



Bridgeton Public Schools

November 7, 2022
Volume 3, Issue 10

Superintendent's Fall Edition

Bulldog Briefing

Dr. Keith Miles, Jr. • Superintendent of Schools

Happy Monday Bulldog Team!

Saluting 30 Years of Service



I hope everyone pushed through Saturday's Phillies loss and made good use of our extra hour this weekend! While reflecting on our organizational values of teamwork, growth, and trust, I am reminded that the success of our students will take the concerted effort of our entire school community.

Acknowledging we are stronger when we consider the ideas and recommendations of each of our stakeholders, before building our 2023-2024 budget, it's important to hear from the students, staff, and families at each of our schools. Over the next 3 weeks, I will embark on a districtwide listening tour. I will work with principals to schedule meetings at each school where we address the questions below.

1. What are the strengths of our district that should be continued?
2. What are the challenges facing the district that should be addressed?
3. What are some opportunities or recommendations needing further exploration?
4. Anything else I should know?

Data collected from the tour will be used to tweak our [current goals and priorities](#) for the 2023-2024 school year. We will then work to ensure the 2023-2024 budget (to be approved March of 2023) supports our new priorities.

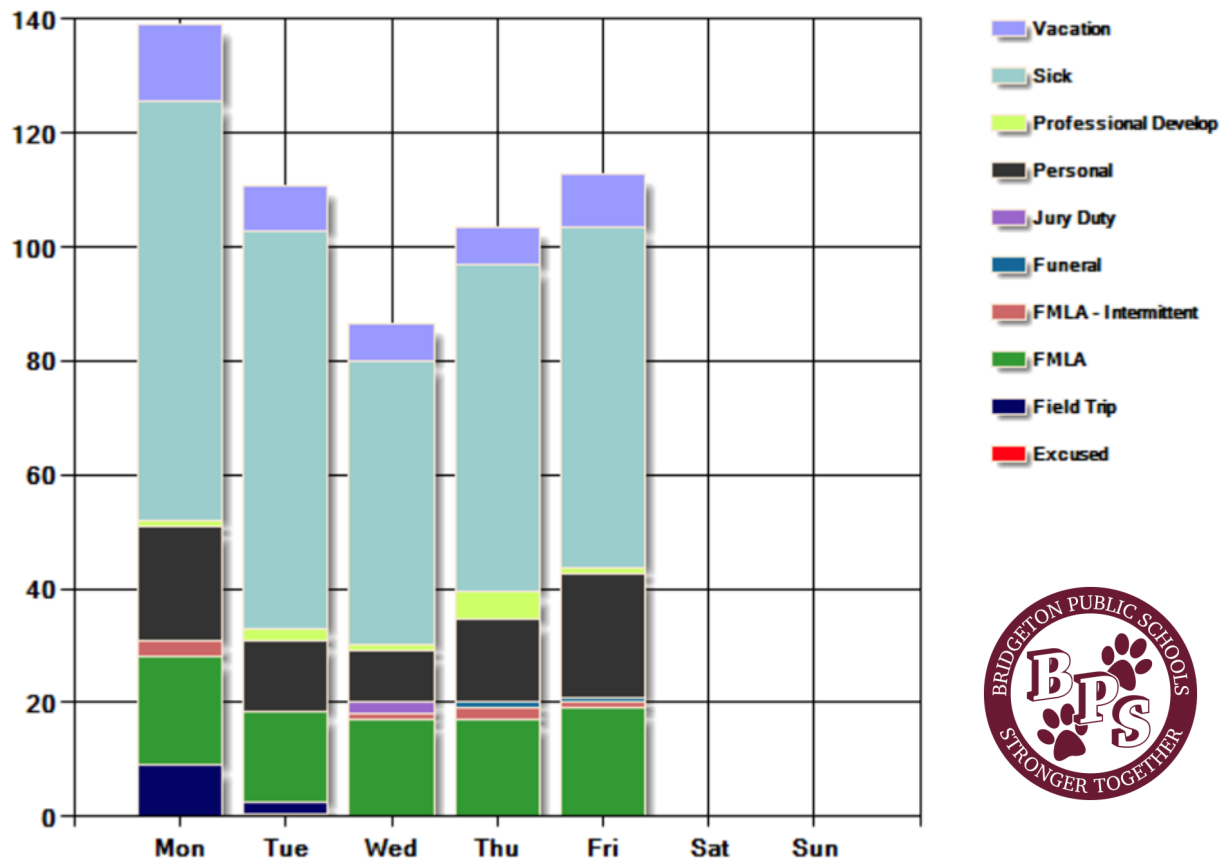
Per the [community letter](#) I released last week, a video is circulating in our school community of a group of Mexican students allegedly jumping a Columbian student on the Commerce Street Bridge. Several Columbian parents reported to BHS this past week concerned about their children's safety. Please familiarize yourself with the [anti-gang resources provided by our County Prosecutor's Office](#) as we continue to work together with parents and law enforcement to ensure the safety of our school community.

