



Bridgeton Public Schools

September 19, 2022
Volume 3, Issue 3

Superintendent's Summer Edition

Bulldog Briefing

Dr. Keith Miles, Jr. • Superintendent of Schools



Happy Monday Bulldog Team!

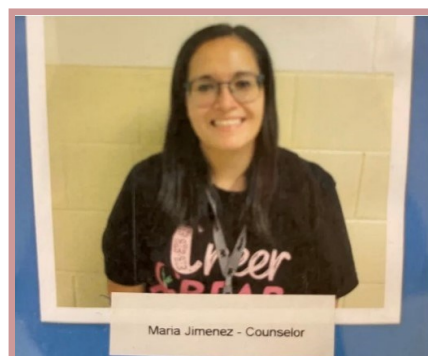
This year 's start has been super positive so far, thanks to all of you! To date, there was a drastic dip in the number of parent phone calls to the Superintendent's Office regarding transportation, and on my visits to classrooms, when I ask students what they really appreciate about our district, students repeatedly say they appreciate our caring and supportive staff. These are two examples of us getting better each year as we work together to move the needle in a positive direction for our students and families.

While we have almost the exact same number of vacancies, we have also seen a record number of substitutes picking up assignments in our district, so far this year. Last year at this time, our fill rate was in the single digits. We are now hovering at 50%. While we certainly have a ton of work to do, a big kudos to our growing HR department as this team manages the massive amount of hiring which has been occurring to offset post-pandemic retirements and resignations. In light of our current staffing shortage, I appreciate all of you and your decision to dedicate your time and passion to positively impacting the lives of our Bridgeton students.

Continuing with Hispanic Heritage month, I would like to celebrate and honor a current Hispanic staff member who made *Frontrunner New Jersey's* 2022 list of [30 Latino Leaders Under 35 Years Old](#).

Ms. Maria Jimenez serves as a guidance counselor at West Avenue School. Her leadership and work supporting our growing bilingual population, along with her principal's recommendation drew the attention of FRNJ's selection committee.

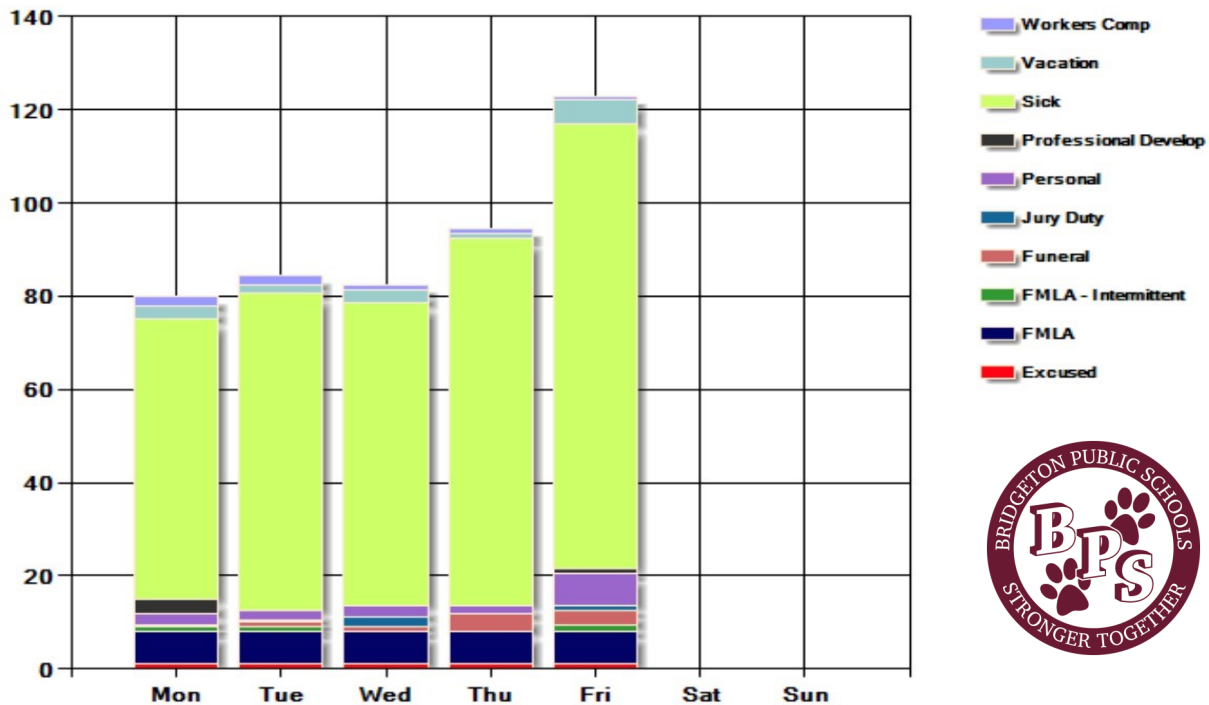
Later in the briefing, you will find a full list of all the Hispanic Heritage Month activities occurring across our schools. As parent outreach and Back to School nights are underway, these activities provide additional opportunities to bond with and build relationships with students and families. We all have our unique relationship building strategies, and there is no one size fits all approach. After reviewing these [5 Tips](#), please consider picking one technique that you might add to what you are already doing in the spirit of continuous growth. Across our organization, we will continue to place a high value on trust, teamwork and growth. Have a great week everyone! #Stronger Together



Before becoming a full-time counselor in 2021, Jimenez piloted a new dual language program in the district that emphasized developing students' bilingual, bi-cultural, and bi-literate abilities. She now mentors students ranging from elementary to high school level in a variety of settings, focusing on at-risk students. She has excelled in cultivating and maintaining positive and productive relationships with all educators' constituencies, including students, parents, administrators, and the community.

