



# **Brainerd Public Schools**

*Opportunity. Innovation. Success.*

Welcome to the Brainerd High School Senior Recognition Program!

Given the tremendous challenges we have experienced this past year it feels really good to turn our attention to our graduating seniors of the Brainerd High School Class of 2021. This year's seniors have faced many disappointments but have not allowed that to stop them from persevering to do great things! Tonight's event will celebrate the great accomplishments of our seniors and also give recognition to the wonderful community members and organizations who support our graduates. The accomplishments highlighted tonight come in the areas of academics, arts, athletics, activities, and service. These awards represent years of hard work and commitment to many programs in our school and community. In addition to highlighting our seniors, this program gives Brainerd Public Schools an opportunity to recognize many community members and organizations who continue to support our students. The support provided comes in many ways: financial, education, time, and energy. It is due to this tremendous support our seniors have experienced success and with the scholarship awards tonight, they will continue on their pathway to post-secondary education. The opportunities for them are endless!

Thank you to the individual community organizations that select scholarship recipients and to the many community volunteers who reviewed applications through an extensive blind-review process. A special thank you to our Brainerd Public Schools Foundation for providing ongoing support for all public school programs and students within our district. This night would not be possible without our strong community and tremendous support from parents; thank you for the continued support of the Brainerd Public Schools, and especially Brainerd High School. Finally, best wishes to the seniors of the Brainerd High School Class of 2021 - may you continue to do great things and always be proud to be a WARRIOR!

Stay WARRIOR STRONG; congratulations!

*Andrea Rusk*

Andrea Rusk  
Brainerd High School Principal



# Senior Recognition Ceremony

Wednesday, May 5, 2021



## Welcome

Andrea Rusk, Brainerd High School Principal

Laine Larson, Superintendent of Brainerd Public Schools

## Brainerd Public Schools Foundation

Jessica Gangl, Brainerd Public Schools Foundation Executive Director

## Presentation of Scholarships & Recognition

Brainerd Public Schools Foundation Scholarships

Community & External Scholarships

Awards & Recognition

Military Awards & Certificates

## Closing Remarks

Andrea Rusk, Brainerd High School Principal

## Thank You

A very special shout out to the Class of 2021. You have endured and will overcome. We are excited to see where your next steps take you!

"Often when you think you're at the end of something, you're at the beginning of something else." -Fred Rogers

**Brainerd High School · Class of 2021**



# The Brainerd Public Schools Foundation



Founded in 1987, the Brainerd Public Schools Foundation's (BPSF) mission is to enhance opportunities for quality academics, arts, activities and athletics for student of the Brainerd Public Schools. Each year BPSF awards numerous scholarships to graduating seniors. Students must complete an electronic Brainerd High School General Scholarship Application to be eligible to receive a BPSF Scholarship. BPSF is proud to be awarding \$140,685 in scholarships this year! **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2021!**

## BPSF Scholarship Recipients (A-L)

<b>BPSF Scholarship Award</b>	<b>Student</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Alpha Delta Kappa Bonnie Cumberland Scholarship	Ella Kline	\$600
American Legion Post 255 Al Broman Memorial Scholarship	Henry Handeland	\$500
Baxter Elementary PTO Scholarship	Elle Bruggeman	\$250
Baxter Elementary PTO Scholarship	Cooper Cousino	\$250
Bob and LaVonne Danzl Family Memorial Scholarship	Ryan Cook	\$250
BPSF 4A Academics Scholarship	Anna Just	\$1,000
BPSF 4A Arts Scholarship	Lilyanna Loschko	\$1,000
Brainerd Basketball Association Scholarship	Allyson Brzezinski	\$1,000
Brainerd Basketball Association Scholarship	Brandon Johnson	\$1,000
Brainerd Noon Sertoma Scholarship	Shaylyn Johnson	\$1,000
Brainerd Noon Sertoma Scholarship	Emma Lingenfelter	\$1,000
Brainerd Trades and Labor Assembly Scholarship	Eli Engelmeyer	\$500
Brandon Dahl Memorial Scholarship	Forrest Gibson	\$1,000
Bremer Bank of Brainerd Scholarship	Dominic Craig	\$500
Brighter Days Foundation Scholarship	Cecilia Boche	\$1,500
Clayton Haglin Memorial Scholarship	Jenna Caughey	\$650
Clifford & Gwendolyn Greenwalt Memorial Scholarship	Jenna Hanson	\$2,000
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Kayla Bush	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Hayden Carlson	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Mari Devine	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Briston Domino	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Jackson Dwyer	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Blair Erickson	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Tori Fuhr	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Allyson Goeden	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Lauren Goralsky	\$1,500

