

Home of the Warriors

BLED SOE COUNTY



SCHOOLS

Annual Report 2023-2024

VISION
WARRIOR
EXCELLENCE



Bledsoe County School Board Members

Chair Vincent Boring	District 2
Co-Chair Don Snow	District 3
Andy Billingsley	District 6
Ben Farmer	District 4
Jacob Frady	District 1
Carolyn Oakes	District 6
Bron Reece	District 1

District Staff

Selina Sparkman	Director of Schools
Farrah Fields	Supervisor of Instruction
Corey Garrett	Director of Special Education
Mark Oxner	Security Coordinator & Esser Manager
Michelle Rains	Coordinated School Health Supervisor
Sharlene Roberson	Human Resource Director
Jennifer Terry	Attendance & Technology Coordinator
Brian Turner	Supervisor of Maintenance & Transportation
Kristy Walker	Federal Programs Supervisor
Kara Walling	Finance Director

MISSION

Prepare Students to
Excel and Reach Their
Full Potential

The Bledsoe County School District would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Bledsoe County Mayor and Board of Commissioners for their unwavering support and assistance. Their commitment to our schools and the well-being of our students and staff is truly invaluable. The initiatives and improvements made possible through their collaboration and funding have significantly enhanced the educational experience in our district.

Director's Welcome



As the Director of Schools, I am delighted to welcome you to our vibrant educational community. At Bledsoe County Schools, we are dedicated to providing an exceptional learning environment where every student can reach their fullest potential. Our schools are more than just places of learning; they are communities where students, educators, and families collaborate to foster growth, innovation, and a lifelong love of learning. We pride ourselves on our strong academic programs, diverse extracurricular activities, and a supportive atmosphere that nurtures the holistic development of each student.

Our dedicated team of educators and staff members is committed to creating a safe and inclusive environment where every student feels valued and empowered. We believe that education extends beyond the classroom, which is why we offer a wide range of extracurricular programs, from athletics to the arts, designed to cultivate talents and build character. Our goal is to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to succeed in a rapidly changing world. We are proud of our students' achievements and the positive impact they have on our community.

We invite you to explore all that Bledsoe County Schools have to offer. Whether you are a prospective family, a current member of our school community, or a visitor, we encourage you to become actively involved in our district. Together, we can create a nurturing and dynamic educational experience that prepares our students for future success. Thank you for being a part of the Bledsoe County Schools family. We look forward to working with you to achieve Warrior Excellence.



Sincerely,

Selina Sparkman, Director of Schools

WARRIOR EXCELLENCE

Excellent Students

Warrior Excellence in education extends beyond academics to include essential life skills, character traits, and values that promote responsible citizenship.

Warrior Excellence schools prioritize the physical and emotional well-being of students, creating safe, inclusive, and nurturing environments.

Excellent Educators

Warrior Excellence in education encourages innovative teaching methods and the integration of technology to engage students and foster creativity.

Educators are skilled in instructional techniques that engage students, promote critical thinking, and adapt to diverse learning styles. They foster a positive classroom environment and establish strong teacher-student relationships.

Ongoing Improvement

Warrior Excellence means schools and educators are committed to ongoing improvement. This involves assessing student progress, reflecting on teaching methods, and adjusting instruction accordingly.

Warrior Excellence involves high-quality assessment practices provide meaningful feedback to students, parents, and educators. Formative assessment allows for adjustments in teaching, while summative assessments measure student achievement.



High-Quality Learning

Warrior Excellence is a multifaceted concept that encompasses a range of attributes and principles that contribute to high-quality learning experiences for students.

Warrior Excellence in education begins with setting and maintaining rigorous academic standards that challenge students to reach their full potential. These standards provide clear expectations for what students should learn and achieve.

Excellence in Sports

Warrior Excellence in our sports programs exemplifies a commitment to developing not only skilled athletes but also well-rounded individuals. Through rigorous training, dedicated coaching, and a supportive community, student-athletes are encouraged to strive for personal and team achievements. The emphasis on discipline, teamwork, and sportsmanship fosters an environment where students can excel both on and off the field.

Bledsoe County School District

Tennessee Exemplary District for Outstanding Achievement

2022  2023

EXEMPLARY DISTRICT



Bledsoe
County Schools

*Recognition for Outstanding Student
Success in Achievement & Growth*



Bledsoe County School District is proud of its designation as a Tennessee Exemplary District by the Tennessee Department of Education. **The Bledsoe County School District is only 1 of 12 school districts to receive this designation.** This prestigious recognition celebrates the district's relentless commitment to excellence, innovation, and student success.

The Tennessee Exemplary District designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate exceptional performance and continuous improvement across multiple areas, including academic achievement, student growth, and overall school success. **Bledsoe County School District's dedication to excellence has positioned it among the top-performing districts in the state.**



The Tennessee Exemplary District designation reflects the district's unwavering dedication to academic excellence, student achievement, and equity in education. It serves as a source of pride for the entire Bledsoe County community and reinforces the district's mission to inspire and empower all students to succeed.

As Bledsoe County School District celebrates this remarkable achievement, it remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering a culture of continuous improvement and providing high-quality education for all students.

Bledsoe County Schools: Tennessee Reward Schools Delivering Excellence

Bledsoe County School District has achieved a remarkable feat by having four of its schools recognized as Tennessee Reward Schools. **Bledsoe County High School, Bledsoe County Middle School, Mary V Wheeler Elementary School, and Pikeville Elementary School** have all been bestowed with this prestigious honor, marking a significant milestone in the district's journey towards providing quality education.

2022  2023

REWARD SCHOOL



Bledsoe County
Middle School

Recognition for Outstanding Student Success in Achievement & Growth



2022  2023

REWARD SCHOOL



Bledsoe County
High School

Recognition for Outstanding Student Success in Achievement & Growth



Bledsoe County High School has a commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals equipped for success in an ever-evolving world, the high school has consistently demonstrated outstanding performance across various academic metrics.


Bledsoe County Middle School through innovative teaching methodologies, personalized attention, and a supportive learning environment, the middle school has fostered a culture of academic excellence where students thrive both academically and personally.

Bledsoe County Schools: Tennessee Reward Schools Delivering Excellence

At the elementary level, **Mary V Wheeler Elementary School** and **Pikeville Elementary School** have set a shining example of educational excellence. These schools serve as the foundation upon which students build their academic journey, instilling in them the fundamental skills and knowledge necessary for future success. By nurturing a love for learning and providing a nurturing environment, these elementary schools have played a pivotal role in shaping the educational landscape of Bledsoe County.

2022 ★★ 2023

REWARD SCHOOL



**Mary V Wheeler
Elementary School**

*Recognition for Outstanding Student
Success in Achievement & Growth*



2022 ★★ 2023

REWARD SCHOOL



**Pikeville
Elementary School**

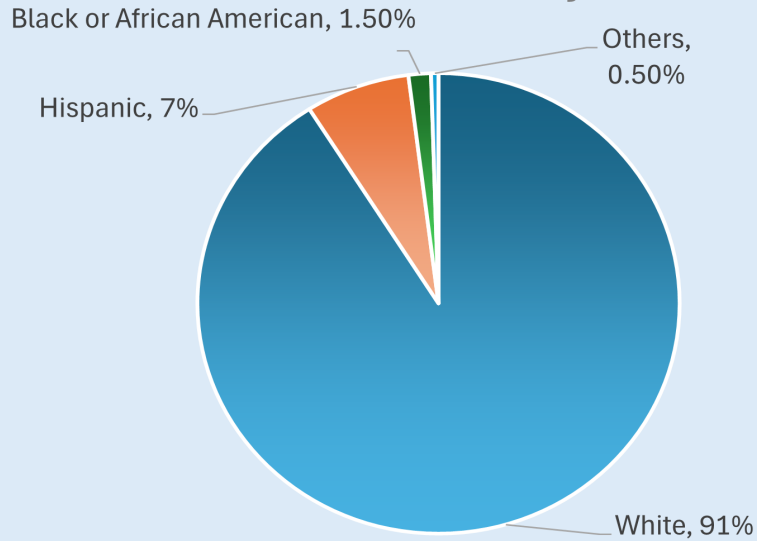
*Recognition for Outstanding Student
Success in Achievement & Growth*



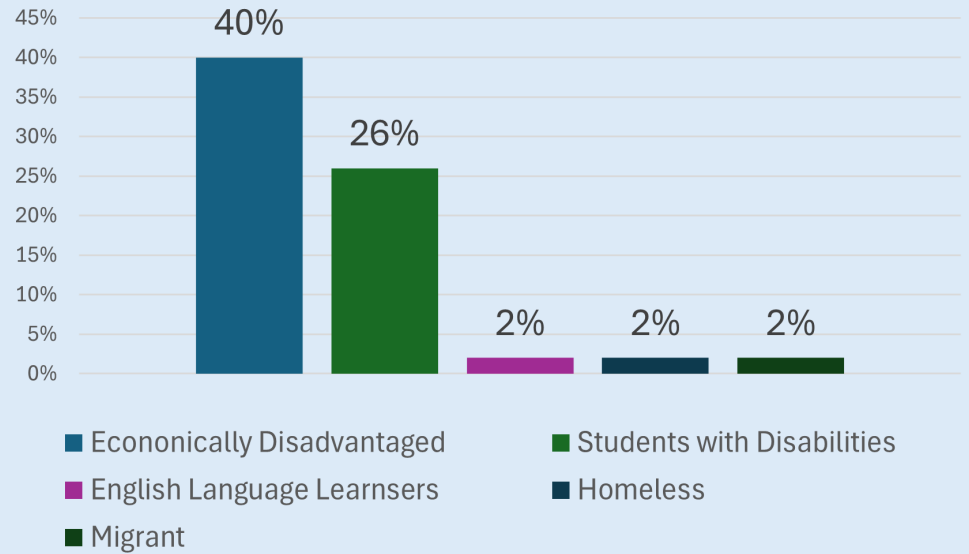

Bledsoe County School District remains steadfast in its commitment to providing quality education and ensuring that every student reaches their full potential. **Bledsoe County School District reaffirms its dedication to ongoing improvement and innovation in the realm of education.**

