

NEW BUFFALO ELEMENTARY

April 2026



Every student. Every day.

2025-2026 BUILDING GOALS

- Academic growth and achievement
 - Writing focus
- Restorative Practices
 - Community Circles
- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
 - Specifically Tier II
 - Targeting Bullying





2025-2026 Scorecard/Strategic Action Plan

Pillars	Academics	Growth and Sustainability	Culture and Community
Annual Goals	<p>1. Increase the number of students who are proficient in the state assessment in ELA Yellow -</p> <p>Add % and Students</p> <p>2. Increase the number of students who are proficient in the state assessment in Math. Yellow -</p>	<p>1. Improve the staff survey on: I have the opportunity to provide input on the decisions that affect my job from a 4.0 to 4.10: Yellow -</p> <p>2. Increase the use of marketing team by directors. Yellow -</p>	<p>1. Increase family awareness and knowledge about bullying, ensuring consistent support between home and school. Green -</p> <p>2. Increase organizational culture that supports open and honest communication from 3.73 to 3.88 Green -</p> <p>3. Define, develop, and implement age-appropriate cannabis education for elementary, middle and high school Yellow -</p> <p>5. Each department/school will make one connection with a community organization Green -</p>

Progress Monitoring

1. Data walls
2. Monthly data dig meetings with the Title I coordinator, principal, and grade level teams will take place to discuss building and classroom level assessment data.
3. School improvement team data analysis.

1. 3, 2, 1 Report shared out with all staff after rounding.

1. Inviting parents to PBIS meetings to give input
2. PBIS Surveys
3. Studer family surveys
4. 3, 2, 1 Rounding Report

Strategic Actions

1. Staff will participate in monthly professional development with Berrien RESA on the Think SRSD writing framework. Green -
2. Daily math intervention and/or enrichment time (Delta Math Time) built into schedule- 30 minutes Green -
3. Daily reading intervention and/or enrichment time (Title I) built into schedule- 30 minutes Green -
4. Push-in paraprofessional support for all classrooms (minimum 30 minutes per day) Green -
5. Schools will use Individual

1. Rounding meetings two times a year with all staff. Yellow -
2. Staff evaluation data input by October 1. Green -
3. Principal will send out a google form to see what events staff want to keep and take away in order to protect plan time and instructional time. Green -
4. Posts sent to the marketing team by principal (1 per trimester) .

1. Host a family engagement night with information about bullying Green -
2. Share resources on bullying, prevention, and how to report in weekly newsletters to families Green -
3. Bullying task force meetings Green -
4. Documenting how we are educating students and families about bullying Green -
5. Get input from staff for annual professional

- Reading Improvement plans for Kindergarten-3rd grade students. Green -
6. After school MSTEP support for bubble students in 3rd-5th grade. Green -

Yellow -

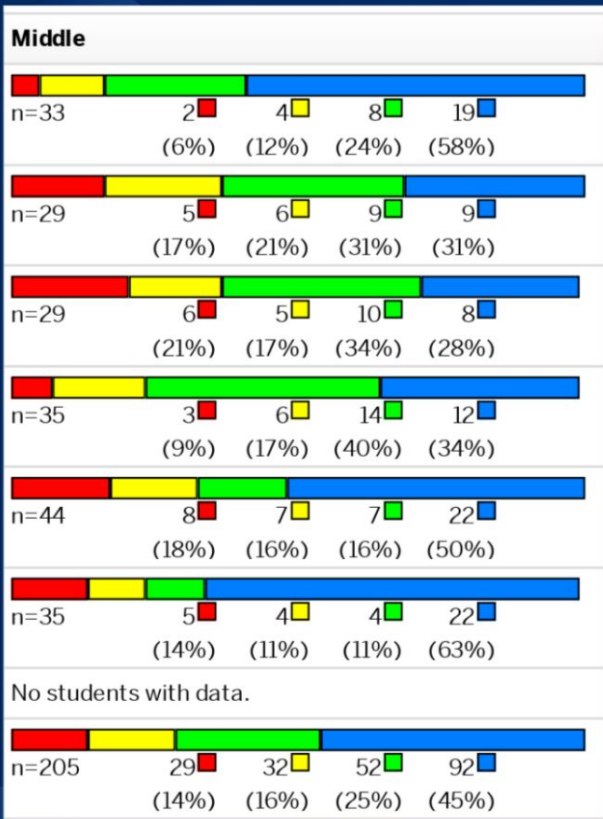
development. Green -

5. Rounding with staff 2 times per year. Yellow -
6. Berrien RESA lessons to 5th grade students Yellow -
7. Cannabis education lessons taught by guidance counselor to 4th and 5th grade in WOW time. Yellow -
8. Principal will work with staff to engage with multiple community organizations Yellow -

