



Bridgeton Public Schools

March 21, 2022
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Superintendent's Spring Edition Bulldog Briefing

Dr. Keith Miles, Jr. • Superintendent of Schools

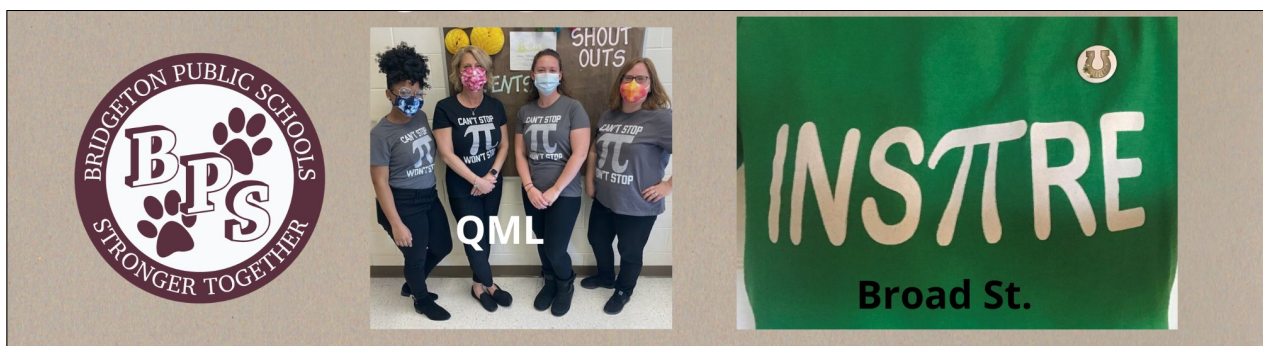
Happy Monday & Happy First Day of Spring Bulldog Team!



As you all know, COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations have continued to drop precipitously, both on the [CALI scale](#) as well as [COVID Act Now](#), and Cumberland County has maintained a green CALI rating for multiple weeks. I've learned from colleagues and other districts who have lifted their mask mandate that when masking became optional, contact tracing became a huge challenge. Please be prepared that when we drop our masking mandate (potentially in the coming weeks), we will follow suit, and not continue to contact trace.

As we approach the end of the third marking period on April 5th, I would like to thank all of you for your support so far this year in addressing our [2021-2022 District Priorities](#): (1) College and Career Readiness, (2) Virtual Learning and Attendance, (3) Social Emotional Learning and Student Mental Health (4) Communication and Community Relations, (5) Fiscal Management and Facilities, and (6) Staffing, Retention, and Recruitment. Although we continue to make huge strides in each area, we still have a ton of work to do. We will continue working toward these same priorities with some minor tweaks during the 2022-2023 school year.

As part of Women's History Month, this week, I would like to highlight and celebrate the huge contributions and leadership of former Bridgeton Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Geraldyn O. Foster. Dr. Foster made history back in 1998 as the first female to serve in the role of Superintendent of Schools in this great city. Because of her many contributions, Dr. Foster is the only individual for whom one of our schools is named. Please continue reading to learn more about the great and incomparable, Dr. Geraldyn O. Foster!

