

BACKUS Community Center

Volume 15, Issue 2

February 2023

Backus Junior High school 1936



E. W. Backus



Blues, purples, and greens harmonize perfectly to make the auditorium one of the most beautiful and distinctive features of the building. (True to this day, 2023) It seated 1,082.

Remember when...

Highlights from the Backus Junior High School dedication program.



The little theatre seating 150 persons embodies all the features of the complete auditorium. The entrance is so arranged that this room may be used as a unit separate from the rest of the building.

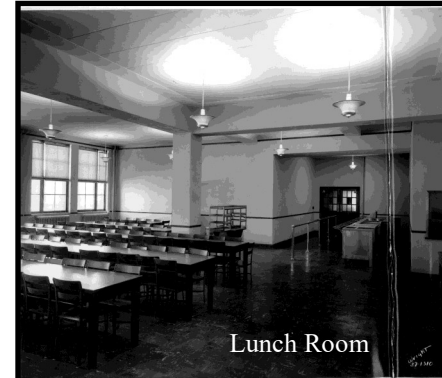
Corridors are roomy and contain 400 recessed lockers, one for each student.

From the Director's Desk

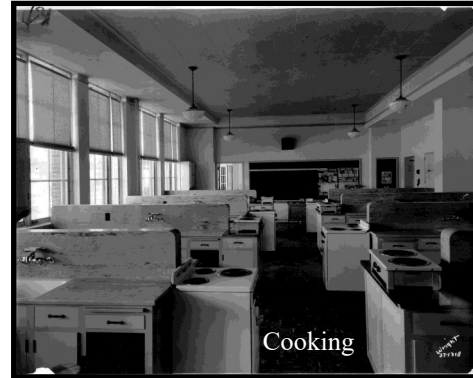
Two newsletters??? Yes. We had very busy weeks at the end of January and well in to February, so we decided to send February and March letters together. I hope you enjoy the updates!

The Board of Directors and leadership from the Citizens for Backus/AB conducted our annual meeting on February 9, 2023. Several individuals presented reports and information pertaining to Backus performance from 2023. Those in attendance said it was the best annual meeting yet! There was great interaction and conversation between all of the participants. The 2023 Annual Report is posted on the Backus web site (www.backusab.org). Take a look!

Happenings: The Junior High Basketball season is wrapping up. During one of the girl's games, fans witnessed an incredible half-court shot SWISH the basket right before the buzzer! The crowd got loud! | The middle school all school band came, practiced, and performed on stage. The music was fantastic! | The Falls Education Foundation flipped a lot of pancakes. | Runners were freezin' their gizzards and proudly showed off this year's medals (very cool hardware). | Arrowhead 135 athletes fired up and fueled up before setting out to ski, run, or bicycle through Northern Minnesota woods. | The Veteran's Lodge opened their doors. | The Mother Pluckers and Paradigm gave a great concert on the Backus stage on February 11. | There are Rotary meetings every week. | Contractor class. | Bridge club. | Walk-ercise. | Wrestling. | Home school students in the gym. | Junior Bards workshops. | Community Café. | Music lessons. | Dance practice. | And the Rainy Lake Community Orchestra and Hand Bells play on... Life. Is. SO. Good!



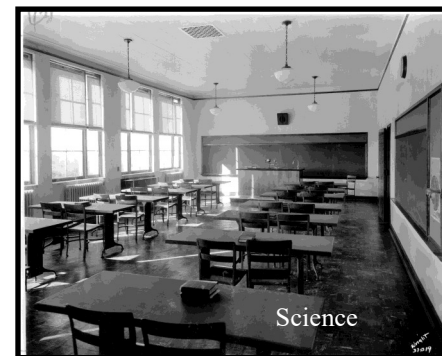
Lunch Room



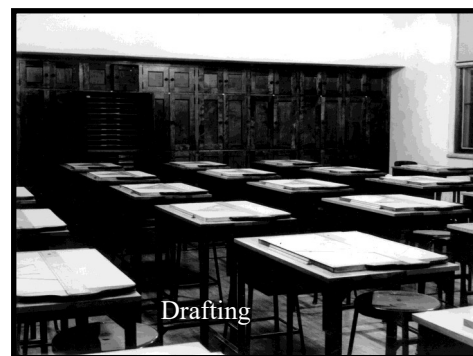
Cooking



Sewing



Science



Drafting



Shop

Did you attend school or teach at Backus?

Please visit! Walk the halls, find your locker, reminisce about the fun times, your favorite classes, and amazing teachers. Stop by the office to say hello and to sign in. We'd love to see you!

Do you enjoy receiving the Backus newsletter?
We'll start sending through email in April!

Please let us know if you would prefer that we mail your newsletter.

Let's stay in touch!

Please provide your email address to Backus.
backusoffice@backusab.org, or 218-285-7225, or 900 5th St., Int'l Falls MN 56649

*Backus respects your privacy.
Your contact information will not be shared.*

BACKUS STAFF

Lois Lundin,
Executive Director

Hoa Sobczynski,
Business Manager

Alyssa Crawford,
Office Assistant

Darcy Sullivan,
KCC-TV Director



Photo by: Ben Sunne.
Outside of Backus in the balmy -20F .
A Freeze Yer Gizzard Blizzard runner receives his medal on January 28. **Brr...**



Photo by: Jenn Millas.
Arrowhead Ultra 135 Racers watching the presentation before their spaghetti dinner the night before the race began.
Start line - International Falls, -25F Finish line - Tower, MN
149 Racers. 75 Finished. **Simply Amazing!**

Volunteers Needed!

We have many events in April and can use your help!

Come have some fun and support the community at Backus!
Please reach out to us at 218-285-7225, email us at
backusoffice@backusab.org
or download a volunteer form on our website
www.backusab.org

Needed:

- Servers
- Food Prep
- Bartenders
- Clean-up/ Dishwashers
- Poster Distributors

AARP TAX PREP *LOCATION CHANGE*

AARP will be at the former Workforce Center location at
Minnesota North College, Rainy River campus.



Falls Education Pancake Fundraiser brought families to the stage
Icebox weekend. **It was Wonderful.**

RAINY LAKE COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA PRESENTS:

Cabin Fever

Friday, March 3, 2023
7:00PM

- Rainy Lake Community Orchestra
- Youth Orchestra
- Rainy Lake Chimes
- Special Readings
- and much more!

Thank you for your free will donation!



900 Fifth Street
International Falls MN 56649
(218) 285-7225
www.backusab.org

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“Historic Backus Community Center, the heart of International Falls, where all generations celebrate arts, culture, recreation, wellness, and life-long learning.”

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Julie Bartkowski
Tim Fairchild
Donna Frederickson
Sherrie Lessard
Jim Lyman
Gail Rognerud
Mike Williams
Kay Arnold, *Emeritus*
Molly Bragg, *Emeritus*

The next board meetings are March 9 and April 13 at 5:15 PM in room 101/102.

BACKUS VALUES YOUR INPUT!
Do you have comments, questions, suggestions, or concerns regarding Backus?
Please contact the Backus Board at backusboard@backusab.org

COMING SOON TO BACKUS

Cabin Fever Concert
7:00 PM, Friday, March 3

Ruby's Pantry
5:00-6:30 PM, Monday, March 13

Community Café
5:00-6:00 PM, Tuesdays and Thursdays