



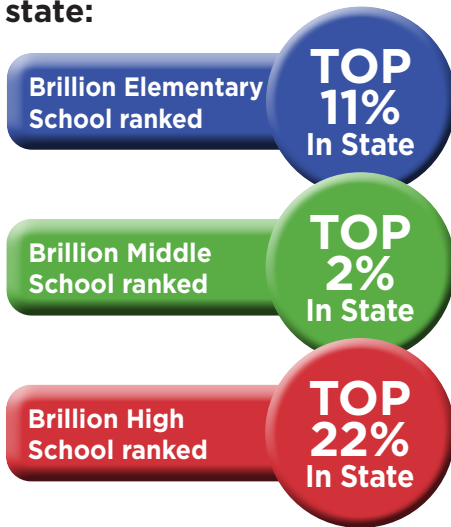
# BRILLION Public School District NEWSLETTER

Innovatively Educating...Every Child

March/April 2025

## Brillion Public School District's Elementary, Middle, and High Schools **ALL EARN NATIONAL RECOGNITION**

Here is how each of the District's schools rank when compared to their peers throughout the state:



The Brillion Public School District is celebrating an extraordinary achievement this year as once again all three of our schools—elementary, middle, and high—have earned recognition in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings. The rankings evaluate more than 105,000 schools at the national, state, and local levels.

This prestigious acknowledgment reflects the District's unwavering commitment to providing quality education and the remarkable effort of students, teachers, and the entire community. From foundational learning in elementary school to preparing

future leaders in high school, Brillion Public Schools are setting an example of educational excellence at every level.

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: A Foundation for Success

At the heart of every child's educational journey is their elementary school experience. This year, Brillion Elementary School has earned high praise from *U.S. News & World Report*, ranking among the top schools in the nation. The recognition highlights the school's dedication to providing a nurturing environment where young learners can thrive academically and socially.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL: Bridging the Gap on a Path of Success

Middle school is a critical time in a student's development, as they transition from elementary school to high school. This year, Brillion Middle School has earned a spot among the top-ranked institutions for its ability to foster academic growth, cultivate strong relationships, and encourage student engagement in diverse learning opportunities.

### HIGH SCHOOL: Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders

The recognition of Brillion High School as one of the best in the nation is a remarkable achievement that underscores the school's commitment to preparing students for the future. From rigorous Advanced Placement (AP) and dual credit college courses to career-focused programs in fields like STEM,

agriculture, and business, the high school continues to show its ability to provide students with a broad range of educational opportunities that cater to various interests and career paths.

### Community Impact and Support

One of the common threads that run through our schools' success is the strong support from the Brillion school community. From parent involvement to partnerships with local businesses, our schools benefit from the collaboration of many stakeholders invested in the success of our students.

As Brillion Public Schools continues to rise to the challenge of providing high-quality education, they serve as a model for other districts seeking to create an environment where students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

### Conclusion

The recognition from *U.S. News & World Report* serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of investing in education at all levels. With elementary, middle, and high schools all earning national accolades, the district has demonstrated that success is possible at every stage of a child's academic journey. These schools not only provide a strong academic foundation but also help cultivate well-rounded young adults prepared for the challenges of the future.



## BEYOND THE STAGE: How Choir and Theatre Prepare Students for Life

Our school’s Choir and Theatre departments offer students incredible opportunities to explore their creativity and develop artistic skills. But the benefits of participating in these programs go far beyond the stage. Scientific research demonstrates that singing and acting cultivate a range of valuable skills that translate directly into success in professional and adult life.



### TRANSFERABLE SKILLS: FROM STAGE TO SUCCESS

The skills developed in choir and theatre are highly transferable to a variety of professional fields. Consider these examples:

- **PUBLIC SPEAKING:** The ability to confidently present information to an audience is essential in many professions. Choir and theatre provide invaluable experience in public speaking and performance.
- **COLLABORATION:** Working effectively as part of a team is crucial in most workplaces. Choir and theatre emphasize teamwork, teaching students how to collaborate, compromise, and contribute to a shared goal.
- **TIME MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION:** Balancing rehearsals, performances, and other commitments teaches students valuable time management and organizational skills.
- **ADAPTABILITY AND RESILIENCE:** The unpredictable nature of live performance requires adaptability and resilience. Students learn to handle unexpected situations, think quickly, and bounce back from setbacks.

