

District

Champions for Children



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

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS

- The success of the Bigelow funded Girls Who Code Summer Camp (*Pillar #1*) is segueing into our extended day Coding program at Geraldine Claytor Academy. BPS Students Who Code After School Program will begin Monday, November 5th, and continuing on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 3:15-5:15. The impact of having students from Fairchild Wheeler Information and Technology school will be enjoyed by the afterschool participants. We have great expectations for developing IT professionals as a result of their participation.
- Central High School won a partnership with Edhesive for the Amazon Future Engineer Program to expand our AP Computer Science offerings. As a result, 18 ninth and tenth graders are enrolled in AP Computer Science Principles this year.
- Central received approval from the College Board for the AP Capstone and rolled out the AP Seminar this year bringing our total AP offerings to 20.
- Central has 295 students taking 487 AP courses (The highest number of AP enrollees in the history of Central High School and the district).
- Central has a Questbridge finalist this year (National competitive program that matches high-achieving low-income seniors with top colleges in the country).
- In a continual effort to improve communication with families and parents (*Pillar #4*) the Math Department sponsored “Math Fun Nights” at Read, Cross & Waltersville Schools. The parents and children worked through many mathematical problems and practiced strategies to use at home. The Department also sponsored a Math Chat night at Claytor School where parents and children practiced basic facts using number bonds. The Visual & Performing Art Department offered discount tickets to families and staff to see Act 1 of Verdi’s Aida at the Klein and over 250 students attended. The World Language Department is putting together a timeline for the Seal of Biliteracy and providing training to improve instructional practices to meet the linguistic and academic needs of English Learners.
- We continue to promote Early College classes (*Pillar #1*) by providing households of 10th and 11th grade students postcards which highlight UCONN Early College Experience courses which are offered at our high schools.
- SAT Scores (*Pillar #1*) were released on Friday, November 2 by the College Board and the three schools at Fairchild Wheeler outperformed the State. Students in K-8 are participating in “The Amazing Mathematics Problem Solving Race and over 28 million problems have been solved during the four week competition. The top three classes will receive a pizza party and the top three schools in each of the three divisions, (Patriots, Giants & Jets) will receive a trophy.

FACILITIES

- Prepping equipment for fall cleanup districtwide
- Checking and testing all snow related vehicles and equipment at facilities and districtwide
- Repaired, patched and repainted two large classrooms at Beardsley
- Planning opening of wall at Skane for PPT
- Placed all new wood fiber mulch MCM. Scheduled repairs for playground any day.

FISCAL FOUNDATION

New....

1. The first formal fiscal forecast of the fiscal year as of 10-31-18, to be reported in the Financial Condition Report, reflects the following:
 - At present, based on current projections, analyses of trends and utilization of all available fund sources, it appears that the district may achieve a balanced operating budget by year-end. However, as stated in the notes that follow, reserve funds are at a minimal level and the *budget is subject to multiple risk factors*, that could have a potential negative impact on the condition during the course of the fiscal year.
 - In this analysis, the 2018-19 budget amount includes the remaining funds due from the City: \$250,000 (City Share) plus \$235,240 (State ECS/displaced students).
 - Within the fiscal projections, we have incorporated shortfalls that result from the delay in transition of non-certified unions to the CT Partnership health insurance plan and facilities expenses (overtime, acting pay) in excess of projections in the FY19 budget gap plan. In the event the date of transition for the remaining non-certified unions extends beyond 2-1-2019, the amount of the projected shortfall will increase.
 - In order to help offset these shortfalls, it has been necessary to redeploy funds in grants (\$300,000) originally set aside for curriculum renewal (excluding Title IVA).
 - It is important to understand that the budget is in a precarious state, due to the continuing under-resourced condition and multiple competing needs. The budget remains subject to multiple stress factors. If expenditures related to any of these factors, such as special education and/or severe winter weather, should spike upward at any point during the school year, the budget condition could turn negative, leading to a potential deficit.
 - As part of Deficit Prevention Mode, which continues in force, we will seek to capture all accrued funds, in order to expand reserves to help offset shortfalls and prevent a deficit condition.
 - 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.

Budget Notes.....