Ready, Set, Read!

Sept. 12th – Sept. 16th Staff Attendance



Meetings/Community Engagement Sept. 12-16

- ◆ Meetings held with the Executive Director of Human Resources, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, School Business Administrator, and the Assistant Superintendent of Special Education & Student Services.
- ◆ Stockton MOU Meeting
- ◆ Board of Education Meeting
- ◆ College Credits for HS Students Meeting
- ◆ All Principals Check-in Meeting
- ◆ Coaches Discussion Meeting
- ◆ BHS Additions Meeting



Upcoming Dates/Events

- ◆ One-to-One meetings with the Executive Director of Human Resources, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, School Business Administrator, and the Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and Student Services.
- ◆ Sept. 21 - Leadership Team Meeting, 8:30 am
- ◆ Sept. 21 - NJ Alliance of Black Superintendents (NJABS) Virtual Meeting, 10:00 a.m.
- ◆ Sept. 21 - Great Schools of NJ: The Association of High Need School Districts Virtual Meeting, 10:30 am
- ◆ Sept. 21 - Rowan Professional Development Schools Meeting, 3:00 pm
- ◆ Sept. 22 - First Day of Autumn
- ◆ Sept. 22 - Administrative Council, 8:30 am
- ◆ Sept. 23 - CCPYDC Coalition Meeting at Rowan College of SJ, 9:00-10:30 am
- ◆ Sept. 24 - Bridgeton Citywide Clean-up, 8:30 am
- ◆ Sept. 25 - Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown

Bridgeton Public Schools

Hispanic Heritage Month Activities 2022

BHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily announcements of historical figures throughout the Hispanic community Hispanic Heritage display in D-Hall
Broad St. School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morning Announcements once a week Port of Entry Students – sharing customs and traditions from countries of birth – daily during Language Arts (H3 Minervini) Sept. 28: 1:30 pm to 2:54 pm - 4th Grade will view “I am Frida Kahlo”, and take a virtual tour of La Casa Azul (The Blue House), step-by-step drawing of Frida, decorate and color their illustration (Vagnarelli G5) Sept. 29: 5:30 - 7:30 pm - Hispanic Heritage Celebration (Salsa to Samba dancers from Young Audiences) – Broad Street School Auditorium; food in the cafeteria Door Decorating Contest to be judged on October 15th
Buckshutem Road School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sept. 15 and Oct. 14: Wear shirt/jersey/outfit featuring Latin American country Sept 16: Wear shirt/jersey/outfit featuring Mexico, celebrating its independence; also, Grades 3-8 will enjoy a variety of Caribbean and South American musical percussions Sept. 19: Wear shirt/jersey/outfit featuring the color blue, celebrating Chile’s independence Oct. 13: 6-8 pm - Families tour Latin America thru hallways featuring different countries and regions. Food, music, arts at crafts at each station. Oct. 24: “Donde esta Juana?” Students in grades K-2 enjoy journey through Latin America by musical duo 123 Andres.
Cherry Street School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily: Hispanic Heritage Facts and “Who Am I” Trivia (parent participation via Class Dojo); Hispanic Heritage facts read by the School Leadership Team over the PA system at 9 am Sept. 15: Foyer entrance with music and balloons Oct. 14: Judging for Door Decorating Contest at 1 pm Oct. 14: Students and staff will wear their Hispanic Heritage attire, with K-4 student parade at 1:30 pm; Staff catered luncheon
Dr. Geraldyn O. Foster Early Childhood Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sept. 19-23: Students immersed in cultural experience; will be introduced to members of the American Latin community Sept. 26-30: Classroom assigned a guest readers; students will be introduced to Hispanic literature, and will learn Spanish words Oct. 3-7: Students will create crafts in their classrooms, enjoy Hispanic-inspired dishes and music Oct. 14: 11 am - Hispanic Heritage Parade. Students will be dressed in cultural garments; school-wide parade outdoors
EXCEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oct. 5: 11 am - 1:45 pm - “El sabor de mi tierra.” Students will bring in a dish representing their culture Oct. 14: 8 am - 4 pm - Students will dress in their respective culture and/or bring in an artifact that represents their culture
Indian Ave. School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oct. 13: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm - National Hispanic Heritage Festival - Food, Music, Games, Dance (location: Front and Rear Cafeterias)
Quarter Mile Lane School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oct. 14: 12-1 pm, 1-2 pm, 2-3 pm - Puerto Rican Folkloric Music: la Bomba y la Plena (Location: All Purpose Room/Auditorium)
West Ave. School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oct. 14: 5:30 - 7:30 pm - Hispanic Food Truck Festival (Location: Parking Lot)

QML Welcomes Families To Back To School Night



Our Board Members



Kenny Smithbey Jr.
President



Tyrone Williams
Vice President



Angelia Edwards
Member



Dionne Edwards
Member



Albert Morgan
Member



Erica Mosley
Member



Mary Peterson
Member



Markida Taylor
Member



Dr. Colleen Turner
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