



## Meet Beatriz Sarteschi Hortas

Beatriz Sarteschi Hortas enrolled in Kalida High School as an Exchange student from the seaside city of Recife, Pernambuco in the northeast part of Brazil. Her host family is Joe and Jessica Schnipke. Bea's mom, Camila Sarteschi, works in the healthcare field at a hospital and her father, Fabio Hortas, owns a window frame company. She has a 14 year old brother, Guilherme. Bea's family loves to travel and spend most weekends at their beach house.

An interesting fact about her family is that they do not have 100% Brazilian blood. Both her mother's and father's families came from European countries. Because of this, she has both Italian (on her mother's side) and Portuguese (on her father's side) blood. Much of the food she has in Brazil also exists here, but what really makes a difference is the way it is prepared and the seasoning, which are very different. One dish she really misses is a Brazilian dessert called brigadeiro. Some of her hobbies usually involve drawing and painting. Bea also really likes reading and writing. When she was younger, Bea did several types of dance but when she got older she tried volleyball for a few years.



In Brazil, she participated in a math club and history olympiads at school. When asked why she wanted to be an exchange student Bea said "I have always been very passionate about other languages and I also always liked getting to know other places and new people, so I thought it would be a good experience for me. In addition, my father did an exchange in England at the same age as me and encouraged me a lot to come. I also intend to make another exchange to a different place in a few years." Bea's favorite subject at Kalida High School has been, by far, history and art. I really like the arts in general so it was easy to like the subject, while History has always been one of my favorite subjects. Other than that, Mr. Gerding teaches very well too, which helps a lot to easily understand the subject!

Bea's favorite part of her journey so far has been the people. She said, "Everyone has been very kind to me and I am truly happy for the amazing family that chose me. I'm also really enjoying being able to experience the



4 seasons, since where I live we only have summer. The possibility of being able to visit several places is also very exciting." We asked her what was different or surprised her about our culture here. She noted, "Many things in our cultures are different so I'll mention the ones that shocked me the most! The food here is always very processed and it even took me a while to get used to it at first. Another very funny thing I noticed around here is that people go out in pajamas to go places, something we don't do at all in my country. Before Bea leaves the United States she would like to visit New York.



Kalida Elementary will be using FinalForms, an online forms and data management service, for the 2025-26 kindergarten registration process. Please register your kindergarten student for the 2025-26 school year via this link:

<https://kalida-oh.finalforms.com/>

You will be asked to create a NEW account if you do not currently have any students in the Kalida school system. If you already have an account, simply log in and create a NEW STUDENT.

After creating a new account, you will receive an email verifying the account. Follow all prompts to verify and enter your student's information.

Please upload a copy of a certified birth certificate and immunization record when you register. You may go in at a later date to update busing information, update immunization records and any other changes in address, phone etc. that occur between now and the start of the school year. Each online form will need to be completed and signed at the bottom. When all online forms are "green", your registration process is complete.

FinalForms allows you to complete and sign enrollment and back-to-school forms for your students. FinalForms saves the data from year-to-year, meaning that you will never need to enter the same information twice! FinalForms also pre-populates information wherever possible, for each of your students, saving you time. You may review your data at any time to verify it is current. You will be required to sign your forms once per year and after any update.

# Academics

## National Honor Society

Congratulations to the newly inducted members of the Kalida High School National Honor Society!

On January 13, the National Honor Society Induction ceremony took place at Kalida High School.



Front Row: Kyla Grime, Grace Schroeder, Isabel Recker, Claire Nartker, Kara Lammers.  
 Middle Row: Malia Romes, Camdyn Warnecke, Lauren Bockrath, Katelyn Foppe, Madelynn Myers.  
 Back Row: Alexander Shining, Grady Kuhlman, Logan Kerner, Lauren Schulte, Makenna Peck, Drew Meyer  
 They join current members: Jacob Siebeneck—President, Kaylyn Bockrath—Vice President, Grace Rall—Secretary, Madelyn Houck—Treasurer, Meredith Bockrath, Gabrielle Brinkman, Grant Fortman, Katherine Krouse, Allie Kuhlman, Alison Landwehr, Ethan Langhals, Olivia Meyer, Braylon Smith, Reese Strauer, Madison Unverferth, and Ryan T. Verhoff.