**BPSF Scholarship Award**

	<b>Student</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Julia Goralsky	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Gabrielle Hannah	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Erin Hoelzel	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Auni Jobe	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Charles Johnson	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Noah Joque	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Ally Klomp	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Taisha Linder	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Jack Lundstrom	\$1,500
CTC Scholarship	Jenna Host	\$500
Deerwood Bank College Scholarship	Hayden Kvalevog	\$750
Deerwood Bank Technical College Scholarship	Cole Beyer	\$750
Derrick Hanson Memorial Scholarship	Taylor Larson	\$250
Don Adamson Memorial Scholarship	Katherine Henke	\$650
Don Johnson Memorial Scholarship	Chloe Kramer	\$150
Dr. Gene Bierhaus Athletic Scholarship	Katherine Chaussee	\$900
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Cecilia Boche	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Emma Booth	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Korina Converse	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Briston Domino	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Henry Handeland	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Hillary Hoelz	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Taylor Howard	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Kylie Hurlbert	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Bailey Koop	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Carsyn Krassas	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Taylor Larson	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Lilyanna Loschko	\$250
Gene Sundberg Pilot's Scholarship	Carsyn Krassas	\$1,000
Hershey Family Scholarship	Tristan Dawson	\$20,000
Horizon Health Scholarship	Bailey Koop	\$300
Irene M. Rugloski Memorial Scholarship	Shaylyn Johnson	\$250
Jake Haapajoki Wiffle Series Scholarship	Emma Booth	\$500
Jan Koski Memorial Scholarship	Jazmine Cusey	\$300
Kuhn Krueger Memorial Scholarships	Isabel Haglin	\$300
Manney Anderson Memorial Scholarship	Chloe Cure-Hendrickson	\$300

**BPSF Scholarship Award**

	<b>Student</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Mark Embretson Memorial Scholarship	Kaitlynn Capistrant	\$1,000
Matthew Gaffney Memorial Scholarship	Tyler Dean	\$350
Maynard Ketterling Memorial Athletic Scholarship	Sabrina Buffetta	\$400
MMFCU Scholarship	Kylie Brenny	\$500
MMFCU Scholarship	Jeremy Duff	\$500
Patricia Marchel Memorial Scholarship	Tori Fuhr	\$250
Phyllis Cooksey Memorial Scholarship	Hillary Hoelz	\$250
Ruth Padgett Memorial Scholarship	Joseph Chapp	\$450
School Board & School Administrators Scholarship	Catherine Archer	\$250
Stewart C. Mills, Sr. Memorial Scholarship	Erin Host	\$1,365
Stewart C. Mills, Sr. Memorial Scholarship	Trenton Jackovich	\$1,365
Tammy Bluth Memorial Scholarship	Carly Dockter	\$300

**BPSF Scholarship Recipients (M-Z)****BPSF Scholarship Award**

	<b>Student</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Aitkin Rebekah Lodge Scholarship	Morgan Sivigny	\$650
Alpha Delta Kappa Beverly Jondahl Scholarship	Adam Ohman	\$400
Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority Scholarship	Gabriella VanHorn	\$500
American Legion Post 255 Frank Vadnais Memorial Scholarship	Solveig Olson	\$500
American Legion Post 255 Henry C Mills II Memorial Scholarship	Alexandra Tihanyi	\$500
Arlo V. Renschler Memorial Scholarship	Macey Whitlock	\$550
Baxter Lions Club Scholarship	Aubri Metz	\$1,035
Baxter Lions Club Scholarship	Michaela Steichen	\$1,035
Baxter Lions Club Scholarship	Mira Strong	\$1,035
Baxter Lions Club Scholarship	Holly Ulanowski	\$1,035
Bob Johnson Memorial Art Scholarship	Tyler Schaitberger	\$700
BPSF 4A Activities Scholarship	Emma True	\$1,000
BPSF 4A Athletics Scholarship	Emma Storbakken	\$1,000
Brighter Days Foundation Scholarship	Tyler Schermer	\$1,500
C. Elmer and Lillian Anderson Memorial Scholarship	Gracie Simonson	\$1,500
Chef's Association Scholarship	Raven Mitchell	\$500
Class of 1945 Scholarship	Makenna O'Neal	\$575
Class of 1946 Scholarship	Jacob Schommer	\$575