SCORECARD NOTES

- From the 2025 to the 2026 school year the elementary building increased from a 4.00 to a 4.28 on the indicator: I have the opportunity to provide input on decisions that affect my job.
- Bullying was not mentioned by families in the Studer survey
- Several community connections have been made throughout the school year: Trunk or Treat, Family Steam Night, Stuff a Truck, Nursing Home, Tree Decorating, Lions Club, Back to School Night, Nancy's for Summer Reading, Holiday Meals, Blessings In a Backpack, Service League for Student Senate (Beach Cleanup), Fire Department for Fire Safety, Maple Syrup
- Cannabis Education: Red Ribbon Week, WOW time, Berrien RESA, Kids Heart Challenge with Mrs. Johnson

DIBELS DATA



How the Data Drives Instruction

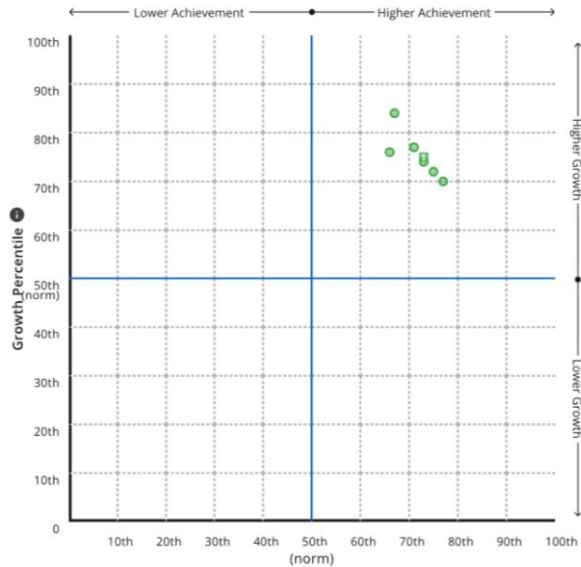
- **The What:** It pinpoints the specific missing skill (e.g., phonemic awareness, phonics, or fluency) so teachers and support staff don't have to guess what to teach in small groups.
- **The Who:** It categorizes students into risk levels (Blue/Green for "On Track" or Yellow/Red for "Needs Support"), allowing us to allocate intervention resources to the students who need them most.
- **The How Well:** By checking in frequently (Progress Monitoring), the data tells us in real-time if our current instruction is working or if we need to change our approach immediately.
- Our winter data is telling us that 70% of our students are meeting grade level expectations.

NWEA READING DATA

School Profile

Growth and Achievement Quadrant By Grade

New Buffalo Elementary School | Reading



Fall to Winter: High Growth- High Achievement Success

- The Upper-Right Quadrant: Every single grade level (K-5) is clustered in the top-right quadrant. This is the optimal zone, representing students who are both achieving at a high level compared to national peers and growing at a faster rate than typical students.
- Achievement (Horizontal Axis): All grades are performing between the 65th and 80th percentiles. This means our students have a significantly stronger foundation than the national average.
- Growth (Vertical Axis): This is the most impressive takeaway. All grades are clustered between the 70th and 85th percentiles for growth.
 - **Why this matters:** It's often difficult for high-achieving schools to show high growth because the students are already "near the top." This chart shows that we aren't just maintaining high scores; we are actively accelerating learning for every grade level.

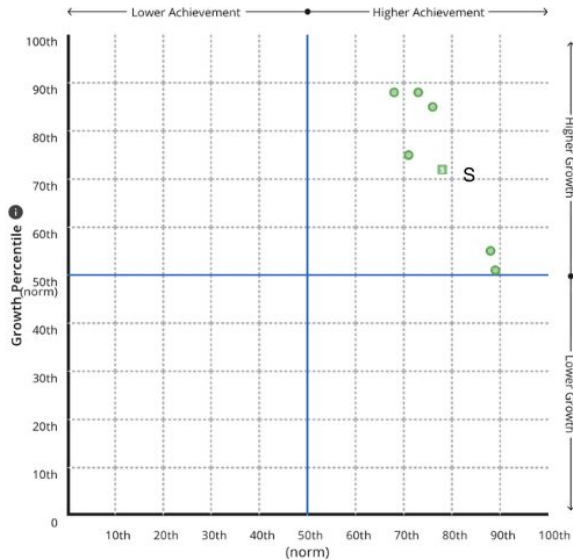
NWEA MATH DATA

Fall to Winter: High Math Growth

School Profile

Growth and Achievement Quadrant By Grade

New Buffalo Elementary School | Math K-12



- **Elite Achievement Levels:** We have grade levels performing at the 90th percentile for achievement. This means those classes are outperforming 90% of their peers across the country.
- **The Growth Powerhouse:** Several grades are clustered near the 90th percentile for growth. To have students who are already high-achieving (70th–90th percentile) also growing at a 90th percentile rate is exceptional. It shows that our curriculum isn't just "meeting" them where they are; it is challenging them to excel further.
- **The "S" Marker (School Overall):** The overall school average (the "S" dot) sits comfortably at roughly the 78th percentile for achievement and 74th percentile for growth. This is a statistically significant "win" for the building as a whole.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Title I & Spanish Night