1. 2018-19 Budget:
 - Due to the City's removal of \$250,000 from the 2018-19 City budget appropriation, the 2018-19 budget in MUNIS is short \$250,000, compared to the 2018-19 level authorized by the City Council. OPM removed \$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 incorrectly 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. Furthermore, once funds are appropriated as part of the City share, those funds become part of the MBR permanently. At the direction of the BOE, the Berchem/Moses attorney prepared a letter to the Mayor, dated 10-16-18, documenting the obligation of the City to restore \$250,000 to the FY19 BOE budget.
2. CT Partnership Plan
 - Non-certified unions have transitioned or are expected to transition to the CT Partnership as follows:
 - LIUNA: 10-1-18
 - AFSCME and TRADES: 11-1-18
 - Unaffiliated "J": 11-1-18 (follow AFSCME)
 - NAGE: pending arbitration
 - Nurses: arbitration - scheduled 1-11-2019
 - BCSA, Unaffiliated "Z" (follow BCSA): OLR expects an agreement to be negotiated through mediation within the next few weeks.
3. Special Education

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2017-18, the upward trend in special education enrollment (17.36% in June 2018) 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. The 11-1-18 SPED count was 3410 (16.68%), compared to 3368(16.14%) at the same point last year. 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 annual growth in out of district expenditures is another area requiring oversight and exploration of potential measures to reduce the overall expense. The FY19 State cap on out of district reimbursements is not yet known. In 2017-18, the cap was 27.56%, up from 24.61% in FY17. The cap pertains to the percentage of cost that the district incurs, after absorbing 4.5 times NCEP for each OOD placement. <p><i>Continuing.....</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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). In the four magnet schools, total enrollment is 1,879, compared to 1913 in 2017-18. Suburban enrollment is 510, compared to 549 in 2017-18. In regard to the SRO arbitration decision, on 10-9-18, the City Office of Labor Relations issued letters to the laid off SROs requesting submission of specified financial documents no later than October 26th. In order to complete the calculation of any financial liability that may exist to "make the SROs whole" in accordance with the decision, we have requested additional documentation in one case. Upon receipt, the final calculations will be completed and presented to the Superintendent. It is the BOE's position that the City should be financially responsible for any monetary compensation determined to be due.
<p>HUMAN RESOURCES</p>	<p>Out of 25 teacher vacancies (Pillar #3), we currently have 22 long term subs placed throughout the district. In reference to the long term subs they are filling in for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Teachers who are on Leave 11 Teachers who submitted resignations 2 Teachers who submitted separation agreement 2 Teachers who lost their certification 7 Teachers who moved to another position within the district
<p>INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information Technology Services has been working to address the growing need of technology expansion in the District (<i>Pillar #1, 2, 3, & 4</i>). Our User Services (US) division has been out in force in the schools addressing priority based tickets as directed by the Administration of the building and the guidance of the System Operator on-site. We have been continuing to receive new "SurfaceBook" Windows 10S devices at various different schools which is refreshing our aging fleet of devices for the children. We have reached substantial completion of new multi-touch devices being deployed in schools like Barnum, Edison, and Cross. ITS is currently recommending that all schools replace their projector-based technology with this new standard in lieu of the past projection standard. It is recommended that the Board of Education look to plan funding, wherever possible, to address this continuing concern for schools across the District. User Services is continuing to deploy new-to-the school computer labs in the District using repurposed equipment to continue to take advantage of on-hand technology to provide more accessibility. Our Data Management (DM) division has been working hard to keep up with the

	<p>significant demands of our Student Information System (PowerSchool) and providing the mission critical reporting to staff, faculty, District Administration and the State of Connecticut. DM outstanding efforts and attention to detail provides essential elements of reporting functions to the entire school district. Our Data Center Operations (DCO) division has recently complete the site addition and infrastructure upgrade of the Bridgeport Juvenile Detention Center to add it as one of full fledge sites. DCO will be additionally outfitting our space at the Wakeman/Burroughs Center as another managed site of the District. ITS is continue to take part in the guidance and vision of the technology needs of the new Bassick High School to ensure it will bring a world of technology opportunity to the students of the school. We are excited to be hosting Microsoft’s Education Team and their video production crew on-site at Fairchild-Wheeler Inter-district Magnet High School as one of five Districts in the entire nation to have received the grant funding for Windows 10S and Microsoft technology adoption. The video production outcome as approved by Dr. Johnson, will be showcased to the country’s other school Districts as to the successes of our outcomes here in Bridgeport which we are excited to share!</p>
<p>NUTRITION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Supervisory staff of the Bridgeport Food & Nutrition Department is determined to offer new and exciting menu items to students! Over the next couple of months, students will enjoy a host of new lunch entrees that are sure to please everyone. We are looking forward to providing these healthy new offerings to ours students throughout the district. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Korean Beef – tasty meat with noodles or rice • Garlic Bread Pizza - Always a favorite, with this flavor • Falafels, Mediterranean Style - with <i>Buy American Beans</i>, for the High Schools only • 6” Round Cheese Pizza - The return of a favorite! <p>Bon Appetite!</p>
<p>SPECIAL EDUCATION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Speech Language Hearing Department continues to implement a flexible model of service delivery districtwide that incorporates “teams of support partners” with expertise in the areas of Early Childhood Language Development, Bilingualism, Adolescent Communication, Augmentative Communication and Assistive Technology services. • Teaming within a flexible framework, has been successful (despite the nation shortage of SLPs) in ensuring the implementation of culturally responsive and educationally appropriate services (<i>Pillar #2</i>). Through this model Speech Language Pathologists servicing students across all grade levels with a wide range of communicative challenges, have been able to provide evidence based assessment and intervention practices that appropriately guide support students in experience ongoing success at their optimal level of performance within their various learning communities. • The SLH Department’s innovative approach to service delivery is strongly supported through student internship programs with our university partners in Allied Health Professions /Speech Pathology at Southern Connecticut State, New Haven Connecticut, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield Connecticut and Andrews University Berrien Springs, Michigan (<i>Pillar #4</i>).
<p>SVA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School Volunteer Association of Bridgeport 33rd Annual Read Aloud Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Aloud Day (<i>Pillar 4</i>) took place on October 18th. Over 650 volunteers read books aloud to all of the pre-kindergarten through sixth grade classes throughout the district. The overwhelming majority of participants truly enjoyed the experience and the opportunity to interact with our bright, engaged students. Many of the participants indicated an interest in volunteering throughout the remainder of the

