

District

Champions for Children

At-A-Glance



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

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS

- **Science Department**

- **NGSS State Assessments**

- The NGSS State assessments in Science for grades 5, 8, 11 were successfully completed in the month of May. Results will be reported for students, schools and districts by the State. Participation (Target 95%) and performance results will be included in school and district accountability index.

- **TAG Applications**

- Applications for TAG are now being accepted for the District TAG program at Winthrop School. Deadline for TAG applications is June 17th, 2019.

- **Garden Project at Harding High School**

- The Garden project at Harding High School has been successfully launched with the help of Mr. Bob Halstead, Mr. Charlie O'Reilly and Mr. Rob Mastroni. The students are actively engaged in the process and are eager to learn about developing and sustaining a thriving garden. The new fence is an excellent addition.

- **Arts Department**

- Over 200 students participated in the 2nd Annual All City Magnet Concert on Thursday, May 23, 2019, 6pm at Sacred Heart University. The audience was wowed by performances by the all city orchestra, concert band, and choir, with special performances by the Harding drum line and choir.

- Over 200 students, representing 15 ensembles, participated in the 6th Annual Battle of the Bands held on Wednesday, May 29, 2019, 10am at Harding High School. Students performed in 4 categories: High School, Concert/ Jazz Ensemble, Percussion, and Modern Band. Trophies were awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finalists. Judges included former Central HS Band Director, Gary Ruggerio, SHU Director of Bands, Keith Johnston, Chair of UB's Performing Arts Program, Frank Martignetti, and other community musicians.

- The Summer SOAR II Music Camp will begin on Monday, July 1, 2019 and run through Friday, August 2, 2019. This camp will feature student electives such as drumming, choir, guitar, and piano. Students will also have the chance to select a performing ensemble such as modern band, concert band, musical theatre, or orchestra. An end of camp musical will be performed and all other ensembles will be featured in an end of camp concert.

- As vacancies arise, I am working vigorously with building principals and HR to fill the positions with the best possible candidates. To date, we have received 2 letters of retirement and 2 letters of resignation: 1 teacher who has accepted a teaching position overseas and another whose medical condition has caused them to seek an alternate environment.

- **Mathematics Department**

- Sixty-five Administrators and Teachers will be participating in this the 2019 Greg Tang Summer Conference to be held in Boston, MA. The Mathematics Department received

	<p>funding for lodging and registration.</p> <p>One hundred twenty-six grade 7 and 8 students participated in this year's Math Meet. Winthrop School was the overall winner with 42 points. 21 out of 22 K-8 school participated in this event. Channel 12 and the CT Post provided media coverage of the event.</p> <p>The Mathematics Department has received funding to provide three Greg Tang Math workshops for teachers and administrators during the 19-20 school year. This will be the 3rd year that our department received private funding for this. The project will include lesson demonstrations by Cathy Kuhns, an award-winning author of math books at several of our schools. All sessions will be recorded for usage in future professional development.</p> <p>Our department also presented a workshop at the 2019 Bridgeport Parent Convention. This workshop highlighted the usage of strategies, which are commonly used across our district. More than 40 parents participated in this workshop.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Early Childhood</u> Four-hundred and thirty-six students (436) are enrolled for preschool for school year 2019-20 since March 2019. A strong outreach will occur to capture 192 additional students and families within our community for early childhood development. Professional development for school year 2019-20 will focus on social and emotional development and the use of assessment to support intentional teaching. • <u>Literacy</u> Materials for the new Reading Wonders McGraw Hill program are being delivered to schools. All deliveries will be complete by the beginning of June 2019. Professional development will be launched August 27th for teachers in grades K-3. • <u>I3/SECEP</u> The i3/SECEP 5-year grant project will hold a Summary/Celebration meeting on Friday June 7. Many of the project's stakeholders from Jobs for the Future, Columbia University, and local partners will attend and share experiences and insights. <u>Assessment</u> All SBAC & NGSS testing is complete effective June 7. The will close the window with over 99.25% participation. Scores for SBAC should be available early to mid-June while NGSS score availability has not been announced. <u>Summer Coding/Advanced Manufacturing</u> The Bigelow Foundation has extended its support of Bridgeport Public Schools by funding additional programs for the Summer Academy. A Parent/Guardian Informational Session was held on April 30th at Cesar Batalla. The following programs were shared: <u>Girls Who Code Summer Academy</u> is being offered for the second consecutive year. This program is offered to any BPS girl going into the 6th, 7th, or 8th grade for the 2019/2020 school year. This program introduces them to the language of coding that enables them to create apps, animation, and music. This will be held at Geraldine Claytor Magnet Academy. <u>First Girls</u> is the second step for those students who participated in the flagship offering of Girls Who Code. These students will further extend their knowledge of computer programming by building robots and creating their functions for competition. This will be held at Fairchild Wheeler. <u>Advanced Manufacturing</u> is an opportunity created for 8th grade boys in conjunction with the Housatonic Community College Advanced Manufacturing department. The aim will be to provide students with the opportunity to be exposed to advanced manufacturing, and help align them with a creative and innovative STEM educational, and eventual career path. Students will utilize Housatonic Community College advance manufacturing laboratory/space, as well as visit local companies such as the Whiffle Ball Co./ PES, Inc, and Discovery Museum. The expectation is that from this exposure, these students will apply to Bassick and/or FCW Aerospace and eventually pursue higher education and careers in STEM fields.
FACILITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCM: Special Ed room renovation nearing completion by this upcoming weekend • Marin: By the end of this month every classroom will have been painted. • Districtwide: City provided a crew to fill potholes. Ongoing as needed.