Family STEAM Night



Family Fit Night



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Artists & Authors Night



Trunk or Treat



PTO Carnival

END OF YEAR CARNIVAL

New Buffalo Elementary School

FREE ENTRY

GAMES + PRIZES

INFLATABLE SLIDES + OBSTACLES

Friday, June 5th

4:00-5:00 - BASE ONLY attendance
5:30-8:00 - Open to NBES Families
5:30-7:00 - Hot dog Dinner
7:00 - Raffle Drawing
7:45 - FIRETRUCK SPRAY *

Fundraising

Staff Jail
Snow Cones
Popcorn and Drinks

* Bring blankets, chairs and a towel, maybe even extra clothes in **CASE OF MUD**

THIS IS NOT A DROP-OFF EVENT

All students **MUST** be with a parent or guardian to attend, other than students signed up for BASE

BASE will run as usual
Please make sure to sign them out of BASE **before attending**

PLEASE use a parking space the pick-up loop is for **BASE pick-up ONLY**

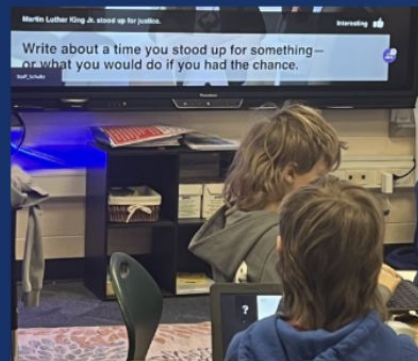
CELEBRATING DIVERSITY



Our 5th graders were invited to learn about the history and culture of the Native American Heritage of the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi. The presentation was centered around beautiful music & dances. This also allowed them to visit the middle school and have the opportunity to be with other middle schoolers as they begin thinking about the transition over to middle school for next school year.



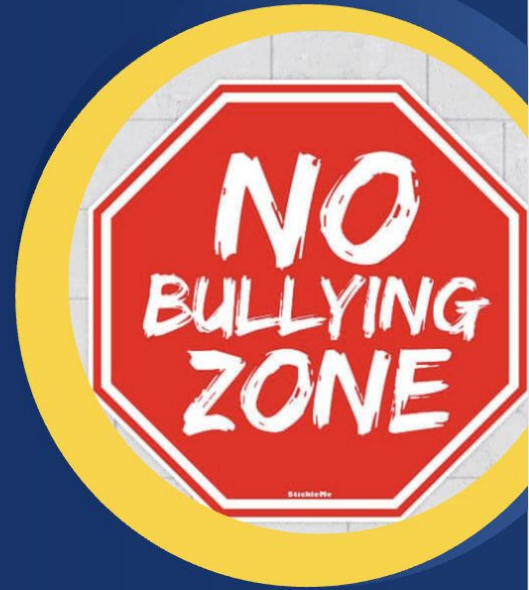
Mrs. Martinez introduced the Kindergarten students to one of her favorite poets, Amanda Gorman. Amanda Gorman is a young American poet and writer who believes that everyone can help make the world better. They read her children's book *Change Sings: A Children's Anthem*. In the book she encourages children to use their voices, be kind, and take small actions to create positive change in their community.



Students also learned about Martin Luther King. In PreK they learned about being peacemaker or peacebreakers. Scholastic news taught our kindergartners about working together in peace. Our 3rd graders learned about how Martin Luther King stood up for justice and then wrote about a time they stood up for something or what they would do if they had a chance to.

ANTI-BULLYING AT NBES

- Information shared in family newsletters
- Title I & Spanish Night Presentation on Bullying
- Mrs. Teed & Deputy Rick- schoolwide Lessons
- No Bullying Schools- 1 Report (unfounded)
- No Bullying Task Force



PBIS

Positive Behavior

Our schoolwide expectations are: Be responsible. Be respectful. Be safe. We teach the common area expectations at the beginning and middle of the year. Staff give out Bison tickets to students that are following the expectations. Then at our monthly assembly students are chosen from each class to win a prize from the treasure box. 2 class winners get to spin the wheel for a class prize!

Class Compliments

Beginning in January, classes can earn class compliments for following the Bison expectations. Prizes are earned for reaching the bronze, silver, and gold levels. The top 3 classes earn the platinum level at the end of the year. Prizes for the platinum level in the past have been a trip to the splash pad, candy from the roof, and a visit from the Kona Ice Truck.

Bus Expectations

Melissa Teed and I worked to train bus drivers to use our PBIS system on the bus. They are implementing a red and green card system that improved the number of behavior referrals greatly. The training also included posting the Bison expectations, voice levels, and creative greetings on the buses. Teachers and students created a [video](#) of the bus expectations.

PBIS Team Meetings

Our PBIS Tier I and Tier II teams meet regularly and use data to foster a supportive learning environment for all students. The Tier I team focuses on the entire student body by evaluating school-wide data, refining core expectations, and ensuring that students are responding to behavior expectations. The Tier II team focuses on targeted support by looking at intervention groups, Check-In/Check Outs, and determining what resources are needed.

THANK YOU

New Buffalo Elementary is the top school in the county and one of the best in the state because of the support we receive from Mr. Bowen, the board of education, and the wonderful staff I have to work with every day!