## Academic Club

Our Academic Club will be competing in 9 matches this winter before they participate in the 42nd Annual Scholastic League Tournament on March 14. The Varsity and JV teams both started off their year with a win against Leipsic. Good Luck with the remainder of the season!

Members of the Academic Club:

**Seniors** Gabi Brinkman, Grant Fortman, Maddie Houck, Drew Meyer, Connor Nartker, Makenna Peck, Ryan Verhoff, Drake Zeller.

**Juniors** Jamie Bowers, Katelyn Foppe, Cole Goubeaux, Kyla Grime, Grady Kuhlman, Madison Ricker, Ryan Schnipke, Bella Schroeder, Grace Schroeder, Emma von der Embse, Camdyn Warnecke.

**Sophomores** Morgan Bockrath, Beatriz Hortes, Max Langhals, Henry Maag, Amber Moore, Kylie Peck, Zoe Pothast, Aubree Sickles.

**Freshmen** Andrew Bowers, Leo Parisi, Grady Houck.



# Varsity

Date	Location	Team
Jan. 8	Away	Leipsic
Jan. 15	Home	Wayne Trace
Jan. 22	Home	Fort Jennings
Jan. 29	Away	Continental
Feb. 5	Home	Columbus Grove
Feb. 12	Away	Pandora-Gilboa
Feb. 19	Home	Ottoville
Feb. 26	Away	Ottawa-Glandorf
Mar. 5	Home	Miller City



# Jr. Varsity

## Superintendent Lammers to Retire

Kalida Superintendent, Karl Lammers, gave his retirement notice to the Board of Education at the January 8 board meeting. After eleven years as superintendent and 26 years with the district, Mr. Lammers will not be seeking an additional contract as superintendent. His current contract will be fulfilled at the end of July. The process of finding the district's next superintendent is already underway and Mr. Lammers indicated he would gladly assist with the transitioning of the new superintendent.



REMINDER

## Class of 2029

**Freshman Orientation  
Wednesday, February 5  
6:00 PM at the  
High School Auditoria**

It is important that you and your child attend this event so that information can be given to you that is relevant for your child's academic future and success. Graduation requirements which will impact this class, course scheduling, and exciting programs for high school students will be discussed.



## Vantage Information for Sophomores

On Friday, January 31 all sophomores will take a field trip to the Vantage Career Center to obtain information on two programs of their choice. Any sophomore who wishes to be considered for enrollment at Vantage for the 2025-26 school year should, then, complete the application by the end of February. Applications must be completed online at the following address: <https://www.vantagecareercenter.com/ApplyNow.aspx>

## 2025-26 High School Class Scheduling

Registration for course scheduling for students entering grades 10-12 next year will take place on Thursday, February 6 during the school day. A parent signature is required on the student's scheduling form. ***Completed schedule forms must be given to each student's respective English teacher by Thursday, February 13.***

## College Credit Plus Meeting

On **Monday, February 10 at 6:00 p.m.** there will be a meeting in the high school community room for the parents of high school students who may be interested in taking college level courses during next school year. There are two main options at Kalida High School for students to take college level courses. One option is that students can take a few at Kalida High School. These courses are either taught by a college instructor or members of our KHS staff who have been approved by James A. Rhodes State College to teach respective courses.

***The following courses at Kalida High School are high school courses which can be taken for college credit through Rhodes State College: Psychology, Computer Applications, Personal Finance, Introduction to Engineering, Digital Electronics, and Computer Aided Drafting. It is important for parents of students planning to take any of these courses for college credit to attend the meeting on February 10. If parents have attended this session in a previous year, there is no need to attend again.***

The other main method by which high school students can take college level courses is for them to take them on a college campus or online during the summer or school calendar year. A representative from James A. Rhodes State College and other local colleges will be present to explain the options of the College Credit Plus program and answer questions. Parents who attended this meeting in the past do not have to attend again, but certainly can for a refresher.