FINANCE**(1) 2018-19 Budget Update**

- **Fiscal Forecast 4-30-19:** The fourth formal fiscal forecast of the fiscal year, prior to year-end, has been completed.
- At present, based on current projections, analyses of trends and utilization of all available fund sources, it is expected that the district *will* achieve a balanced operating budget by year end.
- However, it is important to understand that the budget remains in a precarious state, due to the continuing under-resourced condition, reserve funds at a minimal level, and competing needs.
- The budget is subject to *multiple stress factors (e.g., special education, emergency facility needs), that could have a potential negative impact on the fiscal condition during the remainder of the fiscal year.*
- In regard to **special education:**
 - The number of OOD students, **410** and the total projected OOD expense, **\$27,936,218, remain a great concern.** This represents **12.6%** growth from FY18 to FY19. [The OOD expense does include charter school special education services for which the district is billed.]
 - In 2017-18, the upward trend in special education enrollment (17.36% in June 2018) and mandated service needs, including transportation, was a major concern.
 - **The 6-1-19 SPED count was 3,748 (18.30%), compared to 3654 (17.36%) at the same point last year.**
 - The final FY19 State cap on out of district reimbursements was announced on 4-12-19 = **26.38%**. 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.
 - The magnitude of SPED expenditures heightens pressure on extremely constrained fiscal resources and reduces the fiscal capacity to provide services for general education students.
 - Through Deficit Prevention Mode, which remains in force, we will continue to seek to capture all **accrued funds**, in order to achieve a balanced budget.