Demographics at a Glance

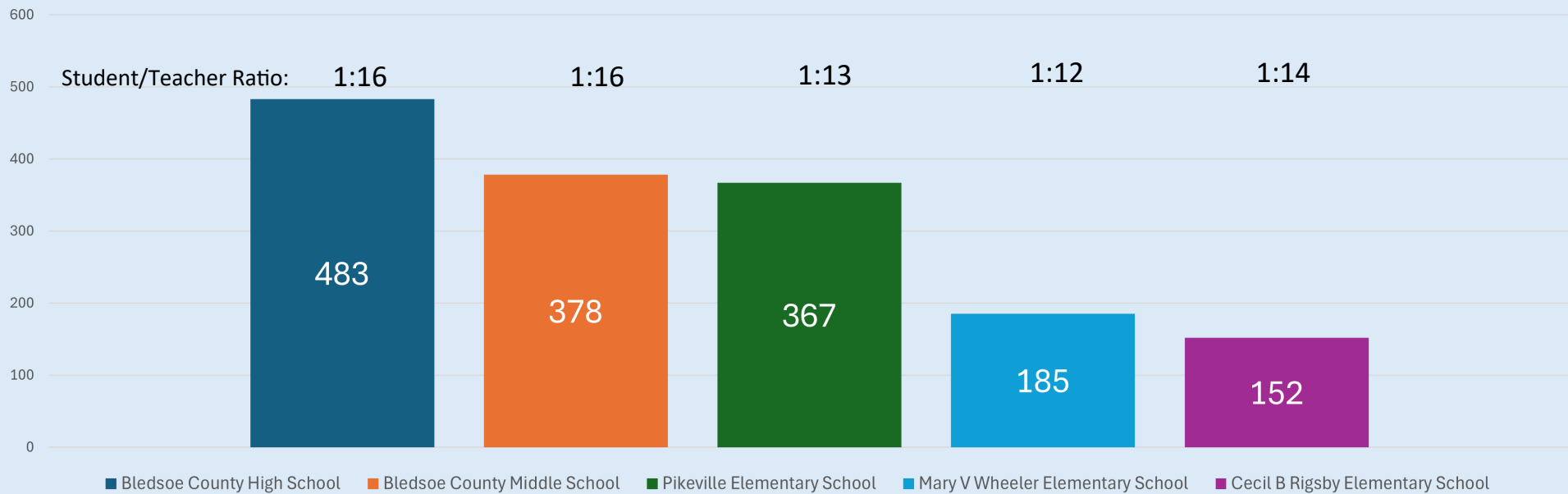
Student Enrollment by Race



Student Sub-Group Populations



Student Population by School

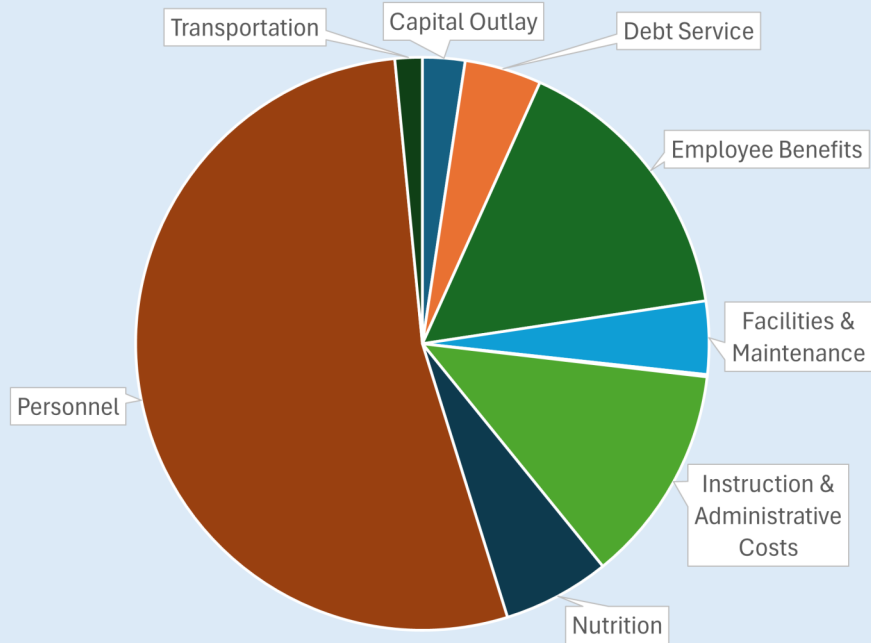


Spending per Student

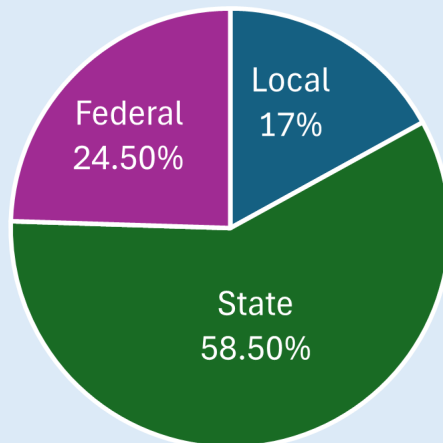
\$13,231



District Expenditures



Revenue Sources



Harmonizing Excellence: The Melodic Journey of Bledsoe County Schools Music Program

The Bledsoe County Schools Music Program stands as a testament to the transformative power of music education, fostering creativity, discipline, and a sense of community among its students.



High School Choir: Voices of Unity

A dimension of musical excellence unfolds through the enchanting melodies of the Bledsoe County High School Choir. Comprising students from diverse vocal ranges, the choir celebrates the beauty of collective.

Through rehearsals and performances, students not only hone their vocal skills but also cultivate confidence, discipline, and a deep appreciation for the power of their voices to inspire and uplift.

Every holiday season, the choir embarks on a heart-warming tradition, spreading cheer and goodwill as they embark on Christmas tours to the elementary schools in the county. Additionally, each semester, the choir treats audiences to enchanting concerts that transport them to magical worlds inspired by beloved themes. From Disney classics that awaken the inner child in everyone to spine-tingling Halloween melodies that evoke the thrill of the season, and from the timeless charm of "The Sound of Music".

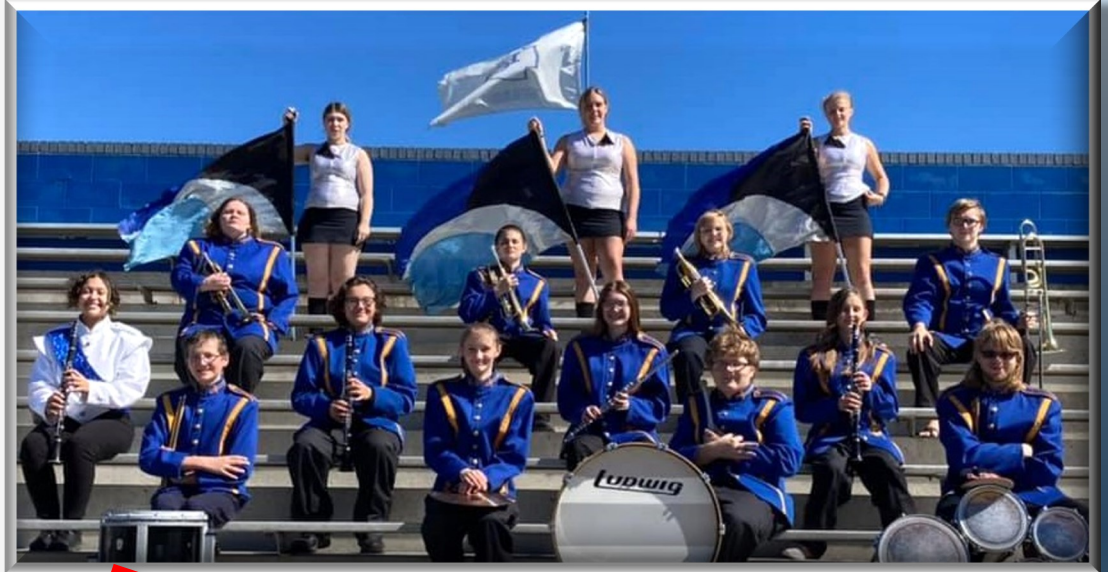


Harmonizing Excellence: The Melodic Journey of Bledsoe County Schools Music Program

High School/Middle School Band: A Crescendo of Excellence

At the heart of the Bledsoe County Schools Music Program beats the High School/Middle School band. Throughout the academic year, the high school band captivates audiences with a diverse repertoire spanning classical masterpieces, contemporary arrangements, and spirited marching band compositions. Each performance is a testament to the dedication and talent cultivated within the program.

