

Jaguar Journal

August 15, 2025

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ALL SCHOOL NEWS

National Honor Society Applications

Applications are now open for juniors and seniors interested in joining the National Honor Society. Click [here](#) for eligibility requirements and application instructions. Applying does not guarantee acceptance. All applications will be reviewed by the NHS Faculty Council. **Submissions are due September 5 at 4:00 PM.**

Members inducted last fall do not need to reapply; membership continues if you remained in good standing at the end of last school year.

If you have any questions, please email the NHS sponsor, Dr. Heather Hall, at hehall@bluevalleyk12.org.

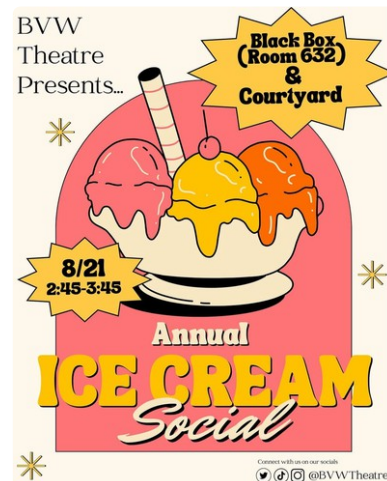
BVW Theatre Ice Cream Social

Come for the ice cream, stay for the drama! (a.k.a. BVW theatre information)

Want to learn how you can be involved in some amazing theatre activities and experiences this year AND enjoy free ice cream with your friends? **All BVW students are invited to the annual Theatre Department Ice Cream Social, Thursday, August 21, starting after school in the Black Box Theatre, room 632.**

Bring your friends, get some ice cream and your favorite toppings, and learn how you can get involved with BVW Theatre this year. No prior theatre experience necessary! This is a great way to get involved both on stage and behind the scenes, make new friends, and connect with your fellow

Jags! If you have any questions or can't make it on Wednesday and want more information, please contact BVW Theatre Director, Mr. Uthe at ruthe@bluevalleyk12.org.



Message from the School Nurse

Medications: Students are allowed to carry OTC (over the counter) medications on them at school as long as they are in the original bottle. If your student will need to take prescription medications, please have the Medication Authorization form filled out by the physician and turn form into the school nurse. Prescription medications must be brought in by a parent to the school nurse. Please schedule a time to bring those medications in. Medication Authorization Forms can be provided upon request, email the school nurse - rcstone@bluevalleyk12.org

Students going Home Sick: The nurse will only call parent and write a pass to leave school if the school nurse determines the student needs to go home due to a health concern. Otherwise, if you want to excuse your student from school to go home, please call the attendance office.

Parking Permit Information

Please see [this message](#) from our School Resource Officer, Officer Stock, regarding Parking Permits and Parking Lot Information.

BVW Calendar Information

Each quarter, I share an ["at-a-glance" document](#) to help with planning for your family. That calendar is static and provides high-level information about the daily/weekly schedule. Please review the calendar, and the "Need to Know" section for important topics each time it's shared.

For more specific information, and event and athletic/activity schedules, we encourage you to [access this calendar resource](#). It is also linked to the homepage of our school website through the calendar icon at the top left corner. This platform is new for our district, we'll do our best to keep it updated and user-friendly for our community. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

PSAT/NMSQT Registration - Sophomores & Juniors

Registration for the PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT, National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) is now open. The PSAT will be administered on Friday, October 10. This is a non-school day for all students who have not signed up for the PSAT. Please click [here](#) for more information.

ACTION NEEDED- If desired, sign up and pay (\$22 fee) for PSAT in Total Registration by September 5, 2025, at 11:59 PM. (<https://totalregistration.net/PSAT/172821>)

***If your student receives a testing accommodation through an IEP/504, you must register & pay by 8/15/25 to request accommodations through the College Board.

Who typically takes the PSAT?

PSAT NMSQT (Preliminary SAT, National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test)—This is a digital test for 10th graders who want to practice for the high-stakes PSAT NMSQT in preparation for the high-stakes opportunity in 11th grade.

PSAT NMSQT - for juniors is high-stakes, as students who score exceptionally well (typically in the top 3%) can qualify for the National Merit Scholarship competition. The PSAT NMSQT is digital.

**Bus transportation will pick up and drop off any student already accessing district transportation. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Mrs. Petty at CPPetty@bluevalleyk12.org

Food Pack Program

The Food Pack Program is set up to provide supplemental food for students in need. For more information contact Hayley.Murphy.



Traffic & Safety

As we begin the school year, we would like to ask for your diligence, patience, and care as we establish plans and procedures to keep all of our students safe.

- **Drop-off/Pick-Up:** Please [click here](#) to review our school drop off and parking maps and read [this email message](#) for expectations for all families. Remember, it will take a few days for our

carline to run smoothly. Therefore, we appreciate your patience as we help everyone learn the process and retrain our school community as we start the school year.