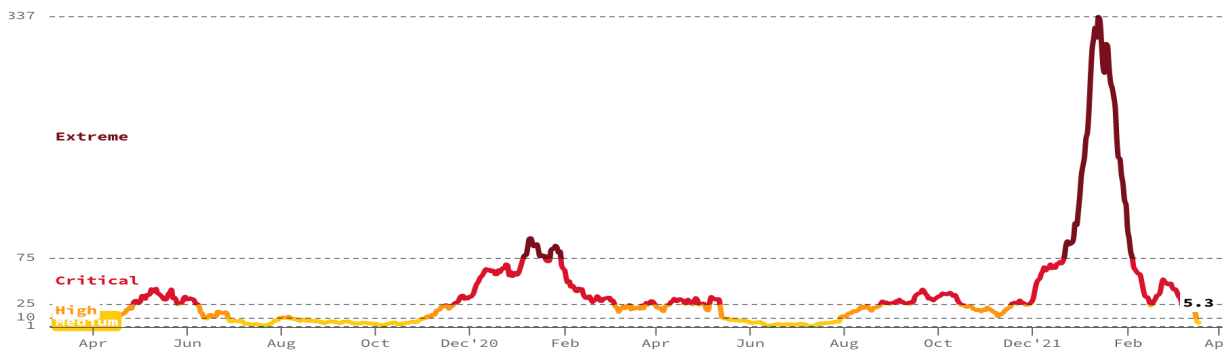


Ready, Set, Read!

Cumberland County COVID-19 Cases Update

Cases

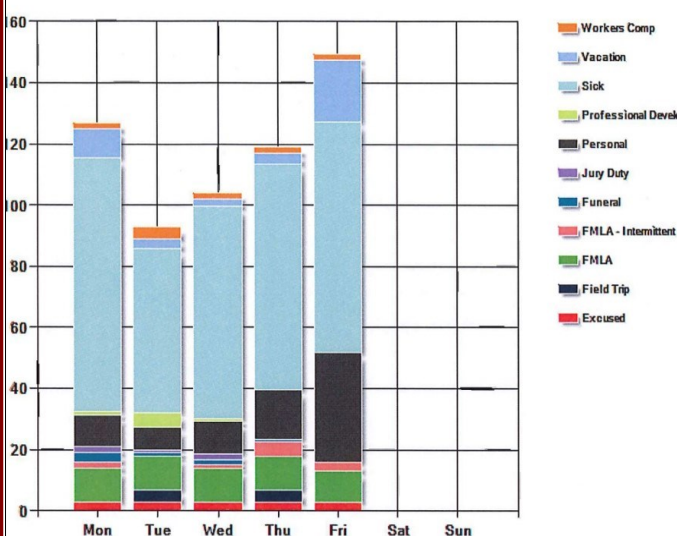
DAILY NEW CASES INFECTION RATE POSITIVE TEST RATE
 ● **5.3** PER 100K ● **0.59** ● **0.5%**



Meetings/Community Engagement Mar. 14- 18

- ◆ Individual Check-ins with the School Business Administrator, the Executive Director of Human Resources, the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, the Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and Student Services, and the Director of Student Services.
- ◆ DEI Partner Check-in Meeting
- ◆ Personnel Evaluation Meetings
- ◆ NJ Black Superintendents Alliance Meeting
- ◆ Rowan University Superintendents Network Meeting
- ◆ Leadership Team Meeting
- ◆ March Administrative Council Meeting
- ◆ Affirmative Action Cases & Updates Meetings
- ◆ BHS Music Department Spring Music Concert
- ◆ Conversations and negotiations meetings with Association leadership, Business Administrator, Board members, and attorneys are ongoing.
- ◆ Conversations with the Board President, Vice President, and other Board members are ongoing.

Mar. 14th – Mar. 18th Staff Attendance



Mar. 14th – Mar. 18th Fill Rate – 33%

Upcoming Dates/Events

March is Women's History Month

- ◆ Mar. 22 - Pandemic Response Team Meeting
- ◆ Mar. 22 - Board Special Action Meeting
- ◆ Apr. 5 - 3rd Marking Period Ends
- ◆ Apr. 6 - Wellness Wednesday One Session; Report Cards
- ◆ Apr. 15 - Good Friday, Spring Break begins

Celebrating WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

District Salutes Dr. Geraldyn O. Foster

In honor of Women's History Month, the district celebrates the contributions of Dr. Geraldyn O. Foster, the first female Superintendent of Bridgeton Public Schools and namesake of the early childhood center in which the retired educator was instrumental in bringing to the district. Dr. Foster's appointment to the position of Superintendent in Bridgeton began July 1, 1998 following her five years of service as Superintendent of Willingboro Public Schools in Willingboro, NJ. Professionally, Dr. Foster brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to champion the cause of making a positive difference in the Bridgeton school district.