But beyond the spotlight of concerts and competitions, the band serves as a close-knit community where students forge lifelong friendships and learn invaluable life skills. Through hours of practice, collaboration, and perseverance, they discover the transformative power of music to transcend barriers and unite hearts in harmony.



Guitar Classes: Strumming to Success

In addition to traditional ensembles, the Bledsoe County Schools Music Program embraces the diversity of musical expression through its guitar classes. Catering to students with a passion for strings and frets, these classes provide a platform for budding musicians to explore the rich tapestry of acoustic and electric guitar techniques.



Enriching Lives Through Theater : Bledsoe County Schools Drama Program

The drama program cultivates confidence and self-expression among its participants. Through rehearsals, performances, and the supportive guidance of teachers and peers, students learn to speak up, take risks, and embrace their individuality.

It serves as a powerful vehicle for building teamwork and collaboration skills. Through shared goals, challenges, and triumphs, students learn the value of cooperation, communication, and compromise—skills that are indispensable both on and off the stage.



The drama program offers students a unique opportunity for creative exploration and artistic expression. Whether crafting a character, designing a set, or choreographing a dance number, students are encouraged to unleash their imagination and think outside the box. In doing so, they develop critical thinking skills, problem-solving abilities, and a sense of innovation that will serve them well in any future endeavor.

Enriching Lives Through Theater : Bledsoe County Schools Drama Program

Over the past three years, Bledsoe County High School's drama department has brought to life three beloved classics: "Frozen," "The Wizard of Oz," and "The Little Mermaid."

In the The Wizard of Oz, Dorothy journeys down the yellow brick road to her encounters with the Scarecrow, Tin Man, and Cowardly Lion. The timeless tale came to life on stage, delighting both young and old alike.



In Frozen, the stage was transformed into the magical kingdom of Arendelle. From the iconic songs like "Let It Go" to the heartwarming sisterly bond between Elsa and Anna, the production captured the essence of the beloved tale, leaving audiences spellbound.



This years production is The Little Mermaid. With colorful costumes, imaginative set designs, and unforgettable musical performances, the production captures the imagination and leaves a lasting impression on all who attend.



**BLED SOE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
WARRIORS**



Partnership with The Ayers Foundation

The Ayers Foundation Trust brings forth a wealth of resources and support systems to enrich the academic journey of students at Bledsoe County High School. From scholarships and financial aid programs that alleviate the burden of educational expenses to mentorship initiatives that guide students towards their goals, the partnership ensures that every student has the opportunity to thrive. Additionally, by facilitating access to workshops, internships, and job placements, the collaboration enhances the educational experience, equipping students with the skills and knowledge necessary for success in the modern world.

Science Department

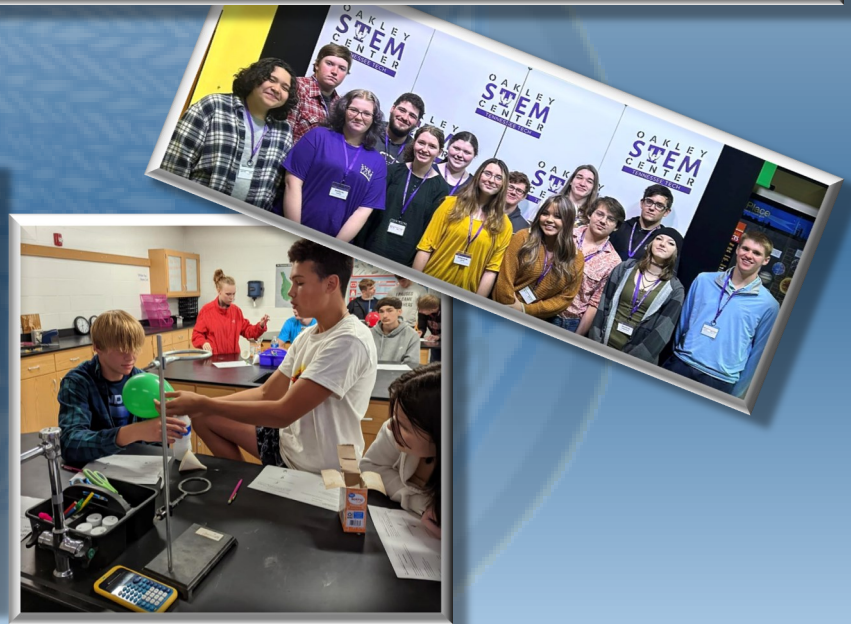
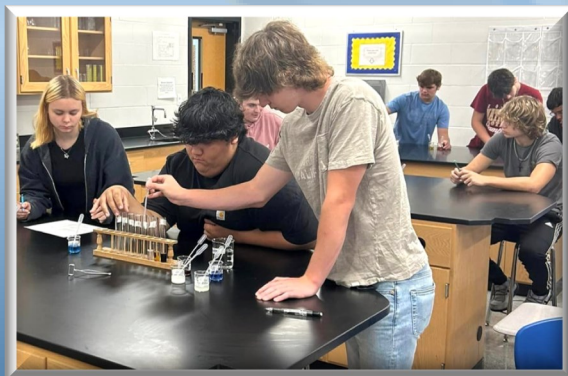
The science department rooms were remodeled and modernized about 5 years ago. Between our three science teachers, we offer a variety of science classes including: Ecology, Environmental Science, Biology, Honors Biology, Chemistry, Honors Chemistry, Physics and Biology 2. We have been very successful the past couple of years competing in the Upper Cumberland Regional Science Fair held at Tennessee Tech.

Matt Ridley

Principal

Regina Tabor

Assistant Principal



Transition School to Work (TSW)

This program focuses on the provision of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services to eligible and potentially eligible high school students with a qualifying condition documented through an IEP, 504, or medical records. These students are interested in employment or post secondary education after high school. The goal is a smooth, seamless transition from high school to post-high school career development and/or employment.

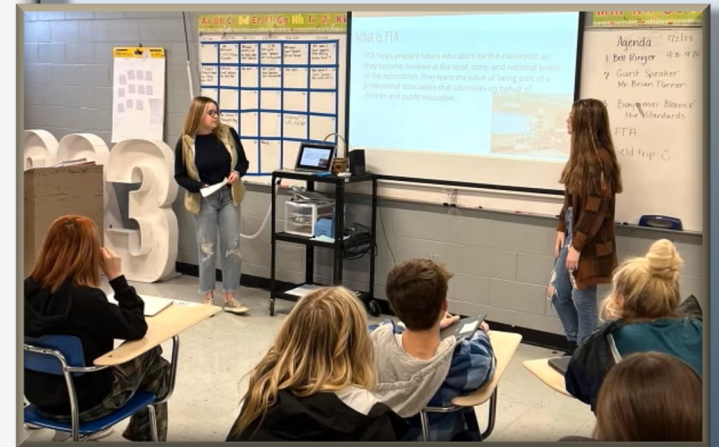
Teaching as a Profession Program

The Teaching as a Profession program is a comprehensive initiative designed to **prepare students for careers in education.**

This program provides aspiring educators with foundational knowledge and hands-on experience in teaching methodologies, classroom management, and educational psychology.

Students participate in internships and collaborative projects that allow them to work directly with experienced teachers and engage with diverse student populations.

Through a combination of coursework and practical application, the program aims to equip future teachers with the skills and confidence needed to succeed in the dynamic field of education.



**BLEDSOE COUNTY
HIGH SCHOOL**

Project AWARE

The AWARE program's mission is to **promote awareness, wellness, and resilience among students.**

It offers a comprehensive range of resources and activities aimed at addressing the diverse needs of the school community.

From mental health workshops and counseling services to peer support groups and wellness seminars, the AWARE program creates a nurturing environment where students feel valued, heard, and supported in their personal and academic growth.

Bledsoe County High School's Six-Step Strategies That Have Boosted ACT Scores

A Pathway to Academic Excellence

Bledsoe County High School has embarked on a journey to elevate its students' ACT scores. Recognizing the pivotal role that standardized testing plays in college admissions and academic success, the school has devised a comprehensive six-step strategy aimed at empowering students to achieve their highest potential. Through a combination of data analysis, mindset shifts, student and parent engagement, targeted classroom strategies, endurance building, and celebration of successes,



Score of 21 and Higher

1. Understanding the Data:

The first step in Bledsoe County High School's strategy is to delve deep into the data. By analyzing past ACT scores, identifying areas of strength and weakness, and pinpointing trends, educators gain valuable insights into the specific needs of their students. Understanding the data allows the school to tailor its approach and interventions effectively, ensuring that resources are directed where they are most needed.



Score of 21 and Higher

2. Shifting the Mindset:

A crucial aspect of improving ACT scores is cultivating a growth mindset among students. Bledsoe County High School emphasizes the belief that intelligence and abilities are not fixed but can be developed through effort and perseverance. By fostering a culture of resilience and growth, students are encouraged to embrace challenges, learn from failures, and strive for continuous improvement—a mindset that is essential for success on the ACT and beyond.