In advance of cold and flu season, 14K at home COVID-19 test kits have arrived to the warehouse. Mrs. Lenin is working with principals and school nurses to coordinate the distribution of these tests to families during our end of the month parent teacher conferences.

Finally, please be reminded to complete your Safe Schools activities prior to our district deadlines. The next Safe Schools due date is January 30, 2023. To access the system, please use this link: <https://bridgeton-nj.safeschools.com/login>.



Oct. 31st – Nov. 4th Staff Attendance



Oct. 31st – Nov. 4th Fill Rate 45%

Cumberland County, NJ

Updated on November 5

COMMUNITY RISK LEVEL ⓘ
● **MEDIUM**

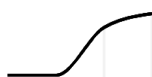
Cases >



● **103.7**

Weekly new reported cases per 100k

Admissions >



● **14.7**

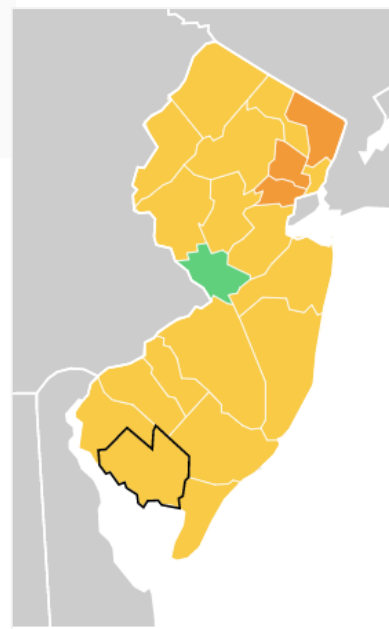
Weekly COVID admissions per 100k

Patients >



● **5.5%**

Patients with COVID of all beds





Helen Banwer: Literacy Leader!

Ms. Helen Banwer is a Literacy Leader who has served the students of Bridgeton since 2016, first as a Special Education Teacher and currently as a Bilingual Teacher.

Ms. Banwer loves her read-aloud time with the students, where she models fluency and

Ms. Banwer loves watching her students' progress and their passion for learning expand. She recalls how overjoyed she was when she began her teaching career but that her first days didn't always go as planned. Sometimes it felt overwhelming. Her advice to new teachers is to plan to grow and to remember the difference they are making. When feeling overwhelmed, tell yourself, "You've got this!"



engages students in discussion. She says that she loves to read *Thank you, Mr. Falkner* by Patricia Polacco with the students and finds the story relatable and inspiring. She



reminds students that they all have goals they are striving to reach and that progress takes time. Ms. Banwer loves to watch her students' faces when she reads with expression!

Another of her favorite literacy activities is phonics instruction. Ms. Banwer ensures that the learning is multi-sensory and says that her students love to clap, tap, say, and count out loud and proud! She says she is proud of her students when she sees them using strategies independently.

Ms. Banwer loves watching her students' progress and their passion for learning expand. She recalls how overjoyed she was when she began her teaching career but that her first days didn't always go as planned. Sometimes it felt overwhelming. Her advice to new teachers is to plan to grow and to remember the difference they are making. When feeling overwhelmed, tell yourself, "You've got this!" She also recommends reading *First Day Jitters* by Julie Danneburg.

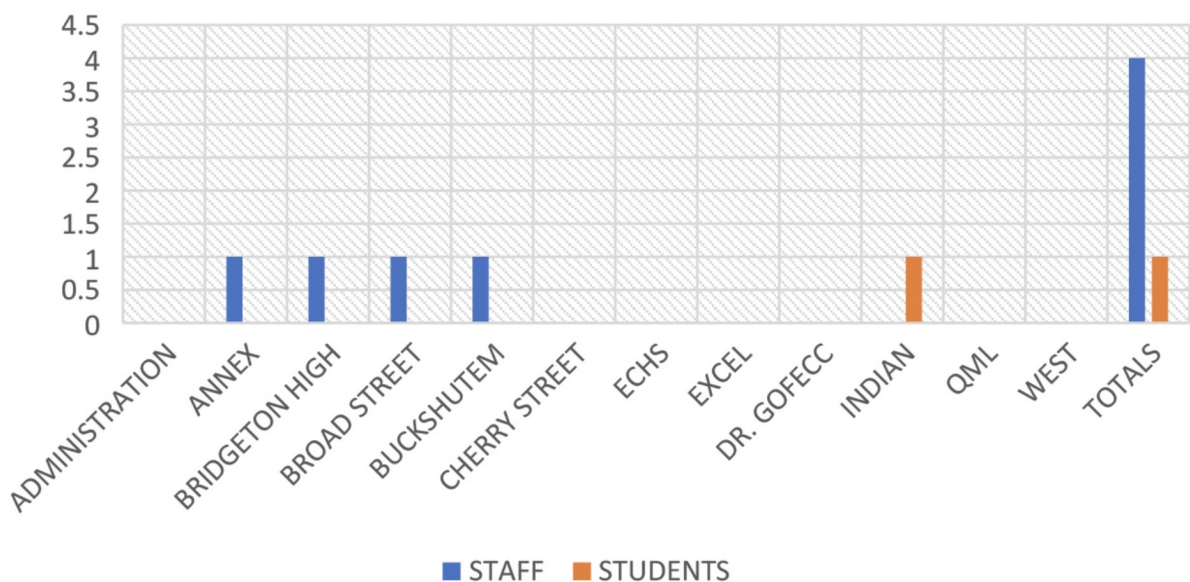
Ms. Banwer says that we are all part of a team and have a lot we can learn from each other. She is thankful for the opportunity that Bridgeton Public Schools has given her.