	<p>year. The School Volunteer Office is contacting them individually to place them as ongoing classroom readers, tutors and mentors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two authors of the books selected for the event joined us to read their books aloud to classes. Madeline Valentine traveled from Queens, NY to read her book to a pre-kindergarten class at Bryant School. Principal Egri then arranged for her to read it again and discuss writing and illustrating with a group of older students. The author told us that they had a great discussion, and she was quite impressed with their questions and comments. Sandra Neil Wallace traveled from Keene, New Hampshire to read her book to the combined fifth grade classes at Columbus School. They also had a lively read aloud and discussion. Ms. Wallace was so impressed with our students that she hopes to return to for another session with them about reading and writing. • All of the books that were read for the event were donated to the classroom libraries. Read Aloud Day was made possible through the generosity of our sponsors: Bigelow Tea, Emera Energy: Bridgeport Energy LLC, Fairfield University, Morgan Stanley, NewCity Foundation, People’s United Bank, PSEG Power CT, Rotary Club of Bridgeport and the United Way of Coastal Fairfield County
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<p>SUPERINTENDENT’S SUMMARY</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">www.febps.org</p> <p>School Readiness slots were at 100% as of November 1, 2018 and PDG had only one slot available as of November 1st. The Early Childhood Department has made significant progress in this area and we applaud their efforts to proving access to high quality Pre-K programs. A draft policy for the ABCD Early Learning Center at HHS is underway and the committee has submitted a rough draft with additional modifications being implemented. The Council of Great City Schools Conference was held in Baltimore from October 24th – October 28th, which included work highlighting each school district’s progress on the Males of Color initiative. This information has been shared with the Ad-hoc Committee for review of best practices. Dr. Jill Biden served as the keynote and she graciously signed a copy of her book entitled, Don’t Forget God Bless Our Troops, which has been displayed in the Superintendent’s office. I facilitated the session related to RISE UP: HOW THREE URBAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS ARE LIFTING ACHIEVEMENT TO NEW HEIGHTS featuring The Miami Story – A District’s Road to Improvement; The San Diego Unified School District Story – Meaningful Graduation with Higher Expectations for All; and the Pittsburgh School District Story – Leveraging the expertise of CGCS strategic support teams for District Improvement. The Foundation voted on the slate of officers for the upcoming year and has also approved a fundraising luncheon slated to occur in the Spring of 2019; a committee has been developed and they will convene over the next several months to plan the event.</p>
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School	Date of Visit
Aquaculture	
Barnum	9/5
Bassick	11/5
Batalla	9/6
Beardsley	9/7
Black Rock	9/12
Blackham	9/13
*BLC	11/2
BMA	9/14
Bryant	9/17
Central	9/18
CSMA	9/20
Claytor	9/21

Columbus	11/7
Cross	11/8
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	10/10
Hooker	11/9

Johnson	10/11
Madison	10/12
Marin	10/15
MCM	10/16
PCM	10/17
Read	10/19
Roosevelt	10/18
*Skane	
Tisdale	10/25
Waltersville	
Winthrop	10/29
*Detention Center	
*University School	10/31
Adult Education	11/1