Bledsoe County High School's Six-Step Strategies That Have Boosted ACT Scores

A Pathway to Academic Excellence

3. Generating Student & Parent Interest:

To motivate students to excel on the ACT, Bledsoe County High School engages them early and often. Through workshops, seminars, and informational sessions, students are introduced to the importance of the ACT in college admissions and scholarship opportunities. Similarly, the school actively involves parents in the process, providing resources and support to help them understand the significance of the ACT and how they can assist their children in preparation.

4. Implementing Classroom Strategies:

Effective classroom instruction plays a pivotal role in preparing students for the ACT. Bledsoe County High School employs a variety of research-based strategies designed to enhance students' critical thinking, problem-solving, and test-taking skills. From targeted practice drills to interdisciplinary projects that reinforce core concepts, teachers are equipped with the tools and resources needed to ensure that students are well-prepared for success on the ACT.

5. Building Test Endurance:

Scoring well on the ACT requires more than just academic knowledge—it also demands mental stamina and endurance. To help students tackle the rigorous demands of the test, Bledsoe County High School incorporates test-taking strategies and practice sessions into the curriculum. Through simulated testing environments, students learn to manage their time effectively, stay focused under pressure, and maintain confidence throughout the exam—an essential component of achieving their best possible scores.



6. Celebrating Student Success:

Finally, Bledsoe County High School celebrates and recognizes student achievements on the ACT. Whether it's through school-wide announcements, awards ceremonies, or individual recognition, students are applauded for their hard work and dedication. By highlighting success stories and showcasing improvement over time, the school fosters a culture of excellence and motivates students to continue striving for academic greatness.

Bledsoe County High School's six-step strategy to increase ACT scores exemplifies a holistic and student-centered approach to academic success. The school equips students with the tools and support needed to excel on the ACT and beyond. Through dedication, innovation, and a relentless commitment to student achievement, Bledsoe County High School is paving the way for a brighter future for its students.

Future Farmers of America (FFA): Cultivating Leaders and Agricultural Excellence

Achievements and Recognition

The Bledsoe County FFA chapter has garnered numerous accolades over the years, reflecting the dedication and hard work of its members and advisors. From winning state-level competitions to earning national recognition, the achievements of the chapter are a testament to the quality of the program and the talent of its students. These accomplishments not only bring pride to the school but also inspire younger students to strive for excellence.

Lillie Cagle
Bledsoe
County's
First
National
Winner
Agriculture
Education



Makayla
Borkowicz
Proficiency
in SAE
Agriculture
Research



Abigayle
Houser
East TN Star
Greenhand



Kaylea
Simmons
Top 4 in
Nation
Poultry
Production



Ruthie
Beavers
East TN
Treasurer



Leadership and Personal Growth

One of the primary goals of FFA is to develop leadership skills in its members. Through various activities and competitions, students are encouraged to take on leadership roles, work collaboratively, and develop public speaking and critical thinking skills. The program offers numerous opportunities for students to participate in regional, state, and national FFA events, where they can compete in areas such as agricultural sales, livestock judging, and public speaking.

Future Farmers of America (FFA): Cultivating Leaders and Agricultural Excellence



Future Goals and Vision

Looking ahead, the Bledsoe County FFA program aims to expand its reach and impact. Plans are in place to introduce new courses that reflect the evolving landscape of agriculture, such as precision farming and sustainable agriculture practices. Additionally, the program seeks to enhance its facilities by building a **new 40'x60'x14' barn** to be completed by Aug/Sep 2024. The FFA chapter at Bledsoe County High School is committed to preparing the next generation of agricultural leaders and innovators.

Community Impact

The SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience) projects have significantly enriched the local community, generating **over \$200,000 in economic impacts**. These projects have provided students with hands-on learning opportunities while fostering entrepreneurship and sustainable practices. The economic contributions stem from increased agricultural productivity, the establishment of small agribusinesses, and enhanced local food supply chains. The financial impact is a testament to the value of practical agricultural education and its role in driving rural development and economic resilience.



Ready Graduate Rate of 81%: A Model of Educational Excellence

Bledsoe County Ready Graduate Rate: 81% Tennessee State Rate: 43%

Bledsoe County High School has achieved a remarkable milestone with an 81% Ready Graduate rate.

Significantly outperforming the state average of 43%



Understanding the Ready Graduate Rate

The Ready Graduate rate measures the percentage of students who meet specific criteria that indicate they are prepared for life after high school.

These criteria include earning a diploma, achieving satisfactory scores on standardized tests, completing dual enrollment courses, earning industry certifications, and participating in advanced coursework.

A high Ready Graduate rate reflects a school's effectiveness in equipping students with the necessary skills and qualifications to thrive beyond high school.

Why an 81% Ready Graduate Rate is Significant

Enhanced Postsecondary Preparedness: An 81% Ready Graduate rate means that the vast majority of Bledsoe County High School students are leaving high school with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in college or their chosen careers.

Competitive Edge in the Job Market: Students who graduate ready are more likely to possess the qualifications and skills sought by employers. This advantage can translate into higher starting salaries, more job opportunities, and career advancement.

Reduced Remediation Rates: High readiness rates can lead to fewer students requiring remedial courses in college, which saves time and money for students and educational institutions. This efficiency allows students to progress more quickly toward their degrees and career goals.

Higher Academic Standards and Achievement: Achieving an 81% Ready Graduate rate indicates that Bledsoe County High School maintains high academic standards and offers rigorous coursework. This environment fosters a culture of excellence and achievement, benefiting all students.

Positive Community Impact: A higher percentage of ready graduates can have a ripple effect on the local community. Graduates who are better prepared for postsecondary success are more likely to contribute positively to the economy, participate in civic activities, and lead fulfilling lives.



School Clubs

SkillsUSA is America's proud champion of the skilled trades. Our mission is to empower students to become skilled professionals, career-ready leaders and responsible community members.

DECA is a Career and Technical Student Organization which prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe.

4-H empowers young people with the skills to lead for a lifetime. It's a research-based experience that includes a mentor, a hands-on project, and a meaningful leadership opportunity.

BET empowers Engineering and STEM students in activities that will develop problem solving, leadership, creative and career ready skills for their future goals. Students work with teams to develop and build projects that relate to the engineering field.

FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) is an interdenominational Christian sports ministry that consists of a group of young athletes who come together to praise God as well as learn how to play their sports with a Christ-like attitude. FCA also hosts a variety of individual and team camps in the summer as well as outreach events like Fields of Faith at the local and regional level.

Art Club is where students gather to explore various artistic mediums and techniques. Through collaborative projects, exhibitions, and outreach initiatives, the art club not only fosters artistic growth but also cultivates a sense of belonging and camaraderie among its members.

National Beta Club recognizes high academic achievement, promotes character and social responsibility, encourages service involvement to school and community, fosters leadership skills, and provides settings for your child to develop interpersonal relationship skills. Our club traditionally holds an item drive for the Ronald McDonald House of Chattanooga for one of our service projects and the last few years we have also had a trail building day at Fall Creek Falls.



Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders: Career and Technical Education

The Bledsoe County Schools Career and Technical Education (CTE) program stands as a testament to the commitment of educators and community leaders to prepare students for success in an ever-evolving workforce.

Advanced Manufacturing: Crafting Innovation

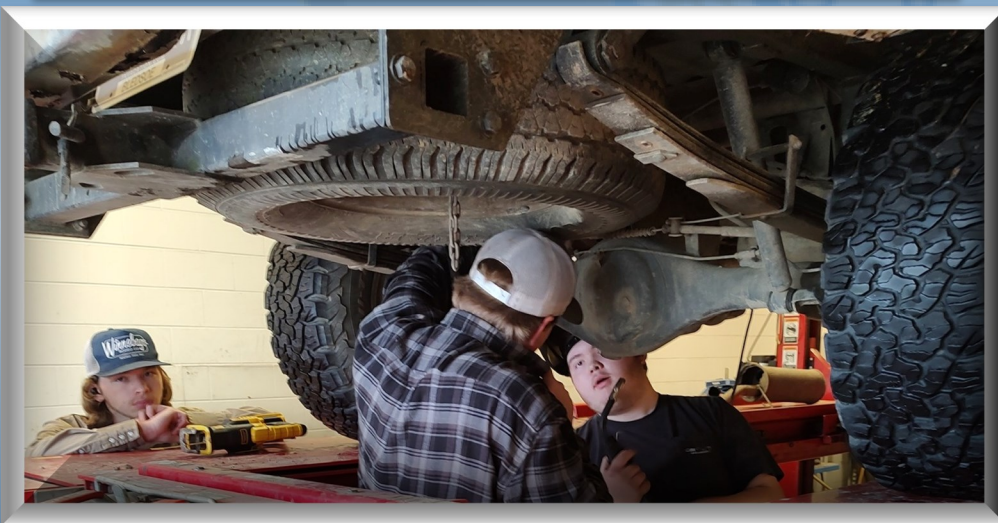
From precision machining to computer-aided design, students delve into the intricacies of modern manufacturing processes, preparing them for careers in fields such as engineering, robotics, and production management.

Agriculture: Cultivating Success

Through hands-on experiences in crop production, animal science, and sustainable practices, students gain a deep appreciation for the vital role of agriculture in feeding and sustaining our world.