### INVESTING IN THE FUTURE:

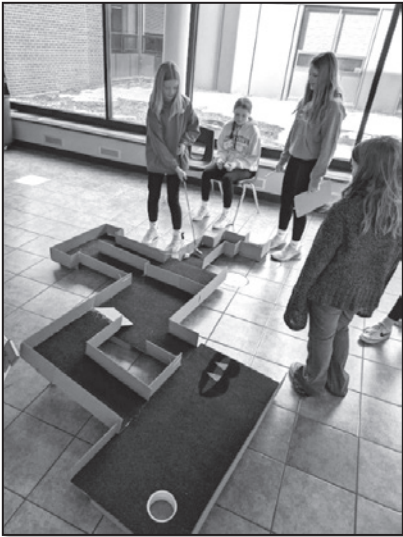
- **IMPROVED SOCIAL SKILLS AND RELATIONSHIPS:** Singers report stronger relationships and better social skills, with nearly 70% saying singing has improved their ability to socialize in other areas of life.
- **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND GIVING:** Chorus members are more likely to donate to organizations they support, volunteer more frequently, and take on leadership roles in volunteer groups.
- **ENHANCED RESILIENCE:** 60% of singers credit choral participation with helping them be more resilient and persistent in other areas of their lives.

Our Choir and Theatre departments are not just about entertainment, they are about developing well-rounded individuals equipped with the skills they need to thrive in the 21st century.

By supporting these programs, we are investing in our students’ future and empowering them to become *confident, creative, and successful individuals.*



## Brillion Public Schools to Host Exciting STEM Family Mini-Golf Event



Brillion Public Schools is once again bringing families together through STEM! On **Tuesday, May 6, from 4-6 PM**, the **Brillion Middle School Gym** will be transformed into a creative, student-designed **mini-golf course** open to families and the public.

The **STEM Family Events** at Brillion Public Schools provide unique opportunities for families to step into the world of STEM education and

experience hands-on learning alongside their students. These events highlight the incredible projects students create in their STEM classes, showcasing their skills in problem-solving, teamwork, and innovation.

This spring's Mini-Golf Event is no exception! Designed and built by **7th and 8th-grade STEM students**, the mini-



golf courses reflect their creativity, engineering skills, and understanding of physics and design. Families and community members are invited to test their skills on the student-created courses and celebrate the hard work of these young engineers.

Whether you're a mini-golf pro or just looking for a fun, family-friendly outing, this event promises to be a great time for all. Don't miss out on this chance to support our STEM students, explore their inventive course designs, and enjoy a night of interactive fun!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS & JOIN US ON MAY 6!**

## Youth Apprenticeship Spotlight

Student Spotlight

**JOSEPH S.**  
BRILLION HIGH SCHOOL

“ The Youth Apprenticeship program has significantly influenced my career aspirations and future goals. Before joining the program, I had no clear direction for my future. However, through this experience, I've gained valuable hours in the finance field and can now see myself pursuing a career in this industry. Additionally, the program has helped me realize my passion for helping people, giving me a strong foundation for exploring future opportunities. ”



Student Spotlight

**TRENT L.**  
BRILLION HIGH SCHOOL

Brian & Lori Horn

“ The Youth Apprenticeship program has greatly increased my confidence in my career choice. Before this experience, I wasn't sure if I could handle this type of work and was considering a different path. Now, I know this is what I want to do. The program has also made me eager to enter the workforce, knowing that opportunities are available to earn money and build a better future. ”