## Americanism and Government Test

Students receiving top scores on the Americanism and Government tests were recognized by the American Legion Post #63 on December 11, 2024. Mya Wehri, Penny Vandercook and Christopher Rall were Ottawa American Legion Post Winners. Their tests move on to the county level competition.

Front Row:

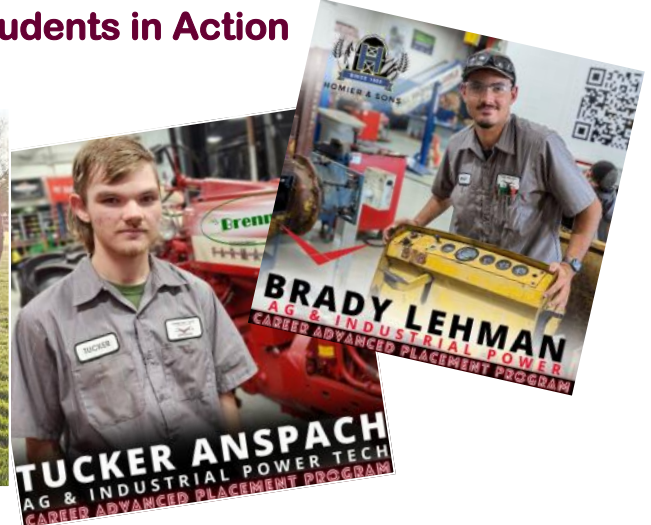
Penny Vandercook,  
Mya Wehri, Kate Foppe,  
Claudia Morrow-Worley.

Back Row:

Mr. Neil Gerding—Government Teacher, Mr. Denny Hanneman—Post #63 American Legion Member, Christopher Rall, Adam Bockrath, Logan Kerner, Grant Fortman, Ryan Verhoff and Mr. Ken Hanneman—Post #63 American Legion Commander.



## Kalida High School Vantage Students in Action



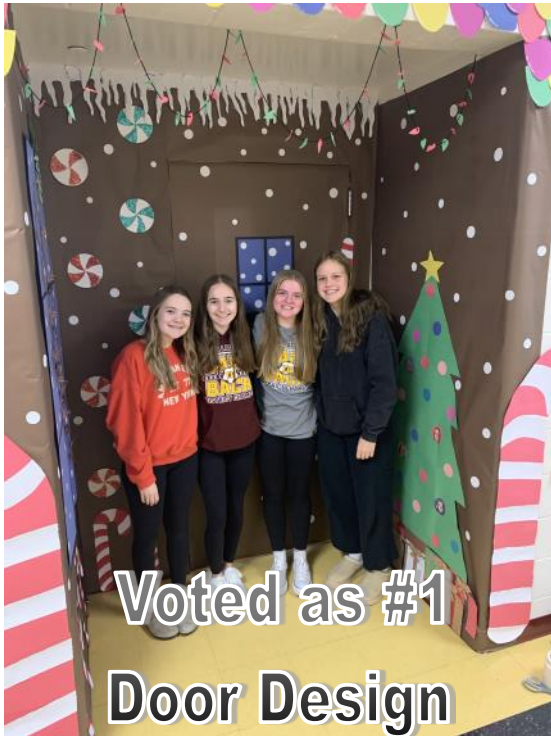
## 8TH Grade Tours Vantage

On November 6, our 8th grade students had a chance to tour Vantage Career Center. They received a tour and hands on experiences in some of the various learning labs that our high school Juniors and Seniors get to utilize for their specific field of study at Vantage.



## Art Students Decorating Competition

High school art students organized and created gingerbread houses for the doorways of the Kindergarten classrooms. Each team constructed their designs. Grace Rall, Bella Schroeder, Gabbi Brinkman and Laura Doepker's design was voted as the winning door. They decorated Miss Verhoff's classroom. Makenna Peck, Katherine Krouse and Jack Stechsulte completed the door for Mrs. Leis's Classroom.



## Cats Who Care Collect Toys for Tots

The Senior Ambassadors for Cats Who Care coordinated the Toys for Tots campaign for Christmas this year. Thank you to all the students, staff and community for your donations!