Dr. Foster attended Harvard University for post-graduate work; she received her Doctor of Philosophy degree from Union Institute in Cincinnati,



Ohio and her Master's and Bachelor's degrees from Rowan University (formerly Glassboro State College). Dr. Foster climbed the ladder of success with magnificent grace and style . . . from classroom teacher, Supervisor of Guidance and Testing, Director of Special Services, New Jersey Department of Education Administrator, and Assistant Superintendent of Schools, to her latter years serving as Superintendent of Schools. With the conviction, "If it's going to be ... it begins with me," Dr. Foster remained loyal to providing quality education for all her students, whom she affectionately refers to as her "babies."

Dr. Geraldyn O. Foster

First Female Superintendent of Bridgeton Public Schools

Education:

Post Graduate work:

Payne Theological Seminary, Wilberforce Ohio

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Degrees:

Union University, PhD Cincinnati, Ohio

Rutgers University

Rowan University, Masters of Arts

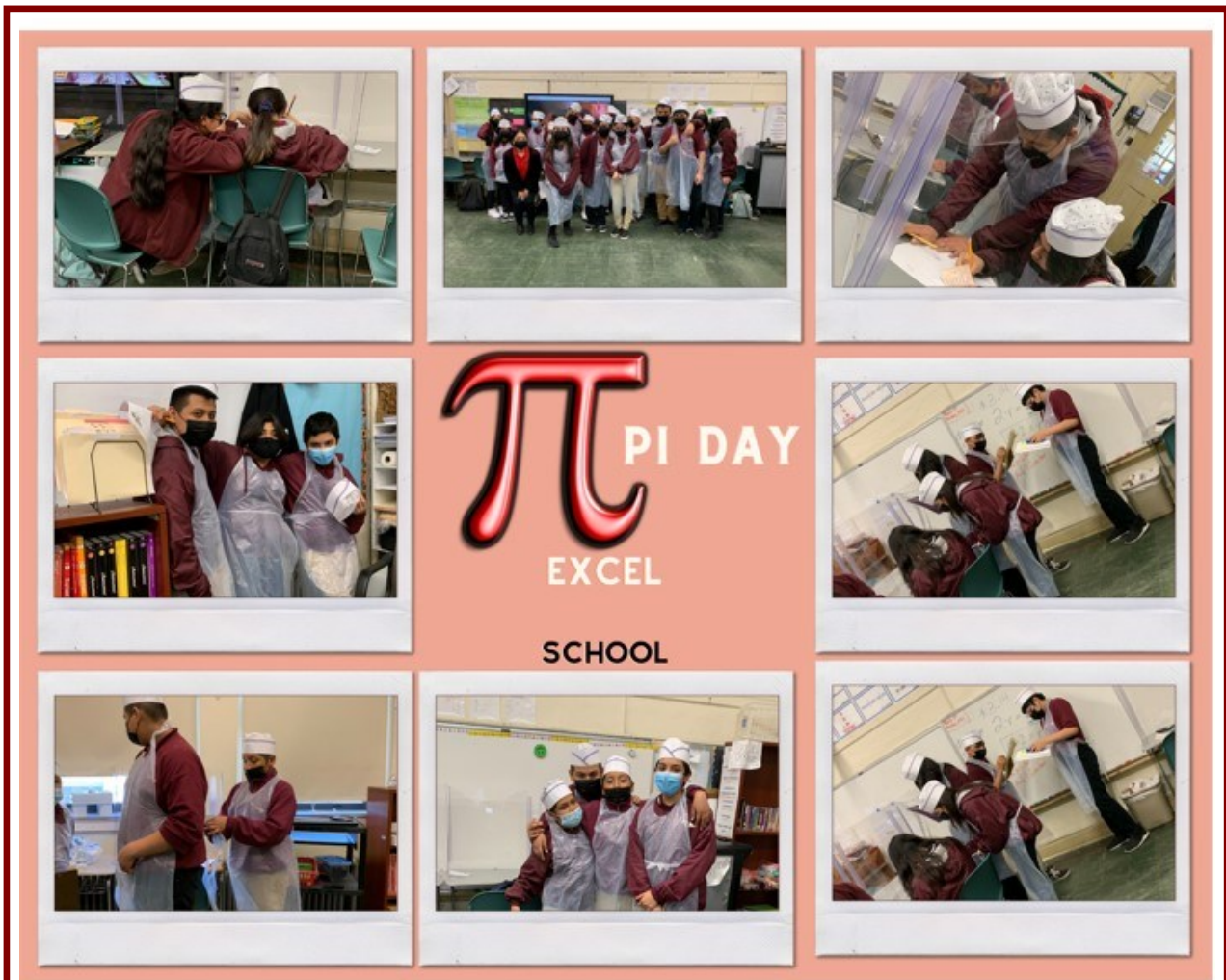
Rowan University, Bachelors degree

Certifications:

New Jersey State Certifications held:

School Administrator, Principal, supervisor, director student services, guidance counselor, school psychologist, school business administrator, and teacher







Nicole Wright is a Literacy Leader!



For eight years, Ms. Nicole Wright has been a part of the Bridgeton family and is currently a 5th-grade teacher at Quarter Mile Lane School. Ms. Wright actively seeks resources and strategies that best fit the needs of her students. She says that her favorite part of teaching is building relationships with her students.

Ms. Wright loves to read *Thank You, Mr. Falkner*, by Patricia Polacco with her students and says it reminds her that her job is to meet the students where they are and build upon that point. She loves to use Literature Seminars with small