## A Busy Spring for the Middle School Band



The middle school band has been very busy throughout this second half of the school year! Solo and Ensemble Festival was held at Brillion High School on March 1st, in which 20 seventh and eighth-grade band students took part. On March 7th, the 7th and 8th grade bands kicked off the end of the trimester pride rally with the School Song and Go Big Red. On March 9th, 6th-8th grade bands performed their mid-winter concert as part of Cabaret Night. Some of the song selections included “Wings to the Mind” and “Don’t Stop Believin’” as well as “Ben’s Blues”, performed by the Middle School Jazz band. The middle school bands are now preparing a variety of songs for their **Spring Concert on May 12th at 6 PM**, which will end with a combined 7th-12th grade band performance. *We hope to see you there!*



## BPS School Board Members Continue Learning and Receive Recognition

In an effort to continually grow in their leadership and governance capabilities, several school board members attended the recent Wisconsin State Education Conference held in Milwaukee, WI. The conference, held annually, serves as an opportunity for board members and superintendents to deepen their knowledge of current educational trends, policies, and strategies to improve student outcomes. The event featured keynote speakers and professional development sessions designed to help attendees collaborate and better understand the evolving educational landscape.

Additionally, **BPS Board Member Holly Thurow-Riahi** was honored by the Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) for the previous 20 years of dedicated service she has devoted to our school community.

BPS School board members are pivotal in shaping the policies and vision of our school district. Their decisions impact every aspect of education, from curriculum choices to budgeting and staffing. As the education sector faces rapid changes—ranging from technological advancements to shifts in state and federal education policies—it is more important than ever for board members to stay informed. By participating in such conferences, board members gain the tools and knowledge needed to make informed decisions and advocate for best practices in education.





## Brillion Celebrates Past Champions

By David Nordby – The Brillion News

BRILLION – The first-ever Brillion Night of Champions was a success last Friday night.

Memorable figures of Brillion’s sports history were introduced to a large crowd at halftime of the Lions’ basketball game against Roncalli. All members of the state and state runners-up teams, plus individual state champions, were invited to attend the night.

Brillion’s past champions include the 1984 football team, the 1993 girls track and field team, the 2003 football team, the 2004 football team, the 2010 football team, the 2011-12 boys basketball team, and the 2022-23 boys basketball team. The school has had numerous individual track and field, wrestling and girls cross country state champions. Teams who finished second in the state include the 1999 girls track and field team, the 2000-01 girls basketball team and the 2019 boys cross country team.

There was at least some representation from each of the 10 teams with more than 50 former players and coaches attending.

“The feedback and the response was really good, and I think it was fun to see people get reacquainted with each other,” Jeff Schlender said.

Schlender conceptualized the event and the school plans to host the event in the future though it will not be for at least five, or more likely 10 years from now. Athletic Director Jeff Capelle also assisted, as did Mattea Schlender, Jeff’s daughter, who is a track coach. She helped organize the groups with their walk-in as they were introduced at halftime. Cari Krepline assisted with photography. Earl Herring’s historical book “Brillion High School Sports History” also provided help for the event.

Sponsors of the event included the National Honor Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, BHS Athletics, the Brillion Athletic Association, Club Red and Cobblestone Creek. Zander Press printed the programs that listed all past winners individually and had photos of each team. Robert Shimek MCd the event.

There were numerous highlights of the event – probably with too many individuals to list. Highlighted individuals included Mary Berghuis, who is still active assistant coaching for the school. Berghuis was a 1984 track and field shot put and discus champion as a student. She was classmates with the 1984 state-winner football team, so memories on Friday were flowing. Berghuis was an assistant coach for the girls basketball and track teams, plus individual state track winners.

Richard Sheahan holds the distinction of being a part of all four of the football state title teams as an assistant coach for the 1984, 2003, 2004 and 2010 groups.

The celebrations ranged from older to younger – even with one active player. Senior Owen Krepline was a sophomore on the 2022-23 state champion team and played in both state tournament games. He stood alongside the group as they were introduced at halftime.

“It was more just team memories, memories from practices, memories from friendships and stories about coaches and teachers and stuff like that. It almost had a class reunion feel to it and athletics was what brought everyone together. That’s what was pretty cool,” Schlender said.

Collectively, it was a night of celebration.

“It was a big undertaking but it was well worth it based on the response that we got,” Schlender said.



