assembly

We will host our second Spring Academic Achievement Assembly on May 15. Two assemblies will be held—one for intermediate students and one for junior high students. During the intermediate assembly, we will recognize students who achieved 95% or higher attendance, as well as those who met their individual growth goals in reading and mathematics on the spring i-Ready diagnostic. At the junior high assembly, we will recognize students in both of these categories in addition to honoring those who earned placement on the honor roll.

8th Grade Promotion

Blue Ridge Intermediate and Junior High School will hold its 8th grade promotion ceremony on May 18 at 9:00 a.m. in the junior high gymnasium. The program will include the presentation of promotion certificates and various student awards, along with an address by Mr. Huddleston. Earlier that morning, members of the Student Council, under the direction of sponsors Ms. Dodson and Mrs. Whisman, will host a special breakfast in honor of the promoting class.