



Bridgeton Public Schools

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Superintendent's Spring Edition Bulldog Briefing

Dr. Keith Miles, Jr. • Superintendent of Schools

Happy Monday Bulldog Team!

I would like to kick off this week's briefing with a huge thank you to all of our teachers! As you know **May 2-6, 2022 is Teacher Appreciation Week**. Everyone who serves or has served in the role of teacher understands that teaching is noble work. People who are inspired and motivated by work that is meaningful, creative, impactful, life-changing, vital, and rewarding become teachers. Our country asks our teachers to wear many hats, one of which is to work closely with students and their parents to guide, advise, and support students in attaining future success. To all the amazing, dedicated, and loving teachers we have in Bridgeton, please know we appreciate you today, and every day!!! I hope your week is special!



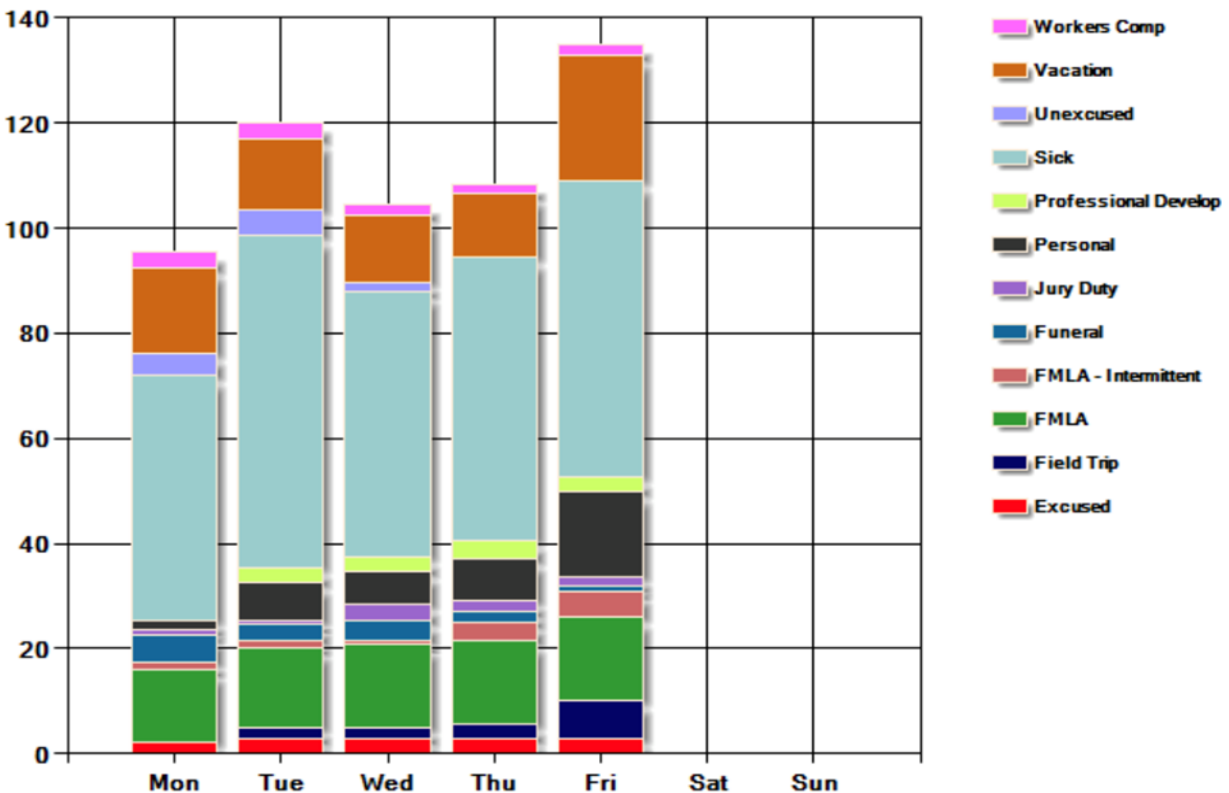
We have 38 staff members who we want to celebrate who are moving on to the next phase of their lives. These staff members will be celebrated and recognized at our June Board meeting. We would like to show our appreciation with a reception immediately following the Board meeting acknowledgement. Districts are not allowed to use district funds; so, we would like to designate **Friday, May 13th** as an additional staff dress down day. All proceeds will go towards the cost of the reception on **Tuesday, June 14th**.

National Principal Appreciation day this year fell on **Saturday, May 1, 2022**; because the day fell over the weekend, please join us in celebrating our school leaders on **Tuesday, May 10, 2022** (Bridgeton's observance of Principal Appreciation Day). It is our sincere goal that all staff members across our district feel appreciated!

Did you know **May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month**? Did you also know that 42 of our 6199 students identify as Asian American and/or Pacific Islander and 0/1000 of our current staff identify as such? Please click [here](#) to see examples of how a few Asian and Pacific Americans have impacted history.



Apr. 25th – Apr. 29th Staff Attendance



Apr. 25th – Apr. 29th Fill Rate – 34%

Meetings/Community Engagement April 25 - April 29

- ◆ 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.
 - ◆ Cabinet Meeting
 - ◆ May Agenda Review Meeting
 - ◆ Board Curriculum Committee Meeting
 - ◆ Board Student Services Committee Meeting
 - ◆ NJ Alliance of Black Superintendents Meeting
 - ◆ April Administrative Council Meeting
 - ◆ Evaluation meetings with Principals and District Administrators are ongoing
 - ◆ 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.
- ### Upcoming Dates/Events

 - ◆ May 1 - National Principals Day (observed in Bridgeton on Tuesday, May 10)
 - ◆ May 2-6 - Teacher Appreciation Week
 - ◆ May 3 - Pandemic Response Team meeting
 - ◆ May 3 - Board Meeting and Budget Hearing
 - ◆ May 12 - Early College High School Commencement Ceremony

BHS Alum Markquese Bell Signs with Cowboys



Markquese Bell was a standout athlete who graduated from Bridgeton High School in 2017. Markquese excelled in every single sport he signed up for and as a BHS Bulldog he excelled in Football, Basketball, and Track and Field. But his sport of choice was Football where he finished his college career at Florida A&M University (FAMU) as one of the top players not only in his conference but in the nation. We want to congratulate Markquese signing on with the Dallas Cowboys to play football in the NFL! We could not be more proud of him representing Bridgeton as he takes on his next series of accomplishments in the NFL as a Dallas Cowboy!





Literacy Leaders

Ms. Leah Taylor

Leah Taylor is the Master Teacher for Kindergarten with a home base at Broad Street School. Her favorite role as a master teacher is collaborating with teachers to effectively instruct students and encourage them to be lifelong learners. Ms. Taylor is a huge advocate for Reader's Theater and says that it motivates students to read while supporting fluency and comprehension. Ms. Taylor would like to remind all new teachers to give themselves some grace. Remember to celebrate success and look at what you have accomplished instead of only focusing on what you need to do!



Mr. Frank D'Errico



Frank D'Errico is the Special Education Master Teacher. His favorite part about teaching is that no one day is the same and that each day brings the opportunity to change a student's life academically, and socially/emotionally. One of his favorite activities was an arts integration typography project that involved reflecting on the images of the Holocaust. Mr. D'Errico offers this advice to his colleagues, "Understand the influence one can have on an individual's life. Academic achievement is always at the forefront of our job, but getting there takes much more than delivering a great lesson. Invest time in your students, even more, their families and advocate for them. Please get to know who your students are on the inside, where they come from, and how they learn. All students are capable of learning, and the expectations we set should reflect that."

Dr. Peggy Morgan

Dr. Peggy Morgan is the Language Arts/Social Studies Master Teacher for third and fourth grade with a home base at Cherry Street School. Dr. Morgan is an avid reader and pretty much loves any book. Still, her favorites include *Chrysanthemum*, *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge*, *The Snowy Day*, *Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon*, *Paddington*, *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* (& listening to the set-to-music version), *Mell Fell*, and *A Chair for My Mother*. Dr. Morgan was integral in the implementation of Achieve 3000 and is proud of the work the teachers and students have completed. She also takes pride in the Leveled Library at Cherry Street School, which includes books for all levels and books in Spanish.





Literacy Leaders

Ms. Holly Hughes Aulffo

Holly Hughes Aulffo is the Language Arts and Social Studies Master Teacher for fifth and sixth grade with a home base at Buckshutem Road School. She loves working with new teachers and says that they bring fresh energy and optimism to the classroom. Ms. Aulffo loves when the students read texts like *The Hitchhiker* or *The Necklace* that lead to dynamic conversations. She is also a huge supporter of Socratic Seminars within the classroom. Ms. Aulffo wants to remind us that we have a lot we can learn from one another!



Ms. Teana Kelley

Teana Kelley is the Language Arts/Social Studies Master Teacher for grades 7 and 8 with a home base at West Avenue. As a self-proclaimed social butterfly, Ms. Kelley says her favorite part about her role is collaborating with the teachers on how to instruct students effectively. She also loves to be an “ear” for teachers when they need it! She is a huge proponent of teaching students the tools they need to comprehend texts, like within her favorite book, *Romiette and Juliet*. Ms. Kelley stresses to new teachers that you need to have a well-managed classroom. She encourages teachers to establish expectations so that they can successfully teach children.

Mr. Joel Howard

Joel Howard will be joining the Master Teacher team as the Bilingual Master Teacher. He loves to use guided reading to address the needs of the students and incorporates interdisciplinary writing within his instruction. Mr. Howard encourages all teachers to “Find out what makes you tick – outside of school – the things about you that have always been *yours* even since before you were a teacher. Keep those central to your rhythms of life. Never let your profession (what you “do”) get in the way of who you have always been (who you *are*). Turn to those habits during times of stress and keep your life balanced!” He also encourages all teachers to “lean into” your professional relationships with colleagues that have impacted your life. Seek from them help and inspiration.



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