Automotive Repair & Maintenance: Driving Excellence

From diagnosing engine problems, collision repair to performing routine maintenance, students gain practical, hands-on experience that prepares them for success in the fast-paced world of automotive repair.



Education: Inspiring Minds

Through internships, practicums, and hands-on experiences, students gain invaluable insights into the art and science of teaching, preparing them to make a meaningful difference in the lives of future generations.

Marketing: Empowering Tomorrow's Business Leaders

Equips students with the skills, knowledge, and creativity needed to excel in various aspects of marketing, from market research to advertising and branding. Through collaborative projects and real-world simulations, students gain practical experience and develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills essential for success.

Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders: Career and Technical Education

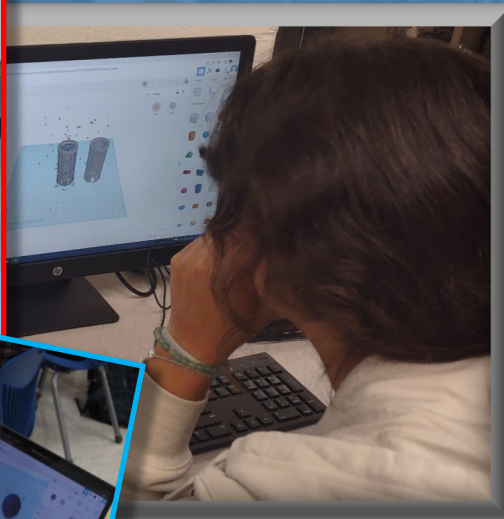
Construction: Building Dreams

With a focus on hands-on learning and practical skills, the Construction pathway empowers students to bring their visions to life through carpentry, electrical work, plumbing, and more. Students develop the expertise and confidence needed to thrive in the dynamic construction industry.



STEM: Exploring the Frontiers of Innovation

Through hands-on projects, research opportunities, and real-world applications, the STEM pathway empowers students to explore the frontiers of innovation, tackle complex challenges, and unleash their potential as tomorrow's leaders and innovators.



Health Science: Preparing Heroes for Every Crisis

Through hands-on simulations, classroom instruction, and real-world experiences, students learn to assess, triage, and provide vital medical care in emergency settings. . With a focus on teamwork, critical thinking, and compassionate care, the program's training in Emergency Services prepares students to make a difference when every second counts.

Industrial Maintenance: Crafting Tomorrow's Technicians

Maintenance and Engineering Practices Skills (MEPS) program equips students with the hands-on skills and knowledge required for success in industrial maintenance careers. Through a comprehensive curriculum, students delve into mechanical systems, electrical circuits, and hydraulic principles, gaining practical experience in troubleshooting and preventive maintenance. With industry partnerships and opportunities for certification, students graduate with the skills and credentials necessary to excel in the modern manufacturing sector.

CTE Concentrators Rate of 87%: A Beacon of Success

Bledsoe County CTE Concentrator Rate: 87% Tennessee State Rate: 60%

Bledsoe County High School's recent achievement of an 87% Career and Technical Education (CTE) concentrators rate is a remarkable milestone, especially when compared to the state average of 60%.

CTE concentrators are students who have completed two or more credits, in sequence, within a single CTE program of study. These programs equip students with practical skills, technical knowledge, and hands-on experience, making them well-prepared for both the workforce and further education.



Why 87% is a Remarkable Achievement

Enhanced Career Readiness: The majority of our students are leaving high school with valuable skills directly applicable to various industries. This preparation enhances their employability, providing them with a competitive edge in the job market.

Meeting Workforce Demands: Our Tennessee economy has specific needs for skilled workers in certain industries. A high CTE concentrators rate indicates that Bledsoe County High School is aligning its programs with these demands, ensuring that students are prepared for local job opportunities.

Academic and Technical Balance: Achieving an 87% CTE concentrators rate demonstrates the school's ability to balance academic education with technical training. This dual approach not only fosters academic success but also ensures students acquire practical skills, promoting a well-rounded education.

Increased Student Engagement: CTE programs increase student engagement by providing hands-on, relevant learning experiences. A high concentrators rate demonstrates that a large number of students are finding value and interest in these programs, which lead to higher overall student retention and graduation rates.

Factors Behind our Success

Strong Community and Industry Partnerships: Collaborations with local businesses and industries provide our students with real-world experiences, internships, and apprenticeships.

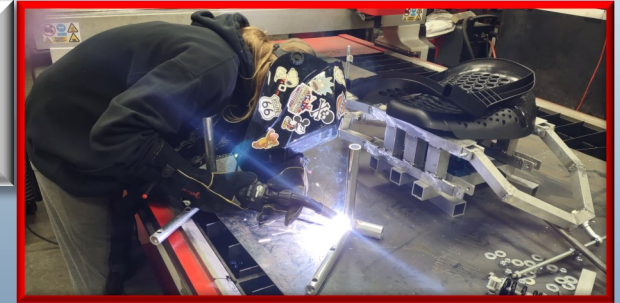
Dedicated Faculty and Staff: Passionate and skilled educators who are committed to the success of their students significantly impact the effectiveness of CTE programs.

Comprehensive Program Offerings: Offering a wide range of CTE programs that cater to diverse interests and career aspirations ensures that more students can find pathways that align with their goals.

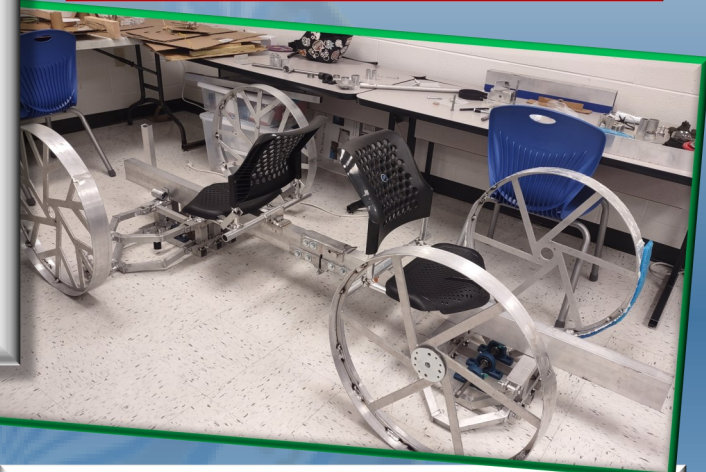
Supportive School Administration: Leadership that prioritizes and invests in CTE programs can provide the necessary resources and support for these programs to thrive.

Bledsoe County High School Rockets to Success in NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge

Bledsoe County High School has once again proven its dedication to innovation and exploration through its participation in the NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge. This annual event, organized by NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, invites high school and college teams from around the world to design, build, and race human-powered rovers over a simulated Martian terrain.

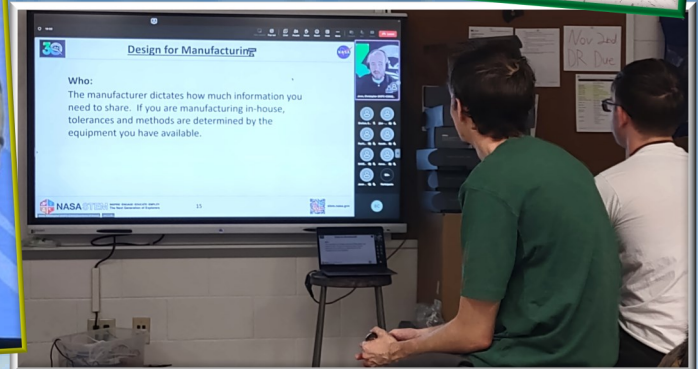


For the past 3 years Bledsoe County High School fielded a team of enthusiastic students who poured their passion and expertise into crafting a cutting-edge rover. Months of hard work, collaboration, and problem-solving culminated in a remarkable showing at the competition, where their rover showcased both functionality and ingenuity.



Out of the 70+ college and high school teams from across the world, Bledsoe County High School is the only high school competitor from Tennessee.

Bledsoe County School won the Social Media Award in the competition in both 2022 and 2024.




14 Bledsoe High School students on average are responsible each year for CAD design, metal cutting, welding steel and aluminum, STEM outreach, and technical writing for reports and presentations to NASA officials.

This is a transformative journey that sparks lifelong passions for STEM fields and space exploration. The lessons learned, from problem-solving under pressure to the power of collaboration, will serve them well in whatever paths they choose to pursue.

Bledsoe County
Middle School

**BLED SOE COUNTY
MIDDLE SCHOOL
WARRIORS**



**WARRIOR
PRIDE**

**Create the person you want to be
proud of everyday!**

Mission

Bledsoe County Middle School strives to create a safe learning environment for all students that is challenging and inspires success.



Project Lead The Way

Our Project Lead The Way (PLTW) classes offer students an engaging, hands-on approach to learning that **emphasizes science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)**.

Through the PLTW curriculum, students tackle real-world challenges and develop critical skills such as problem-solving, collaboration, and creative thinking.

The classes incorporate a variety of interactive projects, from designing and building prototypes to exploring robotics. By engaging in these activities, students gain a deeper understanding of core STEM concepts and how they apply to everyday life.