1984 Football State Champions



1993 Girls Track & Field State Champions



1999 Girls Track & Field State Runner-Up



2001 Girls Basketball State Runner-Up



2003 & 2004 Football State Champions



Mary Berghuis  
Track and Field



Dana Thuecks,  
Track & Cross Country



Adam Schmidt  
Track



Erin Fischer  
Track



Hunter Krepline  
Track



2019 Boys Cross Country State Runner-Up



2010 Football State Champions



2012 Boys Basketball State Champions



2023 Boys Basketball State Champions



## 2025 Spring Sports Schedules

### Boys Varsity Baseball

4/1	4:30PM	at Manitowoc Lutheran
4/3	4:30PM	at Kewaunee
<b>4/6</b>	<b>4PM</b>	<b>Reedsville at Fox Cities Stadium</b>
<b>4/8</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Chilton</b>
4/10	4:30PM	at Chilton
4/15	4:30PM	at Two Rivers
<b>4/17</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Two Rivers</b>
<b>4/21</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Hilbert</b>
<b>4/22</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Roncalli</b>
4/24	4:30PM	at Roncalli
<b>4/26</b>	<b>11AM</b>	<b>Bonduel</b>
4/29	4:30PM	at Valders
<b>5/1</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Valders</b>
<b>5/6</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Sheboygan Falls</b>
5/8	4:30PM	at Sheboygan Falls
5/10	12:30PM	at Mishicot Triangular
5/13	3:30PM	at Kiel
<b>5/15</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Kiel</b>
5/16	4:30PM	at Oostburg
<b>5/20</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>New Holstein</b>
5/22	4:30PM	at New Holstein
5/29	TBA	WIAA Regionals at TBA
6/3	TBA	WIAA Regionals at TBA
6/4	TBA	WIAA Regionals at TBA
6/10	TBA	WIAA Sectionals at TBA
6/16	TBA	State at Fox Cities Stadium

### Girls Varsity Softball

4/4	4:30PM	at Wrightstown
<b>4/7</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Algoma</b>
<b>4/8</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Elkhart Lake-Glenbeulah</b>
4/10	4:30PM	at Kiel
<b>4/14</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Hilbert</b>
<b>4/15</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Chilton</b>
<b>4/17</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Valders</b>
4/21	4:30PM	at Roncalli
4/23	NOON	at Two Rivers-Citizen Park
4/23	2PM	at Sheboygan Falls-Citizen Park
<b>4/28</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>New Holstein</b>
<b>5/1</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Kiel</b>
5/2	4:30PM	at Chilton
5/6	4:30PM	at Valders
<b>5/8</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Roncalli</b>
5/9	4:30PM	at Manitowoc Lutheran
<b>5/12</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Two Rivers</b>
5/13	4:30PM	at Shiocton
5/15	4:30PM	at Sheboygan Falls
5/19	4:30PM	at New Holstein
5/22	TBA	WIAA Regionals at TBA
5/27	TBA	WIAA Regionals at TBA
5/29	TBA	WIAA Regionals at TBA
6/3	TBA	WIAA Sectionals at TBA
6/5	TBA	WIAA Sectionals at TBA
6/11	TBA	State at Goodman Diamond, Madison

### Golf

<b>4/14</b>	<b>3:30PM</b>	<b>EWC Mini Tour</b>	<b>Wander Springs</b>
4/21	2PM	EWC Mini Tour	Branch River Country Club
4/25	9AM	Valders Invitational	Seven Lakes Golf Course
4/28	1PM	EWC Mini Tour	Hickory Hills
5/6	1PM	EWC Mini Tour	Autumn Ridge
5/13	1PM	EWC Mini Tour	Quit Qui Oc Golf Course
5/15	10AM	Conference Meet	The Bull Golf Course
5/27	TBA	WIAA Regional Meet	at Northbrook, Luxemburg
6/3	TBA	WIAA Sectional Meet	at Crystal Springs, Seymour
6/9	TBA	WIAA State Meet	at University Ridge, Madison
6/10	TBA	WIAA State Meet	at University Ridge, Madison



