



**Bridgeton Public Schools**

May 31, 2022  
Volume 2, Issue 34

# Superintendent's Spring Edition Bulldog Briefing

**Dr. Keith Miles, Jr. • Superintendent of Schools**

## Happy Tuesday Bulldog Team!

I hope your extended Memorial Day holiday was enjoyable and relaxing! Yesterday evening, as the forecast for today began to firm up, I began receiving staff concerns about Broad Street, Cherry Street and Indian Avenue. After discussing scenarios with the leadership team and Board President, we decided the best course was a one session day today. While we allowed staff to leave after student supervisory responsibilities were addressed, if we have additional unscheduled heat related half days, all staff should plan to find a cool zone in their buildings to work until the end of the day.

As a result of [Cumberland County's CALI score](#) slipping back into the high category, I immediately reached out today to our local Health Department. We

discussed our district and recent [NJDOH recommendations](#) for school districts if we move to high:

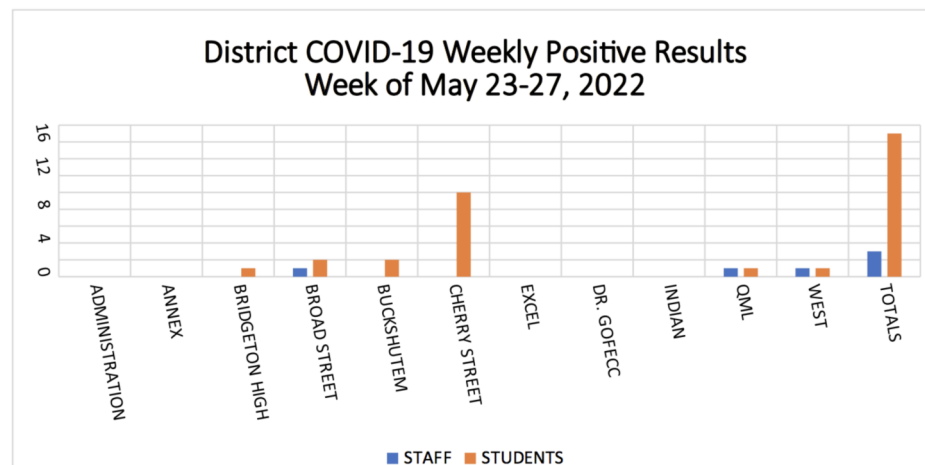
**Masking:** When other mitigation measures such as spacing cannot be achieved, universal masking is recommended.

**Activities:** Carefully consider which activities can continue such as field trips, sports, and events.

**Screening & Testing:** Testing of unvaccinated staff and student athletes should occur more frequently.

**Consultation:** School districts should regularly consult with their local health departments and report outbreaks immediately.

At this time, no school district in our region has gone back to universal masking. Although Cherry Street saw a number of student cases last week, the Health department could not tie these cases to the

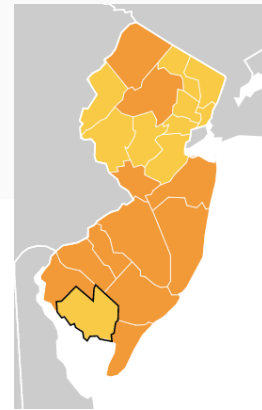


school, and the school is not currently designated as being in outbreak status. Still, out of an abundance of caution, please continue to wear your masks as much as possible, and strongly encourage students to do so while our region is in the high range for community transmission.

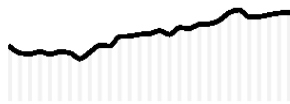
**Ready, Set, Read!**

# Cumberland County, NJ

Updated on May 31



## Cases >



● **270.2**

Weekly new reported  
cases per 100k

## Admissions >



● **2.0**

Weekly COVID  
admissions per 100k

## Patients >



● **3.6%**

Patients with COVID of  
all beds

## Meetings/Community Engagement May 23 - 26

- ◆ Individual Check-ins with the School Business Administrator, the Executive Director of Human Resources, the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, and the Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and Student Services.
- ◆ Bridgeton High School Additions – Kick Off Meeting with the SDA
- ◆ NJ Alliance of Black Superintendents Monthly Meeting
- ◆ Led Cabinet Meeting
- ◆ Led Principal and Supe Check-in Meeting
- ◆ Visits to school sites: Quarter Mile Lane and West Avenue
- ◆ Meeting with staff to discuss personnel matters
- ◆ Bridgeton High School Junior and Senior Prom
- ◆ 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

- ◆ June 1 - Wellness Wednesday
- ◆ June 2 - Senior Breakfast
- ◆ June 2 - ECHS Reception
- ◆ June 3 - NJ Dept. of Agriculture Visit to BHS
- ◆ June 3 - Celebration of Life honoring the late Rebecca Guess
- ◆ June 7 - All Sports Banquet
- ◆ June 8-9 - Academic Excellence

# Signing Day!



*BHS senior athletes Dwayne Small (above) and Nijah Tanksley (left) recently signed letters of intent to play their respective sports at Rowan College of Gloucester. Nijah will compete at the collegiate level in basketball and Dwyane will join Rowan's men's basketball program. Nijah was honored for hitting 1000+ points in her final season on the BHS Girls Basketball team.*



Students from Cherry Street School listened to a presentation from Ms. Cumberland County on the subject of Mental Health at a recent school visit. CSS students correctly answered all of the questions on Mental Health. By all accounts, it was a very gracious and enjoyable event!