**BPSF Scholarship Award**

	<b>Student</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Class of 1954 Scholarship	Hayden Maclaughlin	\$500
Class of 1969 Scholarship	Ethan Strong	\$600
Class of 1976 Scholarship	Emma Trees	\$650
Clem & Vi Koering Memorial Scholarship	Raleigh Mann	\$6,000
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Gabriel Maurer	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Brandon Neifert	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Autumn Paulus	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Griffin Rushin	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Madelyn Sedlachek	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Kenna Smith	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Brielle Stenglein	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Olivia Stirewalt	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Elaina Tanner	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Rachel Trusty	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Kalina Vandeputte	\$1,500
Crow Wing Power Scholarship	Teryn Weinhandl	\$1,500
Daniel, William, & Mark Wheeler Memorial Scholarship	William Nguyen	\$850
Dr. Rudd Thabes - Suzanne Ribbel Scholarship	Mason Mankowski	\$500
Duane Doucette VFW Athletic Scholarship	Noelle Youngquist	\$350
Everett Nelson Music Scholarship	Gabriel Qualley	\$600
Federated COOPS Scholarship	Brecken Mills	\$1,000
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Mary Moore	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Riley Pelowski	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Tyler Peterson	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Sara Reisdorf	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Nole Robertson	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Oliver Schwab	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	James Thompson	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Alexandra Tihanyi	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Emma Trees	\$250
First Western Bank & Trust Scholarship	Teryn Weinhandl	\$250
Garfield Elementary Scholarship	Oliver Schwab	\$500
Gary Gorman Memorial Scholarship	Nolan Reynolds	\$150
Good Samaritan Society Brainerd Scholarship	Elizabeth Olson	\$300
Good Samaritan Society Brainerd Scholarship	Makenna O'Neal	\$300

## BPSF Scholarship Award

	Student	Amount
Gordy Langness Scholarship	Ava Strong	\$750
Gordy Langness Scholarship	Andrew Thielke	\$750
Harrison Elementary Scholarship	Micah Wood	\$300
Harvey Shew Memorial Scholarship	Benjiman Schlegel	\$300
Irene M. Rugloski Memorial Scholarship	Emma Trees	\$250
John A. Benson Memorial Scholarship	Grace Peabody	\$850
John A. Benson Memorial Scholarship	Nolan Reynolds	\$850
Jon Jelacic Memorial Athletic Scholarship	Andrew Thielke	\$1,250
Judy Bialka Memorial Scholarship	James Thompson	\$750
Larry Strand Memorial Scholarship	Cade Villwock	\$250
Leonard "Ole" Howard Memorial Scholarship	Makaio Speldrich	\$250
Lowell Elementary PTA Scholarship	Jacob Olson	\$300
Lowell Elementary PTA Scholarship	Jay Petrie	\$300
Mac Carkhuff Athletic Memorial Scholarship	Ava Strong	\$1,100
Nisswa Tax Service Scholarship	Sara Reisdorf	\$300
Reese/Webb Memorial Scholarship	Nole Robertson	\$500
Roy & Mildred Sargent Family Scholarship	Mary Moore	\$1,275
Roy & Mildred Sargent Family Scholarship	Sara Schiller	\$1,275
Smile Scholarship	Elaina Tanner	\$500
Smile Scholarship	Kalina Vandeputte	\$500
Stewart C. Mills, Sr. Memorial Scholarship	Hailey Nameniuk	\$1,365
This One's For Hop Scholarship	Lindsie Mckusick	\$500
William Dammann Athletic Scholarship	Jarrett Osborne	\$450



Contact the Brainerd Public Schools Foundation to establish a scholarship or legacy fund.