- **Buzz-in Entry:** Visitors should come to the front of the school to acquire access during the school day. At the front entrance, visitors will press the buzzer, show a government issued photo identification and state the purpose for their visit each time they visit the school. We ask that guests do not hold the door open for another visitor once you have been buzzed in. Instead, allow the door to close for each visitor to go through the procedures. Thank you for your support of our safety procedures.

Personal Electronic Device Expectations

Blue Valley Schools is committed to providing a safe, positive and productive learning environment for its students. To support this commitment and to limit distractions for all in the learning environment, the Board of Education approved the Student Use of Cell Phones and Related Personal Electronic Devices policy in 2024.

As a reminder, the following guidelines were implemented last school year and will be continued in 2025-26:

Start and End of Class:

- When the bell rings to start class, personal electronic devices (PEDs) must be silenced and stowed away. We have found this prepares students for learning.
- When the bell rings to end class, PEDs can be used until the next class and during lunch.

During Class/Advisory Time:

- Unless otherwise instructed by a teacher for instructional purposes, students should keep PEDs silenced and stowed away.

Restroom:

- Students are required to leave PEDs in the classroom when using the restroom as we have found this reduces their time out of class.

Fathers' Club 2025-2026 Launch

The Father's Club Info Night Wednesday, September 3, at 6:00pm in the BVW Commons. You won't want to miss it!

The Father's Club is a dad-led, grassroots effort creating simple ways for dads to be intentional with their KIDS, with other DADS and within their COMMUNITY. With resolve, humility, and love, our mission is to be a catalyst for positive influence.

The BV West Father's Club is one of the most active chapters (out of 28+ and growing) across the entire KC metro. We have a lot of fun passing out free donuts and chicken biscuits in the mornings ("Fist Bumps for Food"); staffing concessions during home football games with our kids; grilling out for teachers, staff, and students; conducting Mental Health First Aid training for dads; and participating in the Mission Cup golf tournament, where 100% of funds raised go to benefit Father's Club. In 2022, we also launched an inaugural BVW Father's Club Scholarship Program to provide financial support and recognition to select students who have endured and persevered through mental-health struggles and are willing to share that experience to help others, and/or have made significant contributions toward improving mental health in their community.

At this meeting, you will learn more about upcoming opportunities to meet other BV West dads and make a difference this school year. There is no cost to join! Go to FathersClub.org to sign up and get on our email list. Questions? Email bvwest@fathersclub.org

Join the BVW PTO

There are many ways to be involved and support our BVW students and staff! We are currently looking for volunteers to lead a committee and/or serve on the board for the 2025-2026 school year. For information on volunteering or on the many other ways to support our programs and activities check out [our website](#).

[Like us on Facebook](#)

SENIOR NEWS Class of 2026

Need an Unofficial Transcript?

Applying to colleges and universities?

You can download your **unofficial transcript** by navigating to your ParentVue or StudentVue account. Unofficial transcripts can be downloaded from Course History.

All requests for an **official transcript** should be made through Xello.

Senior Yearbook Photos - Last Chance Date

Did you miss Senior Yearbook pictures over the summer? No worries!

October 15, 2025 from 11 am to 1:15 pm is the last chance date for seniors to have their photos taken for the yearbook. Photo location will be in the Library Flex Space. Please do not miss this opportunity. The yearbook will not be the same without you!

Senior Yearbook Ads

Hey Class of 2026, this is your year!! Get your Yearbook Ad submitted ASAP! Early Bird deadline is September 12 and FINAL deadline is November 7.

Click [here](#) for details on submitting a Yearbook Ad for your Class of 2026 student.

ATHLETICS NEWS

Physicals and Registration for the 2025-26 School Year

Fall Sports begin on August 18!

All students participating in a fall sport must complete the online registration and submit a current physical prior to participating or trying out. Click on the link below to complete, if you have not done so already.

[Athletic and Activities Registration for 2025-26](#)

Only the **official KSHSAA physical form** will be accepted. You can access the official **KSHSAA physical form for 2025–26** at [KSHSAA Physical Form \(PDF\)](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Simmerman at KLSimmerman@bluevalleyk12.org.

EKL Ticket Pricing Update

Starting in the 2025-26 school year, all schools in the Eastern Kansas League (EKL)* will adopt new standard ticket prices for Varsity Athletic competition; this change is intended to provide a consistent experience for families and fans across all EKL events. These changes impact: Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling, Soccer, Track and Field, Baseball, Softball. On nights with a Varsity competition, all subvarsity events connected to that event will also have to purchase a ticket.

- \$6 for students and seniors (60+)
- \$8 for adults

*The Eastern Kansas League includes the five Blue Valley high schools—Blue Valley, Blue Valley North, Blue Valley Northwest, Blue Valley West, and Blue Valley Southwest—as well as Bishop Miege, Saint Thomas Aquinas, and Saint James Academy.