# Literacy Leaders!

## Lisa Murphy, Olga Carlson, Denise Riley

Lisa Murphy (pictured right, with students) is a Literacy Leader as a preschool master teacher! Ms. Murphy has been a part of the Bridgeton preschool team for 12 years, and her favorite part about teaching is knowing that she is giving her students a love of learning. She strives to empower students through joint control of classroom learning activities such as running the morning meeting. Ms. Murphy says that watching the students grow through the “I do,” “we do,” “you do,” process is amazing. She loves to instruct with books that have a repeating refrain so the students can join in with “reading,” and it becomes interactive. Ms. Murphy reminds us that reading on grade level by third grade is extremely important to a student’s future success. She says to always look for ways you can strengthen sound literacy practices that are already in place- think outside the box! As a master teacher, she loves that she can help guide teachers, model lessons and provide professional development to ensure rigorous literacy practice, such as shared reading!



master teacher that loves interacting with students through read alouds. Ms. Carlson loves working with Story Play this year and the engagement it brings to the lesson. She says that students recall information from the text more quickly and carry their understanding into writing through drawing and sentence formulation. Ms. Carlson loves to see the students flourish in identifying letters and letter sounds and says it is so exciting to be a part of the students' first steps to literacy. She says that preschool sets the foundation which all other grades build upon. Her advice to new teachers is to get to know your students and to remember that each one is a unique individual. She also says to keep a sense of humor!

Denise Riley is a literacy leader serving Bridgeton for 15 years! She has experience in special education and is now serving as a preschool master teacher. Ms. Riley’s favorite part of teaching is seeing the students enjoy learning and witnessing their “aha” moments! She is proud of her implementation of Universal Design for Learning in her



Olga Carlson (above) is a literacy leader with 28 years of experience! She is currently a preschool

*(Continued on page 5)*

# Literacy Leaders!



**Lisa Murphy, Olga Carlson, Denise Riley**

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inclusive classrooms and loves to use multiple modalities during instruction. Ms. Riley believes that giving students the tools they need to comprehend and express themselves and the ability to participate at their learning level is essential. Therefore, she utilizes PECS, visuals, interactive books, and Story Play to support student learning. Ms. Riley was one of the first to be trained in Story Play and loves how it brings stories alive for the students. She says they are experiencing the story, and it is awesome! Ms. Riley is an avid reader and enjoys writing poetry and song lyrics. She encourages new teachers to enjoy themselves and remember why they choose the profession. She also says not to be afraid to ask for help and remember that all students can achieve... they just need the stepping stones to do so!



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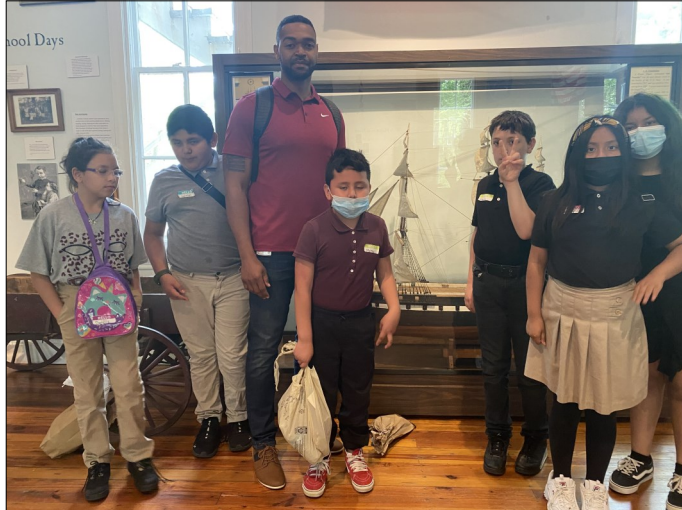


# BHS Staff Goes to Prom





# A Visit to Historic Cold Spring Village



Fourth grade students from Broad Street School enjoyed a recent field trip to Historic Cold Spring Village. Accompanying the students and staff was BSS Principal Phil Silva.





# 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**



**Ashlee Todd**  
**Member**



**Dr. Colleen Turner**  
**Member**