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### Boys JV Baseball

4/1	4:30PM	Manitowoc Lutheran
4/3	4:30PM	Kewaunee
4/8	4:30PM	at Chilton
4/10	4:30PM	Chilton
4/11	4:30PM	Reedsville
4/15	4:30PM	Two Rivers
4/17	4:30PM	at Two Rivers
4/22	4:30PM	at Roncalli
4/24	4:30PM	Roncalli
4/26	11AM	Bonduel at Peters Park
4/29	4:30PM	Valders
5/1	4:30PM	at Valders
5/6	4:30PM	at Sheboygan Falls
5/8	4:30PM	Sheboygan Falls
5/13	4:30PM	Kiel
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5/16	4:30PM	Oostburg
5/20	4:30PM	at New Holstein
5/22	4:30PM	New Holstein

### Girls JV Softball

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5/8	4:30PM	Roncalli
5/9	4:30PM	at Manitowoc Lutheran
5/12	4:30PM	Two Rivers
5/15	4:30PM	at Sheboygan Falls
5/19	4:30PM	at New Holstein

### Track & Field

3/20	4:45PM	UW Oshkosh Boys Invite	at UW Oshkosh, Kolf Center
4/1	4:45PM	UW Oshkosh Girls Invite	at UW Oshkosh, Kolf Center
4/15	4PM	EWC Quad	at Brillion MS
4/17	4PM	Omro Invite	at Omro HS
4/22	4PM	EWC Quad	at Chilton
4/29	3PM	EWC Relays	at Chilton
5/2	4PM	Brillion Invitational	at Brillion MS
5/6	4PM	EWC Quad	at Valders
5/9	4PM	Freedom Invite	at Freedom
5/13	4PM	EWC Quad	at Brillion MS
5/19	3:30PM	EWC Conference Meet	at Brillion MS
5/22	4PM	EWC JV Conf. Meet	at Valders
5/27	3:45PM	WIAA Regional Meet	at Chilton
5/30	3PM	WIAA Sectional Meet	at Marinette
6/6	TBA	WIAA State Meet	at UW-La Crosse

### MS Track & Field

4/14	4PM	MS Conf. Quad	at Plymouth HS
4/29	4PM	Multi-team Meet	at Hilbert
5/5	4PM	MS Conf. Quad	at Brillion Middle School
5/10	9AM	Hilbert Invite	at Hilbert
5/15	4PM	Multi-team Meet	at Reedsville Elementary
5/16	4PM	Brillion Invite	at Brillion Middle School

# Brillion Public Schools

315 South Main Street

Brillion, WI 54110

## IMPORTANT DATES

## Mark on Your Calendar



Brillion Public Schools  
**NOW ENROLLING**  
4K THROUGH 12th



Elementary/Middle School  
**920-756-3624**  
HS  
**920-756-9238**

### PHONE NUMBERS

Elementary / Middle School . . 920-756-3624  
HS . . . . . 920-756-9238  
District Office . . . . . 920-756-2368

*The school's website contains information such as:*

- School Calendar of Events
- Sport Schedules • Free & Reduced Lunch Forms
- Lunch Menus • Employment Information
- Open Enrollment Information & Forms
- Staff Contact Information
- Board of Education Information
- Board of Education Policies

[www.brillionsd.org](http://www.brillionsd.org)

### April

- 14-17 BHS Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 18 No School
- 25 Shrek Jr. (MS Musical) at 7 PM
- 26 Shrek Jr. at 2 PM & 7 PM
- 30 No School - Elementary Students
- 30 MS/HS Students Report to School

### May

- 12 MS/HS Band Concert & K-12  
Art Show at 6 PM
- 21 6th Grade Choir Concert at 6 PM
- 21 7th-12th Grade Choir Concert at 7 PM
- 26 No School / Memorial Day

### June

- 1 BHS Graduation at 4 PM
- 6 Last Day of School / 11:30 AM Dismissal

## JOIN OUR FANTASTIC TEAM AT BPS!

Interested applicants should apply online through the Wisconsin Education Career Access Network website at <https://wecan.waspa.org/>