Jessica Gangl—Executive Director  
218.454.6923 or [jessica@bpsf.org](mailto:jessica@bpsf.org)

**GOAL ACHIEVED!** The Brainerd Public Schools Foundation worked to raise the funds needed to buy 2,020 high-interest classroom library books for our K-8 classrooms last school year! Studies show when kids have quick access to books they love to read, they will have greater academic success! Thank you to all who helped make this “Dream Big” initiative a success!



## Community & External Scholarships

Many local and statewide organizations, businesses and individual donors generously sponsor scholarships for Brainerd High School seniors. The following selected students filled out an application separate from BPSF for each of these community & external scholarships.

### BPSF Scholarship Recipients (A-L)

Community or External Scholarship	Student	Amount
Alworth Memorial Scholarship	Julia Goralsky	\$20,000
American Red Cross Blood Drive Scholarship	Kylie Brenny	\$400
American Red Cross Blood Drive Scholarship	Lauren Goralsky	\$400
American Red Cross Blood Drive Scholarship	Julia Goralsky	\$400
American Red Cross Blood Drive Scholarship	Erin Host	\$400
Brainerd Blue Line Boosters Scholarship	Cole Beyer	\$500
Brainerd Blue Line Boosters Scholarship	Erin Host	\$500
Brainerd Blue Line Boosters Scholarship	Taylor Larson	\$500
Brainerd Kiwanis Club Designated Scholarship	Julia Goralsky	\$710
Education Minnesota Brainerd Scholarship	Mari Devine	\$1,000
Education Minnesota Brainerd Scholarship	Jackson Dwyer	\$1,000
Glen Gustafson - Sports Booster (CLC)	Zakia Herron	\$500
Glen Gustafson - Sports Booster (CLC)	Ethan Klisch	\$500
Kiwanis - Division 3 Educational Foundation Scholarship	Lauren Goralsky	\$710
Kiwanis - Division 3 Educational Foundation Scholarship	Erin Host	\$710
Lutheran Church of the Cross Scholarship	Kate Henke	\$500
Melissa Wooden Memorial Scholarship	Shaylyn Johnson	\$500
MN Deer Hunters Association - Brainerd Scholarship	Kylie Dano	\$500
Sertoma Sy Gau Foundation Scholarship	Kylie Brenny	\$1,500
St. Joseph's Medical Center Auxillary Scholarship	Allyson Brzezinski	\$500
St. Joseph's Medical Center Auxillary Scholarship	Hayden Carlson	\$500

### BPSF Scholarship Recipients (M-Z)

Community or External Scholarship	Student	Amount
Alworth Memorial Scholarship	Mary Moore	\$20,000
Alworth Memorial Scholarship	Emma Storbakken	\$20,000
American Red Cross Blood Drive Scholarship	Mary Moore	\$200
American Red Cross Blood Drive Scholarship	Kalina Vandeputte	\$700
Brainerd Blue Line Boosters Scholarship	Cade Villwock	\$500
Brainerd Kixters - Heather Star Habeck Scholarship	Aubri Metz	\$250



## Community or External Scholarship

	Student	Amount
Education Minnesota Brainerd Scholarship	Grace Peabody	\$1,000
Education Minnesota Brainerd Scholarship	Gabriel Qualley	\$1,000
Education Minnesota Brainerd Scholarship	Olivia Stirewalt	\$1,000
St. Joseph's Medical Center Auxillary Scholarship	Sara Schiller	\$500

## Awards & Recognition

The following students are being recognized for their academic achievement, leadership, and/or volunteerism in school and community activities.

