



Bridgeton Public Schools

January 3, 2023
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Superintendent's Winter Edition

Bulldog Briefing

Dr. Keith Miles, Jr. • Superintendent of Schools

Happy New Year Bulldog Team!



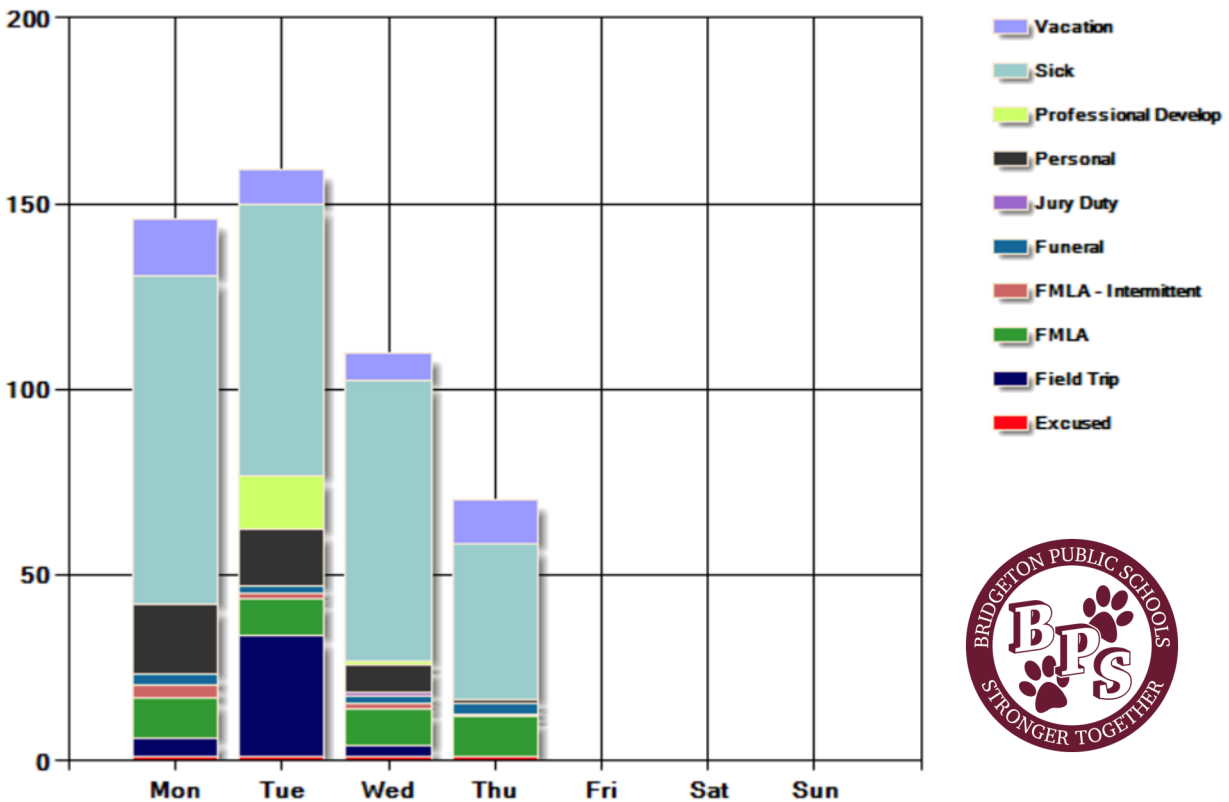
Before stepping into 2023, I hope everyone had an opportunity to pause and reflect on all the wonderful things we accomplished *for children* together in 2022 both as a team and as an organization. Some of our most notable accomplishments in 2022 include:

