

District

Champions for Children



**Creating A Culturally Responsive High Performing Learning Environment
Where Students Thrive Academically, Social-Emotionally, And Civically.**

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridgeport Public School's has completed the 4th and final session of Unconscious Bias in the Hiring Process. Additionally, we revisited year-long professional development on Cultural Competence with Dr. Tamika LaSalle, Professor with UCONN. We shared the resulting work that has yielded a handbook. We shared the impetus for this work being the desire to inform and engage all stakeholder which includes staff, students, and families. Cultural Competence, which includes courageous conversations, is the first level necessary to provide and sustain the culturally responsive classroom. • The Teaching and Learning Department is continuing to address Professional Development with administrators & teachers by providing information from UCONN Early College Experience & Greg Tang Mathematics. The team is also visiting schools to examine data from i-Ready Fall Diagnostic to help support teachers and students across all grade levels. ESL teachers are receiving certification in Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol to turn key to Bilingual and BOE staff. The Early Childhood Department is working to create and promote a communication plan with all stakeholders regarding the BPS preschool to maintain enrollment and to create a waiting list in SY 18-19 and the Bilingual Office is working to create a parent welcome area for registration and assignment to bilingual programs. The dates for the Science Fair have been finalized for February 5, 6, 7 & 8, 2019 and we are anxiously looking forward to our students presentations.
FACILITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
FINANCE	<p>New....</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the 2018-19 budget, the City has removed \$250,000 from the City appropriation, so the 2018-19 budget will be short \$250,000, as compared to the 2018-19 level authorized by the City Council. OPM has decided to remove \$250,000 from the 2018-19 appropriation, on the premise that, in 2017-18, when the City allocated \$387,393, a portion of this amount (\$250,000) compensated for the \$250,000 holdback in State ECS. OPM believes that, in 2018-19, with the increase in State ECS (+\$1,638,099, compared to FY18), the City no longer has an obligation to continue the \$250,000 contribution initiated in 2017-18 (as part of the City's contribution of \$387,393). This reasoning is illogical, as the City Council appropriated the additional amount in FY18, \$387,393, prior to the announcement by the State of the ECS holdback. In 2017-18, OPM approached the City Council, after the State's announcement, in December 2017, to finally revise the BOE budget to the level originally appropriated. Further outreach to the City will focus on seeking restoration of \$250,000 in the FY19 budget. 2. At the FCW campus, the Aerospace High School has not met the residency standard (RS) required of inter-district magnet schools as of 10-1-18. The RS at Aerospace is 23.16%, which is below the required standard of 25%. It will be necessary for Aerospace High school to prepare a corrective action plan for submission to the CSDE in early November, so that approval may be obtained by December 1st (in accordance with the state guidelines). 3. Federal appropriations in major grants have been released: Title I, IIA, III, IVA. Fortunately, the allocations for Title I, IIA and III are relatively stable. In the case of Title I, the minor increase is offset by the growth in the nonpublic school allocation (due to

	<p>higher NPS enrollment). Title IVA was initiated in 2017-18 and continues in 2018-19, but may not be renewed by Congress for 2019-20. In 2018-19, the Title IVA allocation is \$664,735, approximately \$500,000 higher than 2017-18. This higher funding level, which is restricted to specific priorities (rounded educational opportunities, safe/healthy schools, professional learning in the use of technology), enables the district to fund 90% of the 2018-19 IQWST Science 6-7-8 initiative in Title IVA, as planned. Beyond the IQWST initiative, the district will be able to deploy funds to improvement of school climate and attendance, as well as supplemental instructional resources in such areas as advanced placement, TAG, STEM and the newly introduced African-American Studies and Latin American Studies courses in the high schools.</p> <p><i>Continuing....</i></p> <p>The 2018-19 budget is subject to several significant risk factors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In regard to the CT Partnership plan and the resultant health insurance savings built into the FY19 budget gap plan, the AFSCME union has transitioned to the Partnership on 10-1-18. An effective date for NAGE has not yet been announced, but 1-1-19 is the expected date. Continuation of the current health plan in the September - December period will reduce the anticipated savings in the budget gap plan. The reduction in savings is projected in the range of \$275 - \$350,000. As part of Deficit Prevention Mode, which continues in force, we will seek to capture all accrued funds, in order to build reserves to help offset this projected shortfall and prevent a deficit condition. 2. In 2017-18, the upward trend in special education enrollment (17.36%) and mandated service needs was a major concern, in view of the heightened pressure on extremely constrained fiscal resources and reduced fiscal capacity to provide services for general education students. In 2018-19, new special education classes have been opened and while the redeployment of existing resources is partially supporting these new classes, the level of commitment of resources to special education is higher due to the supplemental expense for related services. The rise in out of district expenditures is another area requiring oversight and exploration of potential measures to reduce the overall expense. 3. A balanced budget will be dependent upon attainment of the projections that comprise the Budget Gap Plan, including the savings to be derived from Deficit Prevention Mode and the designated elimination of positions. Following standard operational practice, we will continue to monitor carefully budgetary expenditures and, if any negative trends emerge, alert the Superintendent of the causative factors and recommended timely interventions.
<p>HUMAN RESOURCES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Technology Services has been out in force at our schools addressing the mission critical needs for academics and testing. Currently, all focus for all three divisions of ITS are prioritized to meet our testing and reporting requirements for the District. Substantial detail has been placed on making sure that all faculty, student and support staff accounts are available and ready for the purposes of taking and providing testing. We are continuing to roll out the remaining legacy devices from the old Harding High School to the District primary schools that are in the most need by ratio of computers-to-students. In addition, we have been continuing to repair and replace as many devices as we are able through this process to utilize the District's technology investment to its fullest. ITS will be gearing up to start to distribution of the Sprint 1 Million program Internet connected tablets to Bassick High School and the Law Cohort of Harding High School. Students identified by the program based on its parameters will be provided a device that has a 2GB cellular data plan with full CIPA compliant protection both on and off our school campuses. Our User Services division has been spending a substantial amount of time remediating and resolving issues with end user equipment to ensure the ability for students to take mandated testing. Because of this important academic need, standard user requests for faculty and staff will have substantially longer wait times until we exit the testing period. The Data Center Operations division has been out in the field addressing system damages that have occurred during the recent electrical storms that resulted in loss of equipment due to lighting strikes and electrical surges. Our Data Management division has been hard at work assisting and providing the staff, faculty and students with their enrollment into PowerSchool and the myriad of other District platforms including IQWST, HMH, Clever, etc. As Data Management is currently in the process of bringing in new staff, their demand-to-staff ratio is higher than ever and we are doing everything in our power during these financially challenging times to meet the information