This innovative program not only enhances students' technical knowledge but also inspires them to pursue further education and careers in STEM fields, laying a strong foundation for future success.

Candi Kempton

Principal

Emily Dodson

Assistant Principal



Coding Classes

Our Coding classes provide students with a dynamic and engaging introduction to computational thinking, problem solving, and video game development.

Through hands-on projects and interactive lessons, **students learn to break down complex problems into manageable steps, fostering critical thinking and logical reasoning.** The curriculum emphasizes the fundamentals of coding, teaching students to write and debug code, while encouraging creativity and innovation.

By building their own video games, students not only gain practical programming skills but also understand the importance of perseverance and collaboration in overcoming challenges.

This comprehensive approach ensures that students develop a strong foundation in technology and are well-prepared for future STEM opportunities.



Career Exploration

Our Career Exploration classes immerse students in a diverse array of hands-on activities designed to spark interest in various career fields.

Students engage in a stock trading competition, where they learn the fundamentals of the stock market and develop financial literacy skills.

Through virtual airline piloting simulations, they experience the challenges and excitement of aviation careers.

The class also delves into marketing strategies, allowing students to create and pitch their own business ideas.

A highlight of the program is the partnership with Amazon Future Engineers, providing students with the opportunity to explore computer science and engineering careers through innovative projects and mentorship.

This comprehensive approach ensures that **students gain practical experience and insight into multiple career pathways**, preparing them for future academic and professional endeavors.



CECIL B RIGSBY HORNETS



**I WILL DO MY BEST
TO BE MY BEST**

Celebrating our Veterans

We work each year to embrace those that have sacrificed for our country. Students showcase their talents through honoring our veterans.



Students and staff celebrate veterans with songs and poems.

Cecil B. Rigsby is small community school nestled in the Walden's Ridge Area of Bledsoe County, Tennessee.

We begin each day with a morning meeting allowing students to recite our mantra and the Pledge of Allegiance.

With fewer students, teachers provide more individualized attention, catering to each child's unique learning needs and styles, which enhance academic performance and personal growth.

Our students have more opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities, leadership roles, and class discussions, promoting a well-rounded education and are designed to foster the whole child.

Recognition is valued at Cecil B. Rigsby. Students are recognized for kindness, attendance as well as their academic growth and achievement.

Our tight-knit community fosters stronger relationships among students, teachers, and parents, creating a supportive and nurturing environment.

This close communication and collaboration between staff and families ensure a safer and more cohesive school experience.

Winter Holiday Program– We sing and celebrate the season through a month of activities and a culminating winter program.



Our **Coding** program in all grades fosters critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and creativity, preparing students for future technological advancements and diverse career opportunities.

**Cecil B Rigsby
Elementary School**

Diane Hannah

Principal

Brandi Disidoro

Assistant Principal

MARY V WHEELER
MOUNTAINEERS



VISION
EXPECT THE BEST!

We are proud to be one of Tennessee’s remaining small, **community schools**. With our school’s low enrollment standing, we pride ourselves on personalized learning for each student, enhanced student engagement, and our personalized relationships between teachers, parents, and students. Our strong sense of community is what continues to help us preserve the past and shape our students’ future.

Mission

A learning community committed to preparing students, academically and socially, to become college and career ready.

Excellence in Education

Governor’s A+ School Award
Tennessee Exemplary School
Tennessee Reward School:
Achievement & Growth
2014, 2019, 2023

With many faculty and staff members marking over **twenty, thirty, and forty years** working at our school, this signifies the respect we show towards education,

Our **Parent Teacher Organization** works to provide our students with the best school possible. Within the past ten years, this organization has raised approximately \$150,000 for our school.

Character Education is at the forefront of everything we do. Students work hard to be nominated for outstanding character recognition daily through our Mountaineer of the Week program.



A newly implemented **Coding** program is helping our students develop the critical thinking, problem solving, and logical reasoning skills they need for success in our twenty-first century world.



Michael McAnnally

Principal

Emily Frady

Assistant Principal

Mary V Wheeler
Elementary School

Pikeville Elementary School

PIKEVILLE ELEMENTARY CHARGERS

VISION

EVERY STUDENT MATTERS



EVERY MOMENT COUNTS

Pikeville Elementary is a Pre-K through 5th grade elementary school. Located in the Sequatchie Valley between Dunlap and Crossville TN. We have 31 certified teachers on staff. We are the largest school in the county and also home to the employee daycare for all Bledsoe County School employees. Pikeville Elementary takes pride in being the first opportunity for many students to make lasting friendships and forms bonds that last well beyond elementary. Our teachers have a profound impact on students' lives, serving as mentors, role models, and sources of encouragement and support throughout all of their school careers and into adulthood.

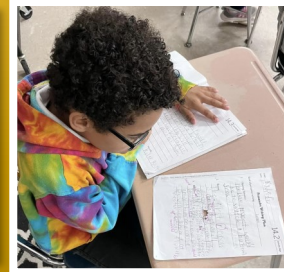
Holiday Celebrations

We celebrate various holidays throughout the year with parties, special performances, and themed activities, creating a sense of excitement and community. We celebrate our Veterans' with a special lunch, we sing songs at our Winter Celebration, and Read Across America week with themed dress up days.



Field Trips -Exciting field trips to places like museums, zoos, and other exciting educational destinations. These trips provide hands-on learning experiences and create lasting memories.

Excellence in Education Elementary school is where fundamental skills like basic math, reading and writing are introduced. Pikeville Elementary was a Rewards school in 2022-2023,



Coding Classes—Introducing coding in all our grades help our students to develop logical reasoning and computational thinking skills early on, laying a strong foundation for success in an increasingly digital world.

LeeAnn Morris
Principal

Alisa Boyd
Assistant Principal



Sports- Whether it's during recess or our organized PTO basketball sports program, elementary school is a time when many kids discover their love for sports, and develop the foundational skills to be successful in team sports later on in their school career.



Empowering Every Learner: Special Education Highlights at Bledsoe County Schools

Bledsoe County Schools is dedicated to providing exceptional support and resources to students with diverse learning needs through its robust Special Education program. The district ensures that every student, aged 3 to 22, has access to the specialized educational services and interventions.

Individualized Education Programs (IEPs):

Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) are tailored plans designed to meet the unique needs of each student with a disability. These comprehensive plans outline specific goals, accommodations, and support services based on the student's strengths, challenges, and learning style.

General Classroom Support and Learning Tools:

Provides support and tools designed to meet the diverse needs of students with disabilities and gifted students. For students with disabilities, the schools offer adaptive technologies, and specialized instructional strategies to ensure accessibility and engagement. These resources include speech-to-text software, audiobooks, and tailored learning materials that accommodate various learning styles and needs. Gifted students benefit from advanced coursework, enrichment programs, and opportunities for accelerated learning. Through these initiatives, we aim to create an educational environment where every student can thrive.

Student Therapy Services:

The district provides access to specialized therapy services delivered by trained professionals who work collaboratively with educators, families, and students to promote physical well-being, motor skills development, communication abilities, and overall independence.

Specialized Educational Support Services:

Offers a range of specialized educational support services tailored to meet the diverse needs of students with disabilities. These services encompass a continuum of supports, including specialized instruction, behavior intervention, social-emotional learning, transition planning, and more.

Teacher Collaboration and Intervention Strategies:

Prioritizes collaboration between special education teachers, general education teachers, and support staff to develop and implement effective intervention strategies for students with diverse learning needs, including gifted students. This collaborative approach ensures that all students receive the individualized attention and resources they need to succeed academically and reach their full potential.

Family Education and Support:

Offers family education and training opportunities to help parents and caregivers navigate the complexities of special education and behavioral support at home. Through workshops, seminars, individual consultations, and access to resources, families receive the knowledge, skills, and support they need to advocate for their children, reinforce learning goals, and foster positive relationships with educators and support staff.



Enhancing Educational Opportunities: Bledsoe County Schools' Federally & State Funded Initiatives

Bledsoe County Schools is committed to providing access to high-quality education for all students, regardless of background or circumstance. Through a range of federally funded programs, the district addresses the diverse needs of its student population, promotes academic achievement, and fosters a supportive learning environment.

Teacher Mentoring Program:

Recognizing the importance of providing support and guidance to new educators as they navigate their early years in the profession, the district pairs experienced mentors with novice teachers to offer mentorship, coaching, and professional development opportunities. Through this program, new teachers receive personalized support, resources, and encouragement to enhance their instructional practices, build confidence, and thrive in their roles.



Voluntary Preschool Program:

Bledsoe County Schools' voluntary preschool program, supported by state funding, provides high-quality early education experiences to children ages 3 to 5. Through a play-based curriculum, nurturing environments, and qualified early childhood educators, the program prepares young learners for kindergarten readiness and fosters their social, emotional, and cognitive development.

Instructional Coach for Teachers:

To support continuous improvement and professional growth among educators, Bledsoe County Schools employs instructional coaches funded through federal programs. These coaches work collaboratively with teachers to enhance instructional practices, differentiate instruction, and implement evidence-based strategies to meet the diverse needs of students.

Migrant Student Services:

With funding provided through federal grants, the district offers specialized support to students from migrant families, including academic assistance, cultural enrichment activities, and access to social services.