We encourage everyone to pre-purchase their tickets when attending games to avoid lines. Single game tickets can be purchased at the [Eastern Kansas League Site](#) for any EKL game home or away. When BVW is the visiting school, select the opposing schools page and click on tickets.

Athletic Passes

The Blue Valley School District also offers three types of passes to home athletic events.

Student Pass - Good for one student 9-12 to attend BVW home games.

Individual Pass - Good for one adult to attend BVW home games.

Family Pass - Good for two adults and accompanying students K-8 to BVW home games.

[Blue Valley West Athletic Pass Link](#)

Transition to Cashless Tickets

In addition to the EKL ticket changes, Blue Valley School District will utilize a cashless system for all athletic and performing arts events throughout the 2025-26 school year. Please plan accordingly and purchase tickets online in advance, or plan to do so electronically at the gate upon arrival.

Away Game Considerations - Events hosted at non-EKL schools or outside the Blue Valley School District may have different ticket pricing and payment options. Some locations may not accept cash and others may not accept credit card at the gate.

We strongly encourage families to check the host school's website before traveling to away games to confirm ticketing information or to have both payment options prepared.

3x3 Basketball League

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Little Jag Cheer Clinic

Calling all girls Kindergarten through 5th Grade...the Blue Valley West Cheerleaders invite you to join them Friday, September 5th at 4:00 p.m. for a Cheer Clinic, dinner and a BVW Varsity Football

Game Performance!

Clinic: 4:00-6:30pm Blue Valley West Gymnasium (16200 Antioch - enter through the commons doors East of the new Auxiliary Gym entrance)

Dinner: 6:00-6:30pm in the Blue Valley West Commons

6:30-6:45pm BVW Cheerleaders walk Little Jag cheerleaders to BVW football field

Game: 7:00pm at the BVW football field - girls will cheer before the game and during the first quarter

Cost: Cost is \$50 and includes t-shirt, bow, pom poms and dinner

Register: The QR code can be found on the attached flier.

*Spectator tickets must be purchased separately through Bound app or at the gate. See link when registering

<https://manager.gobound.com/camps/h20250731114937676ed398af7169847/register>

We hope you can join us for a FUN night of cheering on the BVW JAGS and THANK YOU for your support!



Interested in Girls Golf?

Attention girl golfers! Please fill out [this Google form](#) if you are interested in trying out for the team this year. If you have any questions, please email Coach Anderson at aanderson@bluevalleyk12.org

COUNSELING

AP Testing & Fees

As our AP coordinator begins to visit AP courses to discuss AP testing opportunities with students for the 2025-26 school year, we wanted to let you know of a change to our AP fee collection processes. We will not be collecting fee payments for AP tests until Wednesday, September 10th. Please be on the lookout for more communication from us around this date!

[Counseling canvas page](#)

DISTRICT NEWS

Understanding Payments in Blue Valley

Blue Valley Schools uses several secure systems to manage school-related payments. Each system the district uses is designed for a specific purpose and specific items or fees. This [quick guide](#) can be found on the BV Website to provide guidance for making payments.

Attendance Reporting & Notifications

Attendance notifications will begin on the second day of school for all levels—Thursday, August 14. Families can expect automated attendance messages by email, phone and text at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. if a child is absent and his/her absence has not already been reported by a parent/guardian. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to call the school to report an absence, report the absence online or reply to the automated email or phone message. You can review your notification settings in ParentVue - [see instructions here](#).

Securely

Securely Home: Partnering for Your Child's Online Safety

Securely is the leading solution in keeping children safe online at school. Now parents can get the same peace of mind when school devices come home. See your child's online activity in real-time and catch up with our weekly email snapshots.

Eligibility: Only for parents listed as "Lives With & Edu Rights" in Synergy.

Take an active role in your child's digital safety with Securely Home, the district's cloud-based filtering system.

Key Features

- Monitor & Customize Filters: Use the Securely Home Parent Portal app ([Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play](#)) to monitor and adjust filters on district devices used outside the BV Network. Available for families with district-issued Chromebooks/MacBooks.
- Self-Harm Alerts: Receive mobile push notifications if your child searches self-harm content on district devices.
- Pause Internet Access: Temporarily disable internet access on your child's district device outside the school network.
- Weekly Activity Reports: Get weekly email summaries of your child's online activity (reports show all online activity after they leave the school network. Unsubscribe anytime.

Setup Tips

- Accounts are linked to the email in "email line #1" in ParentVUE.
- Need help updating your email in ParentVUE? Contact your school's front office.
- For setup support, submit a BV Care ticket via the BVSD website.

Note: Parent Custom Filters apply only when devices are not connected to the BV Network. Once reconnected, district filters resume.

📖 Learn more: <https://www.bluevalleyk12.org/securlly> or <https://www.securlly.com/home-parent>

[District Calendar](#)



Blue Valley West

Lauren is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