### Awards & Recognition

	Student	Award
BHS Senior Class Cabinet	Emma Booth	Recognition
BHS Senior Class Cabinet	Julia Goralsky	Recognition
BHS Senior Class Cabinet	Lauren Goralsky	Recognition
BHS Senior Class Cabinet	Aubri Metz	Recognition
BHS Senior Class Cabinet	Olivia Stirewalt	Recognition
BHS Senior Class Cabinet	Eric Stoxen	Recognition
BHS Senior Class Cabinet	Rachel Trusty	Recognition
BHS Student Council President 2020/21	Emma True	Recognition
BHS Student Council Vice President 2020/21	Nolan Reynolds	Recognition
National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Student	Erin Host	Recognition
National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Student	Auni Jobe	Recognition
National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Student	Autumn Paulus	Recognition
National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Student	Conrad Provost	Recognition
National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Student	Nole Robertson	Recognition
National Merit Scholarship Program Semi-Finalist	Meryl Tigenoah	Certificate
National Merit Scholarship Program Semi-Finalist	John Toven	Certificate



**Thank you to all of our community and foundation supporters. Congratulations to all of the award recipients and their families!**



## Military Awards & Certificates

Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award  
Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award  
Marine Corps Semper Fidelis Award  
Federal Active Duty Marine Corp  
Federal Active Duty Air Force  
Federal Active Duty Air Force  
Federal Active Duty Army  
Federal Active Duty Army  
Federal Active Duty Army  
Federal Active Duty Army  
Federal Army Reserve  
MN Army National Guard  
MN Army National Guard  
MN Army National Guard  
MN Army National Guard

## Student

Macey Whitlock  
Lauren Goralsky  
Erin Host  
Vallery Lindman  
Jack Andres  
Aaron Stark  
Mitchell Bush  
Alexander Christenson  
Trinity Eberly  
Mathew Nylander  
Cade Young  
Harold "Harry" Carlson  
Alexander Chinn  
Treyton Miller  
Sara Schiller

## Award

Certificate  
Certificate  
Certificate  
\$92,000+  
\$92,000+  
\$92,000+  
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\$92,000+



# JOIN US HOMECOMING WEEK!

- follow us on social media-

# WHAT ELSE DOES BPSF DO?

The Brainerd Public Schools Foundation supports the district and students in a variety of ways; including scholarships, grants, special projects, hosting events/fundraisers, the Warrior Store, and connecting donors to school needs. BPSF is proud to announce \$32k was awarded during our annual 4A Grant cycle in 2020/21. The Foundation sponsors innovative projects requested by Brainerd Public Schools educators and coaches that will enrich and enhance the fine education our students are receiving in our district through the 4As: arts, academics, athletics, and activities. Learn more: [BPSF.org](https://www.bpsf.org)



## The Warrior Store

Every purchase supports BPSF  
Order online @ [BPSF.org](https://www.bpsf.org) or  
gear is available in at  
Visit Brainerd in  
Downtown Brainerd



## GRANT HIGHLIGHT

Karley Sykora, a Speech Language Pathologist at Baxter Elementary School, requested \$3500 for a 2019/20 grant request she titled: "Communication is for Everyone: Creating a Culture of Augmentative and Alternative Communication Across the Curriculum." Karley's grant was showcased in a short video used as part of the school foundation's Big Event this past February. (Use your smart phone camera to scan QR code below to watch!) In Karley's words, "Students that are non-verbal are so bright and communication is everything. To be able to give them what they need to do that is so amazing. My 4A Grant request was used to purchase technology for non-verbal students to be able to communicate better and to help facilitate their speech development." Karley's request was specifically for two iPads, a laptop computer, and various communication software apps. She was able to use these devices during distance learning to work more efficiently with her students. "It made a huge difference to be able to actually hold up the device and model it to the child. The 4A grants are life changing. They were life changing to me as a professional and personally. To be able to put this stuff to use and how we're able to change the lives of our students is a pretty big deal."



scan to watch





## Brainerd Public Schools Foundation

Enhancing opportunities for quality academics, arts, activities, and athletics for the students of the Brainerd Public School District

### The Warrior Store

Every order supports BPSF  
Online @ BPSF.org

### Warrior

#### Homecoming Run

1k/5k/10K  
Homecoming Week

### The Big Event

Cragun's Legacy Pavilion  
February 5, 2021



Contact Jessica to set up a BPSF Scholarship or Legacy Fund, support our 4A Grant programs, donate to the Dream Big project, or to get involved with one of our committees or events!

[jessica@bpsf.org](mailto:jessica@bpsf.org) or 218.454.6923

est. 1987

[info@bpsf.org](mailto:info@bpsf.org)

218.454.6921

[BPSF.org](http://BPSF.org)