demands of the District. Please take note that there will be significant delays in requests of all three divisions due to the opening of school and reduction of staff in-kind to our current fiscal situation. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to provide the best service we can with the resources that are made available to us!

NUTRITION

- The Supervisory staff of the Bridgeport Food & Nutrition Department determined that additional revenue received during school year 2018-2019 will be used for improvements to the Nutrition Center as well as much needed school kitchen repairs. Such needed improvements include but not limited to a new refrigerated truck, air conditioning for the kitchen production area, freezer replacement to those school kitchens in need and application software upgrades. Additional revenue will be achieved through the Community Eligibility Participation free claiming percentage and should address most of the needs.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Please be advised of the schedule for CPI Training for the 2018-2019 school year:

CPI Training: Two Day Full Introductory Sessions: Participants must attend both days:	CPI: Refresher Dates:
10/17/18 & 10/18/18	10/16/18
11/7/18 & 11/8/18	11/20/18
12/19/18 & 12/20/18	12/18/18
1/15/19 & 1/16/19	1/17/19
2/6/19 & 2/7/19	2/5/19
3/19/19 & 3/20/19	3/21/19
4/10/19 & 4/11/19	4/9/19
5/14/19 & 5/15/19	5/16/19
6/11/19 & 6/12/19	6/4/19

SVA

- School Volunteer Association is preparing for:
Read Aloud Day on October 18, 2018

SUPERINTENDENT’S SUMMARY

www.febps.org

- October is Bullying Prevention Month – the districtwide committee convened our first monthly meeting for the 18-19 school year on September 27th at Harding High School. Daily tweets, flyers, and Facebook posts are generated from the Superintendent’s office staff and monitored throughout the day. The Committee is also scheduled to present to the City Council Education Committee on October 11th at 6:00 pm at 45 Lyon Terrace in the Wheeler Room. The Tauck Family Foundation has provided \$40,000 to BCAC in an effort to assist BPS with coordinating our SEL initiatives. Our SEL Task Force kicked off our first meeting of the 18-19 school year on October 4th. I will be in attendance at the Council of Great City Schools annual conference in Baltimore, MD from Oct 24th – Oct. 28th. Sacred Heart University has expressed interest in developing a ‘grow your own’ teacher preparation program and we are exploring our partnership together, additional information will be provided at the Teaching & Learning Committee meeting.

School	Date of Visit
Aquaculture	
Barnum	9/5
Bassick	
Batalla	9/6
Beardsley	9/7
Black Rock	9/12
Blackham	9/13
*BLC	
BMA	9/14
Bryant	9/17
Central	9/18
CSMA	9/20
Claytor	9/21

Columbus	
Cross	
Curiale	
Discovery	9/27
Dunbar	
Edison	
FCW: Aero	10/2
FCW: IT	10/2
FCW: Zoo	10/2
Hall	10/3
Hallen	10/4
Harding	10/5
HHM	
Hooker	

Johnson	
Madison	
Marin	
MCM	
PCM	
Read	
Roosevelt	
*Skane	
Tisdale	
Waltersville	
Winthrop	
*Detention Center	
*University School	
Adult Education	