Enhancing Educational Opportunities: Bledsoe County Schools' Federally & State Funded Initiatives



Family Engagement Program:

Bledsoe County Schools' family engagement program, supported by federal funding, promotes partnerships between schools, families, and communities. Through workshops, events, and resources, the program empowers parents and caregivers to actively participate in their children's education, advocate for their needs, and support learning at home.

The Book Bus:

Bledsoe County Schools' innovative Book Bus partnership with the Bledsoe County Library brings the joy of reading directly to students in underserved communities. Supported by federal funding, the Book Bus travels to neighborhoods, community centers, and events, providing free access to books and literacy activities for children of all ages.



English Language Learner Program:

Through federally funded initiatives, the district offers English language instruction, cultural enrichment activities, and academic support services to ELL students and their families. By promoting language acquisition, cultural competency, and academic success, the ELL program equips students with the skills and confidence to thrive in a diverse and global society.

Student Resource Officers in Every School:

Through state funded initiatives, the district has SRO's stationed at every school. SROs are trained law enforcement officers who are equipped to handle potential threats and emergencies. Their presence acts as a deterrent to violence, bullying, and other criminal activities. By interacting with students, they build trust and positive relationships between students, staff, and law enforcement. SROs are trained in emergency preparedness and crisis management, which includes evacuation procedures and lockdown protocols.

Elevating Education: Instruction Highlights at Bledsoe County Schools

The district is driven by a commitment to providing high-quality instruction that empowers students to reach their full potential. Through a series of strategic initiatives and partnerships, the district has implemented innovative instructional practices aimed at fostering academic growth and achievement across all grade levels. From the review and adoption of high-quality instructional materials to targeted tutoring programs and professional development opportunities for educators, Bledsoe County Schools is dedicated to ensuring that every student receives a world-class education.

Review and Adoption of High-Quality Instructional Materials:

At the heart of Bledsoe County Schools' instructional approach is the careful selection and implementation of high-quality instructional materials. Recognizing the critical role that curriculum plays in student learning, the district has undertaken a rigorous review process to identify resources that align with state standards, promote critical thinking skills, and engage students in meaningful learning experiences.

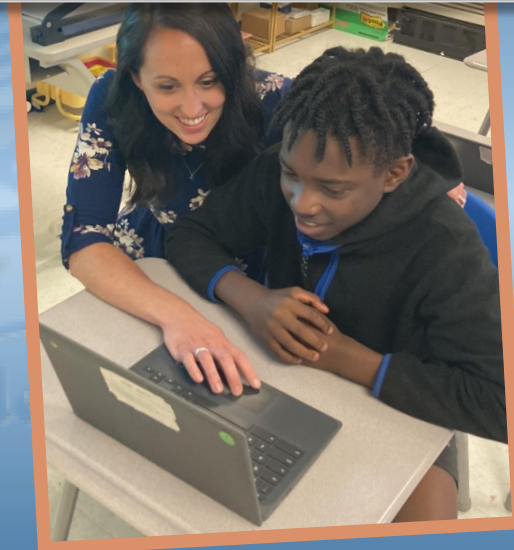


Professional Development on High-Leverage Instructional Practices:

Central to Bledsoe County Schools' instructional success is a commitment to ongoing professional development for educators. The district recognizes that effective teaching requires continuous learning and growth, and as such, invests in opportunities for teachers to refine their practice and stay abreast of the latest research and instructional strategies.

Tutoring in 3rd-5th Grade ELA:

Implemented targeted tutoring programs to provide additional support to students in need. Through the TN All Corps tutoring initiative, students in grades 6-8 receive personalized assistance in math, helping to reinforce key concepts, address learning gaps, and build confidence in their abilities. Similarly, the program extends to 3rd grade ELA, ensuring that students develop strong literacy skills foundational for future academic success.



Bledsoe County Schools' Food Service: Nourishing Bodies, Nurturing Minds

Bledsoe County Schools' Food Service ensures the highest standards of food safety to promoting access to nutritious meals for all students.

Summer Feeding Program:

During the month of June, Bledsoe County Schools operates a summer feeding program to ensure that students have access to nutritious meals even when school is not in session.



Health and Safety Excellence:

In a remarkable achievement, all cafeterias across the district have consistently scored 100% on health inspections, reflecting the dedication of staff members to upholding rigorous hygiene and sanitation protocols.

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Initiative:

Elementary schools in Bledsoe County benefit from grants for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, which provides a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables to students. This initiative not only exposes students to a diverse range of healthy food options but also promotes life-long habits of nutritious eating.

Access to Free Meals:

Bledsoe County Schools provides breakfast and lunch to all students at no charge through the Community Eligibility Program (CEP) under the National School Lunch Program. This inclusive approach eliminates barriers to accessing nutritious meals and helps combat food insecurity among students.

Support for After-School Activities:

Bledsoe County Schools' Food Service program extends its support beyond regular school hours through an afterschool snack program that provides free snacks for all afterschool activities. Whether students are participating in sports, clubs, or academic enrichment programs, they can count on nutritious snacks to refuel and recharge.

Certified Nutrition Staff:

Bledsoe County Schools' Food Service program is a team of dedicated professionals who are certified through the School Nutrition Association (SNA) and the Child Nutrition Institute. By investing in professional development and certification for its nutrition staff, the district demonstrates its commitment to maintaining the highest standards of food service and nutrition education.



Lil Warriors Daycare - Bledsoe County Schools' Innovative Approach to Providing Daycare

In an era where competition for talent in the education sector is fierce, Bledsoe County Schools has distinguished itself by implementing a groundbreaking initiative: offering **daycare services to employees**. Recognizing the challenges that many educators face in balancing their professional responsibilities with the demands of childcare, the district has prioritized the well-being of its staff by providing convenient and affordable daycare options. This innovative approach not only helps attract top talent to the district but also fosters employee loyalty and retention, ultimately benefiting students and the entire learning community.



Moreover, providing daycare services aligns with Bledsoe County Schools' broader goals of promoting work-life balance and employee wellness. Recognizing that **happy and fulfilled employees** are more engaged and effective in their roles, the district prioritizes initiatives that support the holistic well-being of its staff. By offering daycare, Bledsoe County Schools demonstrates its commitment to supporting employees' personal and family needs, fostering a positive and supportive workplace culture where educators feel valued and appreciated.

Bledsoe County Schools' decision to provide daycare services to employees is a testament to its commitment to supporting staff well-being, promoting work-life balance, and fostering a positive workplace culture. By addressing the childcare needs of educators, the district not only **attracts top talent** but also **retains dedicated professionals** who are essential to providing high-quality education to students. As a pioneer in this innovative approach, Bledsoe County Schools sets a standard for employee support and engagement, creating a model workplace where educators can thrive personally and professionally.



Fiscal Responsibility: A Strategic Approach to Saving ESSER Funds for the Future

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, educational institutions across the globe have been grappling with unprecedented challenges, including financial strain. Bledsoe County Schools, however, emphasizing fiscal responsibility, is using a strategic approach for managing their Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds. While many schools might be tempted to exhaust these funds immediately, Bledsoe County Schools has opted for a prudent and forward-thinking strategy by **saving a portion of their ESSER funds for the future.**

Instead of rushing to spend the entire allocation in the short term, the district leadership recognized the importance of preserving a portion of these funds for future needs and contingencies. By setting aside a portion of the ESSER funds, the district is better positioned to address potential challenges in the future.

Furthermore, Bledsoe County Schools' decision to save ESSER funds reflects a commitment to fiscal prudence and accountability. Rather than succumbing to the temptation of immediate spending, the district leadership has demonstrated a keen understanding of the importance of **responsible stewardship of public funds.**

Importantly, Bledsoe County Schools' fiscal responsibility extends beyond just saving ESSER funds for the future. The district also **prioritizes rigorous budgetary planning and financial oversight** to ensure that resources are allocated efficiently. The decision to save a portion of their ESSER funds for the future exemplifies a thoughtful and strategic approach to financial management in education.



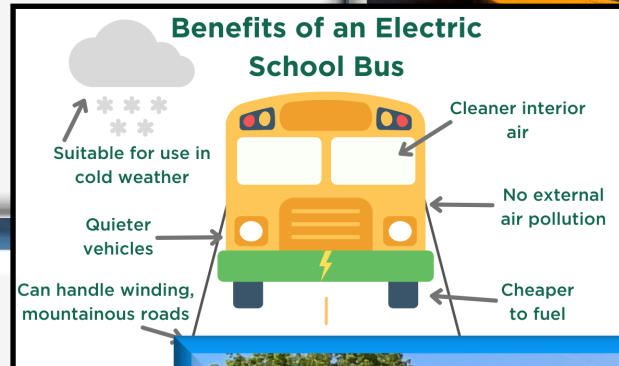
Driving Towards a Cleaner Future

Bledsoe County Schools Introduces Two New Electric School Buses

Bledsoe County Schools has recently acquired two new electric school buses at **no cost to the county**. This was made possible through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) which paid the full price for the two buses. This landmark initiative marks a significant step forward for the district in reducing carbon emissions, improving air quality, and fostering a greener future for its students and the community at large.

The school district recently won a new additional **\$690,000** grant to fully purchase 2 more buses. This will bring our total of EV buses to 4 with no cost to the school district.

