

# Jaguar Journal

August 16, 2024

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## ALL SCHOOL NEWS

### Theatre Department 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, Wednesday, 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](mailto:ruthe@bluevalleyk12.org).

### Back To School Night

On Monday August 28th, from 6-8pm, Blue Valley West will host the annual "Back to School" night. This evening provides an opportunity for parents to connect with teachers and learn more about the classes your student is taking this year. We look forward to seeing you in the JUNGLE!

### Jungle Jam

Kick off the school year with JPCo at our annual Jungle Jam pizza dance in the Commons on August 25. The dance will begin immediately after the soccer game (approximately 8:30pm) and end at 9:45pm. For \$8, enjoy pizza, soda, and music with the Jags. Dress is casual and tickets must be purchased online! You don't want to miss it! See you there! [Purchase tickets here](#)

## National Honor Society Applications now available - Due Sept. 6

Applications to join the Blue Valley West National Honor Society are now available at [this link](#). Membership is open to juniors and seniors with a 3.500 or above GPA (weighted or unweighted) and 25 hours of community service completed during their high school career. Applying is not a guarantee of acceptance. All NHS members inducted last year who were in good standing at the end of last school year are still considered members for this school year and do not need to reapply.

## Attendance Notifications

Every day Blue Valley West opens its doors to students for a day filled with learning. When a student does not arrive at school, or unexpectedly misses a portion of the school day, we are concerned and want to make sure you are aware that your child is absent. Beginning Thursday, August 17, BVW will be notifying families of unexpected absences through email, phone, text and optional push notifications. Jaguar 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. Families who would also like a push notification can download the ParentVUE app and manage their notifications. If a child has an unreported absence when a teacher submits attendance, then a push notification will immediately be sent to the parent/guardian's mobile device. Push notifications will continue throughout the day until the child's absence is reported/excused, meaning a family could receive multiple push notifications as attendance is typically taken with each class period.

Interested in push notifications? Simply download the ParentVUE app ([iTunes app store](#) or [Google Play](#)), enable push notifications in device settings and select attendance notifications through in-app settings.

### Guide to high school attendance messages

- 10:30 a.m.**  **Automated Attendance Message**  
Families will receive automated attendance messages via email, phone and text message at 10:30 a.m. If a child is absent and his/her absence has not been reported by a parent/guardian. Forget to report an absence? No worries, reply directly to the phone call or email.
- 2:30 p.m.**  **Automated Attendance Message**  
Families will receive automated attendance messages via email, phone and text message at 2:30 p.m. If a child is absent and his/her absence has not been reported by a parent/guardian. Forget to report an absence? No worries, reply directly to the phone call or email.
- Optional**  **Push Notifications**  
Families who would also like a push notification can download the ParentVUE app and manage their notifications. If a child has an unreported absence when a teacher submits attendance, then a push notification will immediately be sent to the parent/guardian's mobile device. Families could receive multiple push notifications each day as attendance is typically taken during each class period.

## Student Parking Passes

Click [here](#) for information regarding Student Parking.

## BVW Calendar Information

Each quarter, an ["at-a-glance" document](#) is shared, 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. This calendar can be filtered and searched using the features on the right side of the page. We do our best to keep this updated daily, but if you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

## PSAT Registration - Sophomores and Juniors

Registration for the PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT, National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) is now open. The PSAT will be administered on Friday, October 11. 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 August 29, 2024, 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 8/19 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 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.

## **Father's Club 2024-2025 Launch**

Dads are gearing up for the start of school at Blue Valley West! And, at West, dads get involved through The Father's Club. The Father's Club Fall Kickoff and Info Night is Tuesday, August 20th, from 7:00 – 8:00 pm 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 30+ and growing) across the entire KC Metro. We have a lot of fun passing out free donuts and mental health awareness swag 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 more. Two years ago we launched our own 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 our community. We have awarded \$10,000 in scholarships to BVW seniors!

Go to [FathersClub.org](https://FathersClub.org) to sign up and get on our email list. You'll learn more about upcoming opportunities to meet other BV West dads and make a difference this school year! There is no cost to join. If you have questions or want to learn more, please plan to attend the Father's Club Kickoff Event (Tuesday, August 20th) or contact one of the following:

Kevin Saylan, Chair – 816-804-0764 ([bvwest@fathersclub.org](mailto:bvwest@fathersclub.org))

Dan Viall, Vice Chair – 913-908-7204

Danny Mayer, Engagement Lead - 917-312-9632

## **BVW Crimson Cats Kitty Clinic**

All K-8th graders are invited to join the BVW Dance Team on Friday, September 20 for the Kitty Clinic and pre-game performance. [Click here for more information.](#)

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# SENIOR NEWS Class of 2025

## 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.

Please be aware that current unofficial transcripts do not contain senior schedules, an updated copy will be available next week when schedules are released for the 2024-2025 academic year. All transcript requests should be made through Xello.

## Senior Yearbook Photos-Last Chance Date

**October 16, 2024 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 Commons Faculty room. Please do not miss this opportunity. The yearbook will not be the same without you!

## Senior Yearbook Ads

Click [here](#) for information on submitting a Yearbook Ad for your Class of 2025 student. **Please note that the early bird deadline for a \$50 discount on your ad is Friday September 13th. The final deadline to purchase a senior ad is Friday November 1st.**

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## ATHLETICS NEWS

### Athletic and Activities Registration for 2024-25

Students participating in athletics, dance, cheerleading and/or high school marching band/color guard for the 24-25 school year are required to upload a completed KSHSAA physical, dated after May 1, 2024, with a doctor's signature, and complete the online registration process.

Students involved in activities that do not require a physical will still need to complete the other required forms to participate. Those activities include middle school band, high school and middle school choir, theater and orchestra, and high school Scholar's bowl, esports, debate, forensics, BPA, and DECA.

**No student will be able to participate in any tryouts or practices until the entire online registration process has been completed.**

[Click here](#) to access the registration portal or to download the 2024-25 physical form.

### Purchase a 2024-25 Athletics Pass

[2024-25 Athletics Pass](#)

[BVW Athletic website](#) / [Eastern Kansas League](#)

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# COUNSELING

## College Visits

It is never too early to start checking out the BVW Counseling Page. There are already college visits on the calendar - don't miss the chance to sign up! There are also College Presentations coming to the KC area.

To learn more: Go to the College/Career Planning Tile where you will be able to access the google doc to sign up for college visits as well as any College Open Houses/Presentations coming to the KC area.

[Counseling canvas page](#)

## PTO NEWS

### Check out the PTO website

PTO currently has open leadership roles! For more information check out [our website](#).

Click on the Support tab to purchase a blanket or BVW Yard sign or make a donation.



**Blue Valley West**

Lauren is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters