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BHS E-Sports Center Opens Thanks to BEF Donation

On Feb. 7th, BEF marked the start of its 25th anniversary year with a ribbon-cutting and the official opening of the BHS E-Sports (Electronic Games) Center.



BHS teachers, administration, and BEF Board members joined together to cut the ribbon and present a check to help launch the new BHS E-Sports Center.

The \$50,000 donation by the BEF supported the renovation of a space across from the media center. More than 180 students have signed up to participate in E-Sports, with its new state of the art center. BHS is offering varsity letters to its E-Sports athletes who fulfill the athletic contract, which is the same as every lettered sport at the high school.

BHS Principal Chris Jennings explained that the students are learning 21st Century skills that will translate into jobs and could also win them college scholarships. "E-Sports fosters camaraderie, and teaches leadership and communication skills," he said. "It has become very popular with the students. And now many colleges and universities are embracing E-Sports and offering it as a major."

Terry Mullane, BEF Chairman, thanked the BEF Board for voting to approve the gift, which was made possible by generous BEF benefactors made up of alumni and friends, as well as business and community supporters of the Foundation.

The Bloomfield Educational Foundation is a registered 501c-3 organization. For more information, or if you would like to be involved in the organization as a Board member or volunteer, kindly email us at info@bloomfieldeducationalfoundation.org

Bloomfield Board of Ed Commends BEF's Continued Support



Pictured from left are: BOE Members, Monica Charris Tabares, Phylis Gerber, Michael Heller, Jill Fishman; BEF Chairman-Emeritus, Joseph Kliminski, and BEF Chairman, Terry Mullane; BOE President, Jasey Dudley, BOE Members, Shane Berger, and Ben Morse; BEF Vice Chairwoman, Madeline Wollner, BOE Member Nadeisha Greene, and Superintendent Salvatore Goncalves.

At a meeting in January, Bloomfield Superintendent Salvatore (Sal) Goncalves recognized the BEF for its support of the BHS V.E.S.T. (Vocational Education Student Training) program, as well as Special Olympics uniforms, and the new E-Sports Center. He also thanked BEF for its role in the 3rd Bengalthon event, which raised over \$15,000 for the Middle School outdoor classroom and recreation area.

In his remarks, Superintendent Goncalves said: "The BEF was founded in 1999. Since that time, the BEF has raised over \$2.7 million dollars to support the District with over \$1.7 million dollars in teacher and District-wide grants and scholarships.

"The BEF mission states the main goal of the organization is to enhance the educational opportunities for all students in the Bloomfield School District.

"The BEF kicked off their 25th anniversary year with a \$50,000 gift to the high school to fund an E-Sports Arena. Another program that has received funds over the years is the Vocational Educational Special Training (V.E.S.T.) program at Bloomfield High School. The V.E.S.T program services developmentally delayed adolescents and young adults from ages 15 to 21 with the goal of providing the means to make the students independent and employable.

"They also support BMS with the Bengalthon initiative among a variety of other events and fundraisers."

Among the attendees on hand to accept certificates of gratitude were: Terry Mullane, BEF Chairman; Madeline Wollner, BEF Vice-Chairwoman and a past BEF President; and Joseph Kliminski, BEF Founder, past President and current Board member.



Gala Tickets are Selling Fast! Get Yours Today.

Click on the image below to order.



2024 GALA

Honoring

BHS Alumna of the Year
Lenore M. Imhof, Esq. '84

BHS Alumnus of the Year
James Johnston, Esq. '78

2024 Educator of the Year
Steve Jenkins

Community Organization of the Year
Bloomfield UNICO

2023-2024 District Teacher of the Year
To be announced.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2024

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Nanina's in the Park

540 Mill St., Belleville, NJ

Appetizers, dinner and dessert. Beer and wine included.

\$125 Adults 21 and older; \$75 Guests under 21

To order seats online go to: bloomfieldeducationalfoundation.org

Proceeds benefit The Bloomfield Educational Foundation, a registered 501c-3 charity.

If you would like a Gala invitation mailed to you,
email info@bloomfieldeducationalfoundation.org

BHS Alumni Registration!

BEF WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM BHS ALUMNI. REGISTER TO LEARN ABOUT EVENTS THAT CAN HELP YOU STAY IN TOUCH WITH FRIENDS AND CLASSMATES. IF YOU KNOW OF ALUMS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON WITH BLOOMFIELD HIGH SCHOOL AND BEF, PLEASE SHARE.

[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

BLOOMFIELD
Educational ★ Foundation

**FOURTH ANNUAL
CALENDAR RAFFLE!!**

Donation: \$100
Maximum of 250 tickets will be sold

Cash Prize of \$1000 monthly

**Get your ticket for the 4th Annual BEF Calendar Raffle
Still 11 Chances to Win!**

[Click here for tickets!](#)

Mark Your 2024 Calendars

Don't miss these events coming in 2024!

April 24, 2024

BEF Annual Gala, Nanina's in the Park, Belleville, NJ, 6pm

If you would like an invitation mailed to you, email



June 27, 2024

Brookdale ShopRite Tom Fleming Sunset Classic Race

7:30PM - 5 mile race starts on Broad St and finishes in Foley Field

6:30pm - Kids' Sprints – Foley Field

7:00pm - One Mile Fun Run **Timed event!** Starts on JFK Pwky. near Foley Field.

Keep watch for more BEF events coming in 2024!



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