With the support of this grant, Bledsoe County Schools can now introduce cutting-edge technology into its transportation fleet, providing students with a safe, comfortable, and environmentally friendly mode of transportation to and from school. These vehicles are **quieter**, emitting less noise pollution compared to their diesel counterparts, creating a more pleasant and peaceful experience for students and drivers alike. Additionally, electric buses require **fewer maintenance and operational costs** over their lifespan, resulting in **long-term savings** for the district.



Building Champions: Bledsoe County Schools' Athletic Programs

Engaging in sports helps students cultivate essential life skills such as teamwork, leadership, and discipline.

Participation in sports enhances academic performance by promoting time management skills and boosting cognitive function through regular physical activity.

The sense of community and school spirit nurtured through sports also strengthens social bonds among students, creating a supportive and inclusive school environment.

Our athletic programs play a crucial role in shaping well-rounded, resilient individuals prepared to succeed in various aspects of life.

This is a list of our current athletic programs:



Archery - Bledsoe High School, Bledsoe Middle School

Boys **Basketball** - Bledsoe High School, Bledsoe Middle School

Girls **Basketball** - Bledsoe High School, Bledsoe Middle School

Cross-County - Bledsoe High School, Bledsoe Middle School

Cheerleading - Bledsoe High School, Bledsoe Middle School

Fishing— K-12

Football - Bledsoe High School, Bledsoe Middle School

Boys **Golf** - Bledsoe High School

Girls **Golf** - Bledsoe High School

Soccer - Bledsoe High School

Girls **Softball** - Bledsoe High School, Bledsoe Middle School

Girls **Volleyball** - Bledsoe High School, Bledsoe Middle School

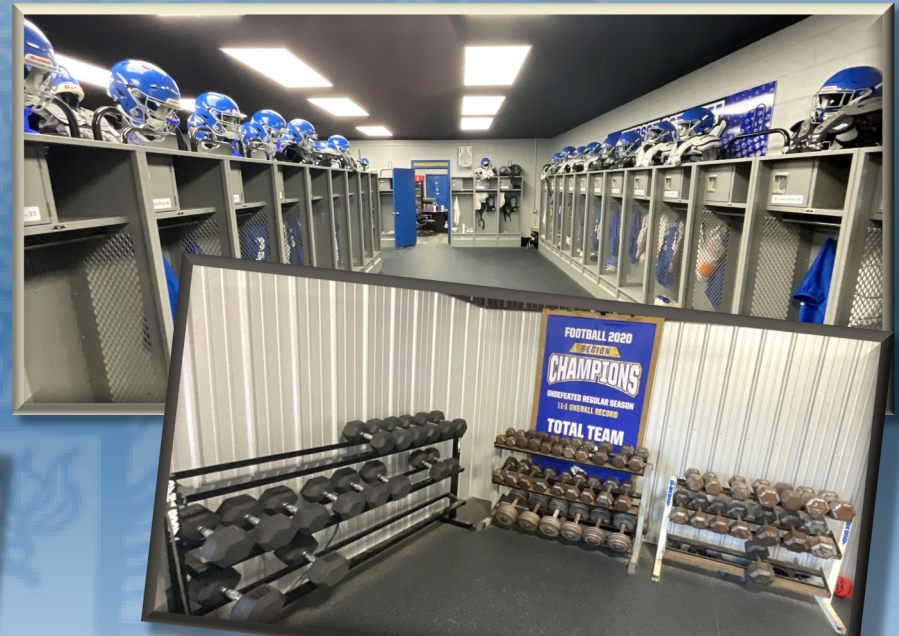
Training Champions: Bledsoe County Schools' Sports Facilities

Bledsoe County Schools boast an impressive array of sports facilities designed to support and enhance the athletic programs for their students. These facilities cater to various sports, providing athletes with the necessary resources for training and development.



Field House

The Field House serves as a central hub for many of the school's athletic activities. Equipped with modern amenities, it provides space for team meetings, strategy sessions, and locker rooms where athletes can prepare for practices and games. The Field House is designed to support multiple sports, offering a versatile environment that meets the needs of both players and coaches.



Weight Room Facility

The Weight Room Facility is a state-of-the-art space dedicated to strength and conditioning. It features a wide range of equipment, including free weights, resistance machines, and cardiovascular machines. This facility allows athletes to engage in comprehensive training programs aimed at improving their strength, endurance, and overall physical fitness. The weight room is an essential part of the athletes' training regimen, helping them enhance their performance across various sports.



Training Champions: Bledsoe County Schools' Sports Facilities

Baseball Hitting Facility

The Baseball Hitting Building is specifically designed to cater to the needs of the school's baseball program. This facility includes batting cages, pitching machines, and other training aids that allow players to work on their hitting skills year-round, regardless of weather conditions. The indoor environment ensures that athletes can focus on technique and consistency, providing a dedicated space for batting practice and skill development.



Softball Hitting Facility

Similar to the Baseball Hitting Building, the Softball Hitting Building is tailored to the needs of the softball team. It includes specialized equipment such as batting cages and pitching machines designed for softball players. This facility offers a controlled environment where players can practice their hitting and refine their skills, contributing to the overall competitiveness and success of the softball program.

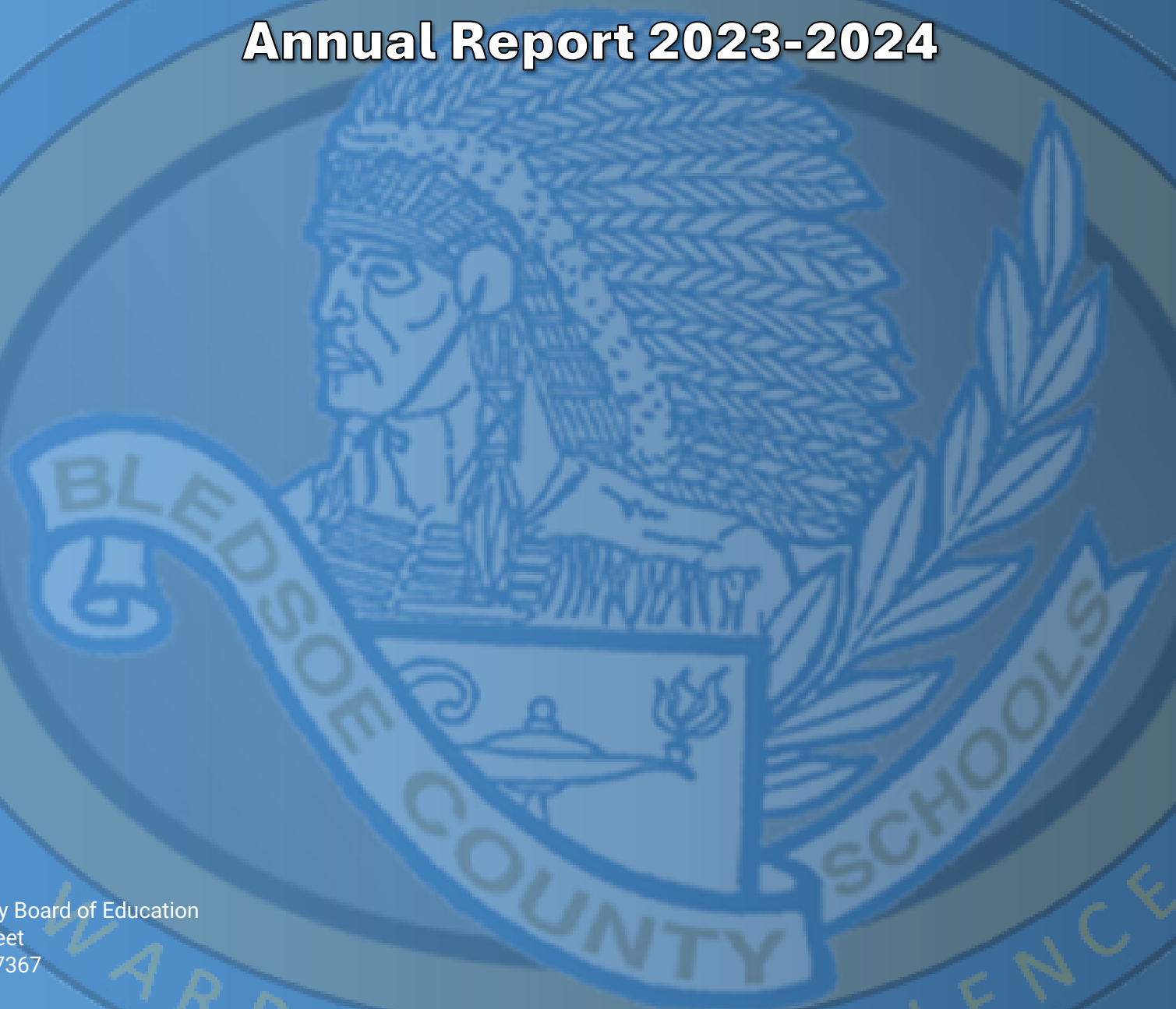


Together, these facilities demonstrate Bledsoe County Schools' commitment to providing high-quality resources for their athletic programs. They offer athletes the opportunity to train effectively and safely, fostering both personal and team growth in various sports disciplines.



Bledsoe County Schools

Annual Report 2023-2024



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WARRIOR EXCELLENCE