- ◆ being celebrated during the Commissioner's Convocation for the tiered systems of SEL support we provided students during and after the pandemic
- ◆ expanding SEL and mental health supports for students and staff
- ◆ expanding tutoring opportunities to more students
- ◆ expanded access to technology
- ◆ improved substitute fill rates compared to last year
- ◆ settled contracts with 5 bargaining units
- ◆ moved forward with ventilation and AC upgrades at 3 schools
- ◆ continued the enrollment of new students in our ECHS program
- ◆ continued to enroll new students into ExCEL
- ◆ securing grant funding for 2 electric school buses
- ◆ expanding supports for parents through our Parent University
- ◆ consistent and live translation of all public Board meetings in English and Spanish
- ◆ providing consistent PD and support to school and district leaders
- ◆ expanding our examination and use of data to inform decision making
- ◆ advocating for additions to the high school and a brand new state-of-the-art middle school via our Long Range Facilities Plan to address space challenges
- ◆ hosted visits from Councilwomen Beth Sawyer, Secretary of Agriculture Doug Fisher, and County Executive Superintendent Bob Bumpus
- ◆ collaborated with the City to honor and celebrate Markquese Bell
- ◆ moving the district forward in the area of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) as measured by our DEI rubric
- ◆ expanded our celebration of all cultures with our districtwide acknowledgement of multicultural week
- ◆ expanded access to COVID-19 testing for staff and students
- ◆ enrolled record numbers of parents into the Genesis Parent Portal

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Dec. 19th – Dec. 22nd Staff Attendance



Dec. 19th – Dec. 22nd Fill Rate – 51%

Superintendent's Message ... continued

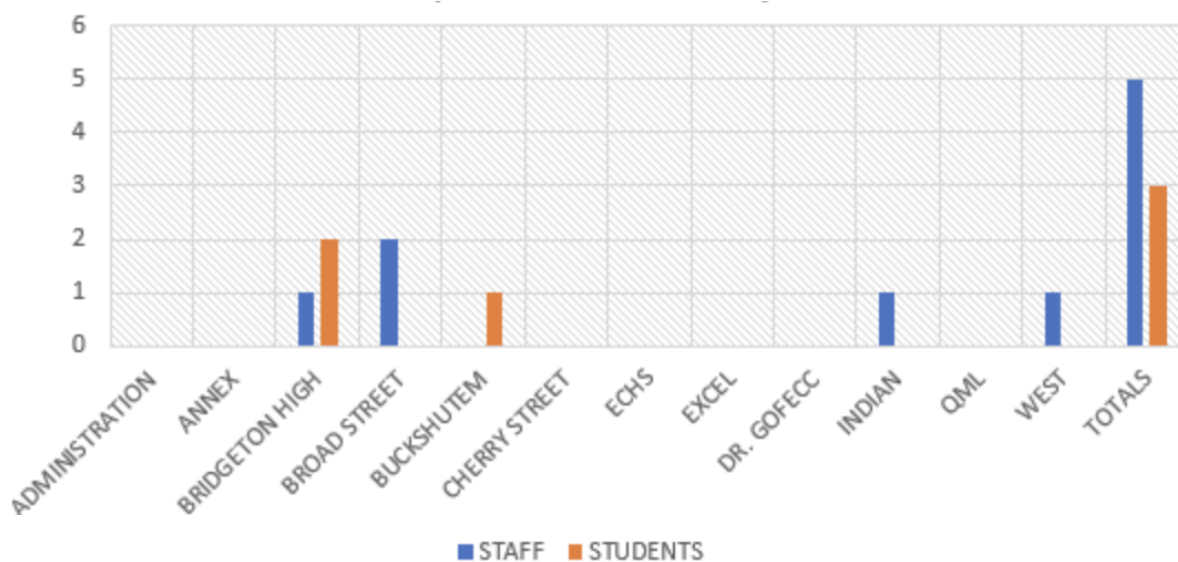
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- ♦ continuing to transition our schools to a dependence on solar
- ♦ enhanced compensation for summer, evening and Saturday work tied to SEL or learning loss
- ♦ changing mindsets around discipline by training key staff in Restorative Practices
- ♦ expanding summer programming to PreK students
- ♦ pivoting to 5 days a week of summer programming
- ♦ installing additional electric signs
- ♦ securing remote instructors for hard-to-fill vacancies
- ♦ attending to staff morale, with approximately 90% of district staff reporting they enjoy working at their respective schools on our Fall climate survey

In the coming days, please be sure to develop some solid goals for 2023! Every department, school, grade-level, classroom, and individual should be goals-focused. Critical to incremental and sustained growth in 2023 will be setting goals based on data, identifying strategies to achieve your goals, progress monitoring, making adjustments along the way, and celebrating successes. This is a winning formula, and with this formula, Bridgeton Public Schools will continue on its path to success in 2023 and beyond!