groups of students and a literacy review game called The Slam. When playing The Slam, students must work in heterogeneous groups to analyze and respond to complex text. The winning team gets to hold the trophy until the next game. Ms. Wright's advice to new teachers is, "Always remain a humble student. No matter how many years of teaching you have under your belt, always learn more about understanding students and delivering quality instruction."

Ms. Wright is always willing to go the extra mile for her students and finds creative ways to make learning fun!



**Bridgeton Food Services
SUMMER FEEDING**

Bridgeton Food Services Department is providing **FREE** summer meals!

you, or someone you know, are providing an organized activity to children under the age of 18, those children are eligible to receive free meals! Please use the QR Code to access our registration form or

Contact Jackie Mermer at 856-455-8030 ext. 2064 or jmermer@bridgeton.k12.nj.us



 Bridgeton Public Schools Food Services

"Always remain a humble student. No matter how many years of teaching you have under your belt, always learn more about understanding students and delivering quality instruction."

- Ms. Nicole Wright

Live Music Performances Return to BHS Stage



On Thursday, March 17th, BHS students performed to a live audience on the BHS auditorium stage, the very first time for most students due to COVID precautions. Kudos to all the students who performed, their parents, and our BHS music department staff for making the concert possible! Well done Ms. Alexandra Rones, Ms. Karen Johns, Mr. Matthew Brenner, and Ms. Kerri Sullivan.





Our Board Members



Kenny Smithbey Jr.
President



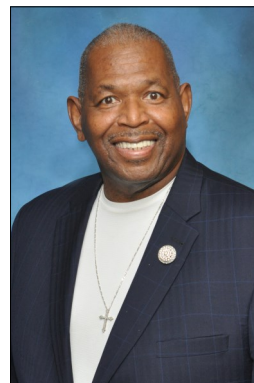
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Vice President



Angelia Edwards
Member



Dionne Edwards
Member



Albert Morgan
Member



Erica Mosley
Member



Mary Peterson
Member



Ashlee Todd
Member