

District

Champions for Children



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

<p>ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS</p>	<p><u>Early Childhood Dept:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six of Bridgeport Public Schools' Preschool Programs are undergoing the new NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) Streamlined method for accreditation. NAEYC has developed streamlined assessment tools for conducting accreditation site visits. The enhanced site visit tools include new, transparent assessment items that are aligned with current standards and best practices. The tools are designed to assess the NAEYC best practices most indicative of high quality programs. NAEYC assessors will visit the following schools: Blackham, Black Rock, Classical Studies Magnet Academy Annex, Geraldine Johnson, Wilbur Cross and John Winthrop. The NAEYC Accreditation is a rigorous process in which preschools engage to meet the highest program standards for quality early learning. Assessment criteria is organized into ten standards: Relationships, Curriculum, Teaching, Assessment of Child Progress, Health, Staff Competencies- Preparation and Support, Families, Community Relationships, Physical Environment, and Leadership and Management. The ten standards build a foundation of quality upon which excellence is based. Presently the teachers are working to gather evidence for their classroom portfolios. They are collaborating with their principals and the Early Childhood Department to prepare for their site visits within the next few months. <p><u>Bilingual Dept:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All BPS English Learners in grades K-12 are completing the LASLinks assessment which consists of 4 communication domains: speaking, listening, reading and writing. This year, the CSDE is implementing the LASLinks online version. The students will take the LASLinks between January 4th through March 9th. The Bilingual department has created a district-wide practice for grading as well as considering retention for English Learners which will be shared with all BPS teachers through email. A follow-up professional development session offered by the ESL staff will take place at each respective school. Additionally, the Project BE GLAD trainer of trainers (our ESL high school teachers) will provide district Professional Development to all teachers in March.
<p>FACILITIES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marin: Replaced 3 sets of double fire doors. Removed old carpet, replaced with VCT tile in social service office Blackham: Replacing heat control valves for each classroom
<p>FINANCE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The status of the 2017-18 budget remains precarious, in light of the adverse impact of severe budget reductions in federal and state grants imposed to date and continued uncertainty around the state magnet school and special education excess cost grants. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In regard to the state magnet grant, the state has announced that the worst case scenario is a 7.5% reduction. The final reduction, to be announced by April 2018, while likely to be lower, will nonetheless have a negative impact on the district's overall fiscal capacity. A 4% reduction would be equivalent to approximately - \$400,000. Based on the initial announcement in late January, the state cap on out of district reimbursements has risen from 24.61% in FY17 to 25.48% in FY18, which means that the district incurs a higher percentage of the remaining cost after payment of 4.5