District COVID-19 Weekly Positive Results

Week of December 19, 2022 - December 22, 2022



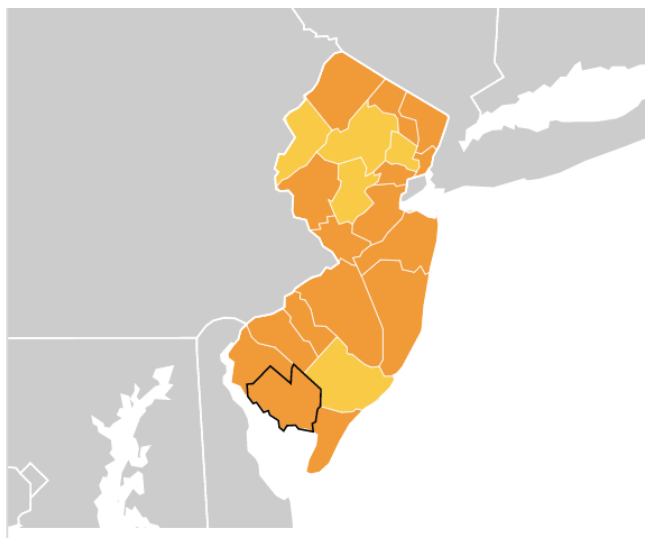
% Vaccinated

Community risk level

Low level



High level



Celebrating School Boards

School Board Recognition Month



Indian Ave. Visits Philadelphia Orchestra



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.
- ◆ Jan. 2 - Closed for New Year's Day
- ◆ Jan. 3 - CCASA Leadership, 9:00 am at CCTEC
- ◆ Jan. 3 - BOE Reorganization meeting, 6:00 pm
- ◆ Jan. 4 - Agenda Review meeting, 9:00 am
- ◆ Jan. 4 - Board Curriculum Committee meeting, 2:00 pm
- ◆ Jan. 5 - Student Government meeting, 7:45 am
- ◆ Jan. 5 - Bus Transportation remote demonstration, 11:00 am
- ◆ Jan. 5 - Board Policy meeting, 1:30 pm
- ◆ Jan. 5 - All Principals Check-in with Superintendent, 2:30 pm
- ◆ Jan. 6 - Superintendents Roundtable, 9:00 am at CRHS
- ◆ Jan. 6 - Budget meeting, 1:00 pm

Meetings/Community Engagement December 19 - 22

- ◆ 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
- ◆ Principal Data Review Meeting @ Quarter Mile Lane School
- ◆ STOPit Follow-up Meeting
- ◆ Judge Holiday Cafeteria Lines at BHS, Broad and Buckshutem
- ◆ Cabinet Meeting
- ◆ Principal Data Review Meeting @ West Avenue School
- ◆ NJ Alliance of Black Superintendent's Virtual Meeting
- ◆ Budget Meeting
- ◆ BHS Additions Meeting
- ◆ Sites visited: BHS, Broad, Buckshutem, Cherry, Dr. Geraldyn O. Foster ECC, Indian, QML, West



Lauren Martell: Literacy Leader!

Lauren Martell is a Literacy Leader at BHS, where she has taught since 2005! Ms. Martell is passionate about preparing students for life after high school. She often uses literature to spark ideas and activate interests when preparing students to find their love for whatever their future holds.

For example, Ms. Martell uses an excerpt, "My Name," from *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros, to allow students to explore their names. This narrative writing assignment leads to discussions on culture and diversity. Ms. Martell says she loves hearing how students got their names and shares that her daughters were given Italian names and named after Shakespeare characters!

Ms. Martell builds community and celebrates diversity through her classroom library. Ms. Martell has built a robust classroom library through the generosity of friends and neighbors and a few good yard sales. Students read one book of their choosing each marking period, and she has witnessed how this has turned students to the love of reading strictly for pleasure.

Ms. Martell also utilizes Achieve 3000 to support non-fiction reading. She is proud that most of her students are on track to meet their year-long growth goals. She uses real-life connections from

the articles to have conversations within her classroom, again building community.

Ms. Martell reminds those new to teaching to give themselves grace and celebrate successes. She encourages teachers to find teammates that inspire them and allow them to ask questions. Ms. Martell says that after 20 years of teaching, she still reflects on her lessons and takes notes for improvement.

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