BHS's Student Government Leadership



Dr. Miles and Principal Morris met with BHS Student Government Association (SGA) reps on Thursday, Nov. 4th.

District COVID-19 Weekly Positive Results Week of October 31, 2022 - November 4, 2022



NJ Exemplary Educator of the Year



Congratulations to Mrs. Jennifer Marshall for being selected as a 2022 NJ Exemplary Educator of the Year award recipient. Mrs. Marshall is a 3rd grade teacher in an inclusion class at Broad Street School. She is passionate and has a positive impact on students that need it most.

Mrs. Marshall is being honored for demonstrating exceptional teaching and leadership abilities. Not only has she affected students, she has had a positive impact on her colleagues, and the school community.

Mrs. Marshall is also the advisor for our National Junior Honor Society students. She is well equipped with strategies to teach our students about service, leadership, character and citizenship.

When it comes to teacher effectiveness and instruction, Mrs. Marshall is exceptional. She uses research-based strategies and is constantly looking for ways to improve her craft. Her reflection on teaching and the ability to reach ALL students makes her a highly effective teacher.

Everything that Mrs. Marshall has done for our school community and the leadership she has shown is very much appreciated.



A Salute to Our Fall Standout Athletes



Congratulations!

- ◆ Adelina Wilks, left, All-Star Team for Girls Soccer in Cape Atlantic League (Emily Perez, Honorable Mention - HM)
- ◆ Ayianna Ridgeway, below left, Field Hockey CAL All-Conference HM
- ◆ Michael Sandoval (right), Boys Soccer CAL HM
- ◆ Bryan Hernandez (below), Cross Country CAL HM



Meetings/Community Engagement 10/31 - 11/4

- ◆ 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
- ◆ CCASA Executive Committee Meeting
- ◆ BHS Additions Working Meeting
- ◆ Board Personnel Committee Meeting
- ◆ QSAC Progress Meeting
- ◆ Board Finance Committee Meeting
- ◆ Board Policy Committee Meeting
- ◆ Leadership Meeting
- ◆ Agenda Review Meeting
- ◆ Meeting with County Education Specialist
- ◆ BHS Student Government Meeting @ BHS
- ◆ Buckshutem Road School Site Visit
- ◆ County Superintendent Visit to Broad Street School
- ◆ All Principals check-in
- ◆ Superintendent's Roundtable @ CTEC
- ◆ Board Student Services Committee Meeting
- ◆ QSAC Operations Review

Upcoming Dates/Events

- ◆ One-to-One meetings with the Executive Director of Human Resources, School Business Administrator, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, and the Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and Student Services.
- ◆ Nov. 7 - NJSPA Virtual Workshop, 9:00 am
- ◆ Nov. 7 - Meeting with Community Member, 11:30 am
- ◆ Nov. 7 - Meeting with Community Member, 1:00 pm
- ◆ Nov. 8 - Grievance Meeting, 10:00 am
- ◆ Nov. 8 - Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 pm
- ◆ Nov. 9 - Cabinet Meeting, 8:30 am
- ◆ Nov. 10 - Closed for NJEA Conference
- ◆ Nov. 11 - Closed for Veterans Day



Electric School Buses Coming to Bridgeton



Bridgeton is one of two South Jersey school districts to receive a combined \$2.3 million to purchase electric school buses as part of a federal program. The funds - provided through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new Clean School Bus Program rebate competition - originate from President Joe Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and are meant to help school districts in low-income, rural and Tribal communities purchase zero-emission and low-emission school buses (as recently reported in the *Daily News of Vineland*).



Although our Philadelphia Phillies lost a hard-fought battle in this year's World Series, staff at Broad Street School were winning in their baseball gear during a recent Casual Dress Day.

Our Board Members



Kenny Smithbey Jr.
President



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Vice President



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Member



Dionne Edwards
Member



Albert Morgan
Member



Erica Mosley
Member



Mary Peterson
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Markida Taylor
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