(l-r): Drew Meyer, Ady Miller, Ella Stechsulte, Makenna Peck, Meredith Bockrath and Allie Kuhlman



## Student Council Thanksgiving Food Drive

The Kalida High School and Middle School Student Council members sponsored a "Canned Food Drive". Each class donated items for point values. Top donation points were earned by the sophomore class. The student council awarded them with a pizza lunch day! Thank you to all the parents that allowed their children to "raid the home pantry" for donation items and all the students who took part of their paychecks to buy items to be donated.

## FFA National Convention

Members of Kalida FFA attended the National Convention October 23-26 in Indianapolis, Indiana. They spent part of their days with agricultural tours of PRO-TEC in Leipsic and MVP Dairy in Celina. Convention days were spent listening to speakers and talking with Ag Industry leaders and Colleges in the Convention Center. We ended the week witnessing our fellow Kalida FFA Alumni, Kevin Schumaker, receive his American Degree.



Front Row: Brooke Tucker, Kevin Schumaker, Aubree Simon, Penny Vandercook Back Row: Mr. Gable, Carson Price, Cooper Horstman, Choloe Miller, Evelyn Cattell, Alison Landwehr, Ruby Vandercook

## FFA Career Development Event (CDE)

Kalida FFA members were polishing up their resume and interview skills by participating in the Job Interview CDE in October. Lincoln Warnecke placed 1st in the Sub-District event and advanced to compete at the District competition.



(L-R)  
Addison Elliott,  
Penny Vandercook,  
Lauren Schulte,  
Ruby Vandercook,  
Lincoln Warnecke

## Greenhouse Floriculture Project

The Freshman Ag Food & Natural Resources class and Sophomore Plant and Animal Science class will once again be focusing on Greenhouse Management along with plant nutrition and health. The focus will be growing and maintaining a variety of vegetable, fruits and flowers from plugs (small growing cells) up to mature, beautiful plants. The students pot the plants in hanging baskets, finance and price each item. *The flats and baskets will be sold at the FFA Farmers Market beginning in May.*



## FFA Strawberry & BBQ Sauce Sale

FFA members are taking orders for Strawberries & BBQ Sauce from January 21 to February 7. Strawberries & BBQ Sauce will arrive the week of February 24. Contact the office at 419-532-3529 to place an order if you have not been contacted by an FFA member.



## FFA Alumni and Supporters



Kalida FFA Alumni and Supporters Chapter was officially chartered on November 27, 2024. We hope that our presence and support can further student success in their academic career as well as help pave their way to their future career. Please reach out to us if you would like to join the Kalida FFA alumni!

Looking for assistance in: Industry partnership with Ag classroom instruction on career specific areas, Aid students in their SAE (Supervised Ag Experience) and specific CDE's (Career Development Events), help students complete requirements for State and National FFA Degrees, search and write grants that would benefit FFA program, and help FFA officers with running the current fund raisers and FFA project auction.

The ultimate goal is to sustain a strong, vibrant and active FFA program that will thrive for years to come. **No FFA experience required** to join the Kalida FFA alumni team! To join, contact Alumni President, Brooke Siefker, via email: [bsiefker2002@gmail.com](mailto:bsiefker2002@gmail.com) or Mr. Gable at 419-532-3534 ext.# 2111.



## FFA Events Date

FFA Events	Date
Strawberry & BBQ Sales	Jan 21 to Feb. 7, 2025
FFA Week	Feb 17—21, 2025
Project Auction	March 14, 2025
Ag Volleyball @ Miller City	TBD
Banquet	April 6, 2025
Greenhouse Sale	TBD in May
State FFA Convention	May 1—2, 2025
Elementary Ag Day	May 9, 2025

## Spreading Christmas Cheer

This Holiday Season the music department was busy spreading Christmas Cheer. The High School and Elementary Christmas programs helped to get our community into the Christmas Spirit.

### Future Band & Choir Concerts

- March 3—Music in our Schools Month Concert  
- **High School ONLY— Band & Choir at 7:30 p.m.***
- April 22 Spring Band Concert—Grades 5-12 at 8 p.m.*
- May 1 Spring Choir Concert—Grades 7-12 at 8 p.m.*

## OMEA District III and Putnam County Honors Band and Choir

After auditioning for the Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) District III and the Putnam County Honor Bands and Choirs the following students were selected to represent Kalida High School. Congratulations to all the students!