	<p>times NCEP for each placement. In March, the state will announce the final FY18 cap, which we hope will remain stable but could potentially rise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • The district also confronts, on a continual basis, recurring risk factors (e.g., special education, utilities, legal services), and through ongoing intensive fiscal oversight, seeks to maintain budgetary balance. • Deficit Prevention Mode continues, as a strategic element of effective fiscal management. This mode encompasses a Hiring Freeze, continuation of stringent position control, intensive review of procurement actions, and rigid enforcement of cost management practices. The goal is to generate monetary savings to help prevent the occurrence of a deficit. • On a positive note, all PK seats in the PDG program were filled as of the end of February. The CSDE has notified the Early Childhood Department that Bridgeport’s PDG grant will not be reduced in 2017-18. • In regard to the 2018-19 budget, there should be a continual focus on strategies to secure the resources to close the projected budget gap of \$13M.
HUMAN RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On Tuesday March 6, 2018, an information session for the RELAY (The Alternative Route to Certification) program will be hosted at Claytor School in the library by Ms. Sarah Ofosu-Ameyaw- Founding Director of Operations. • The recruitment process for a Chief Financial Officer has started, a posting was recently shared on the districts Applitrack online application system. • The process of reviewing non – tenured teachers has started, and will continue throughout the month. • The second session for the Examining Unconscious Bias in Hiring and Selection process has been rescheduled to March 21, 2018. • A posting for the position of Director of School Security in light of the tragic events that are occurring throughout the nation in our schools.
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Technology Services is in the active process of preparing schools and District equipment for SBAC testing which is starting very soon. Every available device that can be used for testing should be in the process of being tested by all schools in the District to ensure that we have an appropriate amount of devices for this important testing need. At the request of the Board of Education Facilities Committee, ITS is going to be rehabilitating the Waltersville School computer lab to allow the younger children in the school to take part in a lab environment. ITS continues to work hard to meet the demand of the aging SmartBoard and projector deployment in the District and is doing everything in our power and current staffing levels to keep up with the demand and failure rate. We hope that the Board will consider options for funding the replacement for SmartBoards, Projectors and computing devices in the upcoming budget year due to the age and usage of our current fleet. ITS continues to repair and return Chromebooks back to the schools as fast as possible through our new cost saving efforts of in-house device repair. This new cost saving effort is allowing the District to realize the maximum amount of value on all mobile computing purchases now and into the future. Read School is currently working with our Microsoft partnership to deploy new student and faculty SurfaceBook devices at no cost to the District as part of our Windows 10S Wave 1 deployment. Finally, Office 365 training has been well underway for administrators and has been held at multiple sites in the District with great success. The Fairchild-Wheeler Campus has now successfully integrated Office 365 into their digital education platform Safari Montage provided outstanding digital enrichment possibilities.
NUTRITION	
SPECIAL EDUCATION	<p>Skane School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In honor of Black History Month, Mrs. Patricia Miller organized a Black History presentation for the entire school. Mr. John Perry, an African American police officer, came in and spoke to the children and engaged them in song and dance. He told them about his career, showed them the parts of his uniform and badge, and led a discussion on safety. He then played several African songs, teaching the children

	<p>lyrics in both languages and instructing them on simple dance steps. The parents were thrilled that their children had a special event/assembly which added to our multi-cultural philosophy at Skane.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition, Ms. Roxanne August invited Skane parents to make African masks using mixed media, and decorate a rectangle using red, black, and green construction paper. The class then put together a friendship quilt with those decorated rectangles. The children sang some songs that were sung during the time of the Underground Railroad and had a feast that included, but not limited to, typical Southern American cuisine. It was exciting for all!
SVA	
SUPERINTENDENT'S SUMMARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our School Safety & Security Forum will take place on Tuesday, March 13th at 5:30 pm. Representation from the City of Bridgeport and the Bridgeport Police Department will be included. • The Strategic Plan will is scheduled to be shared throughout the community and will include break-out sessions related to the new high school graduation requirements, math/literacy/science/ELL/art/physical education, Early College Experience, Early Childhood, Special Education, and Data Analysis, and Males of Color at 5:00 pm on the following dates. <p>Batalla: March 29th Curiale: April 19th Blackham: May 3rd Tisdale: May 17th</p> <p style="text-align: right;">www.febps.org</p>

School	Date of Visit
Aquaculture	
Barnum	10/04/17
Bassick	10/02/17
Batalla	10/10/17
Beardsley	10/18/17
Black Rock	10/23/17
Blackham	10/24/17
*BLC	09/01/17
BMA	10/17/17
Bryant	11/17/17
Central	10/12/17
CSMA	11/08/17
Claytor	11/03/17

Columbus	09/25/17
Cross	10/06/17
Curiale	11/14/17
Discovery	11/9/17
Dunbar	12/6/17
Edison	12/7/17
FCW: Aero	10/30/17
FCW: IT	12/18/17
FCW: Zoo	11/01/17
Hall	11/27/17
Hallen	11/20/17
Harding	11/20/17
HHM	11/06/07
Hooker	11/29/17

Johnson	12/08/17
Madison	12/12/17
Marin	09/22/17
MCM	11/06/17
PCM	11/8/17
Read	12/15/17
Roosevelt	12/11/17
*Skane	08/31/17
Tisdale	10/27/17
Waltersville	10/04/17
Winthrop	11/30/17
*Detention Center	08/21/17
*University School	10/17/17
Adult Education	2/21/18

Students that arrived from Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands – Distributed in 11 schools

School	Quantity
Barnum	5
Bassick	4
Batalla	36
Central	9
Columbus	10
Harding	11
Marin	51
Roosevelt	5
Waltersville	3
	134

As of 2/23/18