**OMEA District III Honors Band:** Henry Maag  
OMEA District III Honors Festival Concert was held Sunday, January 19 at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center in Van Wert.

### **Putnam County Honors Band:**

Lillian Schnipke, Alex Calvelage Ruby Vandercook, Henry Maag, Cody Decker, Amber Moore, Riley Horstman.

### **Putnam County Honors Choir:**

Maddie Houck, Kyla Grime, Kara Lammers, Aubree Sickles, Andrew Bowers, Jamie Bowers.

*Putnam County Honors Band & Choir Concert is Sunday, March 9 at 2 p.m. at Pandora-Gilboa High School.*

# Fine Arts

## Marching Band 2024 Awards

This past Fall the Marching Bands performance of “The 2nd Law” earned multiple awards. Their State Finals performance earned them a Excellent Rating. Congratulations to Director Mr. Jacob Litwiller, Percussion Artist in Residence Shane Roney and Color Guard Instructor Paige Painter.

**Kettering Fairmont**—Class B 3<sup>rd</sup> Place,  
Best Guard Class C/B, Excellent

**Ottawa-Glandorf**—1<sup>st</sup> Place Class B,  
Overall—2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Best Visual and Best Guard

**Springfield**—Superior Rating, Grand Champion  
Class B: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Best Music, Visual, General Effect, and Guard

**Columbus Grove**—Straight Superior in all Areas,  
Overall Best Guard, Class B 1<sup>st</sup> Place

**Maumee**—Straight Superior in all Areas,  
Class B: 1<sup>st</sup> Place and Best Guard

**State Finals— EXCELLENT**  
**Band of America Grand National Championships—**  
Division II rating



# Spring Musical April 11, 12, & 13 *Meet the Cast of* "Mary Poppins"



Mary Poppins .....	Madelyn Houck
Bert .....	Drew Meyer
George Banks .....	James Bowers
Winifred Banks .....	Madelynn Myers
Jane Banks.....	Scarlett Hanneman
Michael Banks.....	Jon Parisi
Mrs. Brill.....	Kara Lammers
Robertson Ay .....	Ryan Verhoff
Miss Andrew .....	Aubree Sickles
Bank Chairman.....	Leo Parisi
John Northbrook.....	Alex Shininger
Von Hussler.....	Grant Fortman
Mrs. Corry .....	Emma von der Embse
Admiral Boom.....	Amber Moore
Miss Lark .....	Lauren Schulte
Bird Woman.....	Riley Horstman
Neleus.....	Kyla Grime
Katie Nana.....	Lauren Bockrath
Miss Smythe.....	Maya Wehri
Park Keeper.....	Grady Houck
Policeman.....	Carson Price
Valentine .....	Kendyl Klima

**Lead Chimney Sweeps (dancers)**

Emma von der Embse, Kyla Grime, Grace Schroeder

**Ensemble**

**(Park Strollers, Kite Klyers, Customers, Chimney Sweeps)**

Lillian Schnipke, Hunter Hohlbein,  
Penny Vandercook, Brooke Tucker, Olivia Landwehr,  
Olivia Verhoff, Chloe Chalklin, Anna Schumacher,  
Mia Burgei, Claudia Morrow-Worley, Zoe Pothast,  
Gabi Grinkman, Sophia Potts, Maddie Cattell,  
Emma Shininger, Corinne Brinkman, Isabelle Buss,  
Madison Verhoff, Aubrey Simon, Andrew Bowers

**Additional parts-to-be assigned at a later date**

Messenger, Annie, Fannie, Statues, Teddy Bear,  
Mr. Punch, Doll, Doorman, Featured Chimney Sweeps

## KHS Blood Drive

October 31 blood drive had 63 units donated. Thank you to all who were able to donate. Our next blood drive is Thursday, March 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the high school gym. To donate blood you will need an appointment.

- ◆ Log into your American Red Cross app
- ◆ Scan the QR code
- ◆ go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)
- ◆ call 1-800-REDCROSS

We encourage you to use the Red Cross Blood Donor App or call Mrs. Grime at the high school at 419-532-3529 to



## Buckeye Boys and Girls State Delegates Selected Soon

*Juniors* have the opportunity to complete applications, if interested, for Buckeye Boys' and Girls' State. Young men and women around Ohio will be learning about city, county and state government processes. Each participant becomes a part of the operation of a local, county, and state government. At American Legion Buckeye Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Buckeye Girls State, participants are exposed to the rights, privileges, duties and responsibilities of a franchised citizen. Activities include legislative sessions, court proceedings, law enforcement presentations, assemblies, a band, and recreation. High School juniors are selected by local American Legion Posts and Units to attend the weeklong event.

***Buckeye Boys' State is held on the Campus of Miami University June 8 –June 14, 2025.***

***Buckeye Girls' State is held at Bowling Green State University June 8—June 14, 2025.***

*See Mr. Jeff Clement soon to complete the application.*

## Spanish 3 & 4 Cultural Experience

Students in Spanish 3 and 4 had the opportunity to expand their Spanish Culture by attending a Cultural Presentation in Columbus this past fall. They ended their day with authentic Spanish cuisine for lunch.





**Superintendent Karl Lammers** 419-532-3534  
 High School Principal Dean Brinkman 419-532-3529  
 Elementary Principal Kayla Stechschulte 419-532-3845  
 Treasurer Michelle Buss 419-532-3556

**School Board Meetings**  
 Second Wednesday 7:00 PM  
 Kalida School Board Room

**School Board Members**  
 Brent Helmke, President  
 Greg von der Embse, Vice President  
 Craig Schmenk, Emily Peck, Brad Niemeyer

Kalida Board of Education  
 Box 269  
 Kalida, OH 45853  
**Address Service Requested**

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 US POSTAGE  
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 PERMIT #4  
 KALIDA, OH 45853



## 2024-25 School Calendar

2/14/25—Professional Development Day  
 —No School  
 2/17/25—Presidents' Day—No School  
 3/14/25—End of Third Nine Weeks  
 3/21/25—Break—No School  
 4/18/25—Spring Break Begins—No School  
 4/22/25—Classes Resume  
 5/21/25—Last Day for Students  
 —2 Hour Early Dismissal  
 5/22/25—Teacher Workday  
 5/25/25—Graduation—Class of 2025  
 5/26/25—Memorial Day

*Possible Make-Up Days:*  
 Friday, March 21 and Monday, April 21

## January School Board Appreciation Month



(front) Brent Helmke, Greg von der Embse, Emily Peck,  
 (back) Craig Schmenk, Brad Niemeyer.

*Thank you for your countless hours of service  
 to our school and community!*

## Music Booster Drawings

### November Winners

#### **\$50 Winners**

Olivia Burgei	Brad Rosenbauer
Sue Sager	Ken Gerdeman
Bentley Wasson	Kelsey Bennett
Ayden Unverferth (Kelley)	

### December Winners

**\$200** Deana Nienberg  
**\$150** Angela Schnipke  
**\$100** Kendyl Klima  
**\$100** Oliver Litwiller  
**\$100** Sandy Buss

#### **\$75 Winners**

Alison Niemeyer	Allison Hellman
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#### **\$50 Winners**

Chris Kahle	Mary Jane & Leroy Wehri
Sara Rieman	

### January Winners

#### **\$50 Winners**

Tessa Wehri	Jason Schumacher
Chuck Warnecke	Renee Klaus
Aydin Askins	Jackie Schroeder
Lois Fischer	

### February Winners

#### **\$50 Winners**

Sara Brinkman	Abby Warnecke
Ethan Langhals	Dick Gerdeman
Cooper Nienberg	Barb Neidert



## Kalida Varsity Softball Fundraiser

Feb. 3 - Feb. 18



### We are selling:

Liquid Laundry Pacs  
 Liquid Laundry Detergent/Softener  
 Dishwasher Pacs  
 Handcrafted Soap



For more details on purchasing, please visit the Kalida Softball Association Facebook page, reach out to any Varsity Softball Player, or contact Jill Ricker directly at 419-890-5131. They will be happy to assist you with any inquiries or provide further information on how to make a purchase.