(2) 2019-20 Budget Request

- The initial base FY20 monetary need was \$16M.
- **This amount was adjusted to \$10.2M, after incorporation of the following credits:**
 - **FY20 Additional Alliance ECS = +2.5M**
 - **FY20 City Revenue = +1.3M**
 - **Adjustments related to the Internal Service Fund (ISF) = +2M**
 - Removal of a \$1M contribution to the ISF that may not be needed, if IBNR (incurred but not yet reported) charges after the date of transition to the CT Partnership are covered fully in 2018-19.
 - In FY20, planned withdrawal of the final balance in the “prior years” surplus, \$1M.
- **The FY20 Budget Gap was further reduced to \$6.5M,** based on reductions approved by the BOE in a special meeting on 5-20-19.
- The monetary need may increase, decrease or remain stable, as final budgetary data for FY19 and projections for FY20 are examined in the June-July-August period.
- **What are the next steps in regard to resolving the remaining FY20 Budget Gap (\$6.5M)?**
 - A BOE Special Meeting will be held on June 5, 2019, in order to review the latest updates to the FY20 Budget Gap Plan, which includes recommendations made by BOE members.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have made inquiries to the CSDE, in an effort to obtain precise information on the Dalio Partnership funds; specifically, the amount of an appropriation for Bridgeport and the applicable guidelines. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally, grant awards of this type are intended to provide resources for services that are strictly supplemental to existing programs and, as such, may not supplant local funds or be utilized for basic or mandated operating expenses. For example, the Dalio funds could not be applied to pay the cost of required teachers in core academic subjects at a high school. • There are some services, however, such as the two assistant principals at the FCW campus, that we regard as "supplemental" and could potentially be moved from one grant source (Priority) to the new fund source, Dalio. • Until specific guidelines and award amounts are released for the Dalio grant, we are unable to make a definitive determination as to whether the Dalio grant would be helpful in resolving the budget gap. <p>Continuing..... In regard to the SRO arbitration decision, the City Office of Labor Relations has released a determination to NAGE that there is not any monetary compensation due. We are awaiting notification of the final disposition of this matter.</p>
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HUMAN RESOURCES	
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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Information Technology Services department has had a very challenging year in the pursuit of meeting the normal operating demands of the District and our providing for the continued recovery after our Cyberattack. ITS has begun the preparation for live streaming the high school graduation events on YouTube, this year in high definition, for those who cannot attend in person. The User Services division of ITS (ITS-US) has been out in the field performing normal rotations in support of end of year SBAC testing and specialized testing at the high schools. After the completion of in-school academic support for this scholastic year, ITS-US will be switching to perform facility refreshes and academic project implementations for buildings all over the District. Our intention is to continue repairing ChromeBooks/WinBook devices with parts on-hand and through refurbishment to continue to realize as much life out of our hardware as possible. In addition, with the continued upgrades and growth of our new multi-touch displays in the District (that have been replacing legacy "SmartBoard" technologies), we will take the usable devices and redistribute them to schools which are in the greatest need wherever possible. We will be purchasing additional technology for schools as authorized by the CFO to augment those schools that have not received SIP/LPB grants this year with the remaining funding this fiscal year. ITS-US will be continuing throughout the summer to repair and replace computers that were affected by the Cyberattack for students, faculty and staff. It is vital that all faculty and staff make sure that they have backed up their District personal information on to Microsoft OneDrive/Outlook to protect their materials for the coming scholastic year. ITS will be sending out several e-mail messages as well to remind staff of this very important issue. The Data Management division of ITS (ITS-DM) had a successfully training session held at Harding High School for our new implementation of ProTraxx for teacher evaluations. ITS-DM will be continuing to hold more training for this mission critical service of the District in the coming weeks again for those in need. The division is working to prepare for this upcoming summer session's PowerSchool needs and also has already begun preparing for next year's elementary /high school scheduling and complemented by the demand for end of year District reporting. The Data Center Operations division of ITS (ITS-DCO) has made substantial and significant progress on the upgrades of our camera surveillance systems and their supporting data and networking rooms. This upgrade project has addressed rooms that have not seen refurbishment or rehabilitation for more than a decade and this is a huge accomplishment for the District's stability and longevity. The ITS department continues to face extended delays for responsiveness to standard user work orders
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	<p>due to staff cutbacks and financial limitations and we sincerely appreciate the patience and understanding of those affected. The newly merged and combined Information Technology Services department has accomplished a tremendous amount over the past scholastic year in spite of significant setbacks and challenges. I would like to thank all of my staff members for their hard work and dedication and their managers for providing steadfast and thoughtful direction to those who are their charge. Without the hard work of our ITS staff, the technology, information, telecommunications and District systems that we all rely so heavily upon on a daily basis for our operations would not be possible! Have a great summer to all!</p>
<p>NUTRITION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridgeport Food & Nutrition Services is in the process of upgrading cafeteria serve lines and food service equipment at Central High School. Elementary schools slated for cafeteria serve line and food service equipment enhancements include: Thomas Hooker, Luis Munoz Marin, Columbus and James Curiale Schools. Additional upgrades include new milk coolers, food warmers and refrigerated display cases.
<p>SPECIAL EDUCATION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Skane School community ended the month of April with an exciting and engaging family night which included a parent training. The parent training focused on raising a successful child. Skane's school psychologist and social worker discussed the importance of having routines at home, appropriate expectations for preschool aged children, and the need to provide boundaries for their child. They also addressed the impact of screen time on the social, emotional, and communication development of their young preschoolers. While the parents were engaged in this activity, the children were in another room creating a picture of their best self and expressing what made them special. The last 45 minutes of the night was spent with the children sharing their best self with their parent(s) and sharing a meal. There were 82 people in attendance. • We began the month of May with another exciting family fun night, Building IT Big. This is always a very popular night for us as it is one of the activities that the fathers also get involved with going through the centers of different building concepts. The 10-building theme-based centers focused on pre-writing pre-literacy, and pre-numeracy skills. There were 119 people participating in this event.
<p>SVA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The annual School Volunteer Association Mentor Banquet was held on May 30th for 175 mentors, mentees and their guidance counselors. Students and school staff were bused to the lunch-time event. Attendees received tee shirts and certificates acknowledging their participation for the school year. Graduating 8th grade students and their mentors were called forward to be recognized and presented with gift cards. • Two graduating seniors also attended the event with their mentors who have been with them for 11 years. They are both eligible for the scholarship established by the School Volunteer Association of Bridgeport, Inc. to be awarded to mentees who stay with their mentors through high school and attend any post-secondary institution of higher learning. Both will be attending Housatonic Community College.
<p>SUPERINTENDENT'S SUMMARY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The University School Exploration Committee has completed its research regarding the creation of an internal program. Based upon the committee's final findings, we will seek to engage in a one-year contract for 2019-2020. The contract is currently being vetted by the City Attorney's office at the rate of \$875,000.00, as opposed to the previous years' rate of \$1,000,000.00. The intent is to have the contract move to the Teaching and Learning Committee at this month and to the full board on June 24th. • In partnership with the BPD, conversations are underway in having a centralized and safe location for all summer sporting programs. This would enable all sporting events to occur on a safe sporting zone and students would have access to facilities on-site, along with nutritional services. WE Transport has also been invited to the participate in further discussion. • Senator Marilyn Moore plans to visit with the Bassick High School Staff on Tuesday to discuss plans for Bassick's future. <p style="text-align: right;">www.febps.org</p>

School	Date of Visit
Aquaculture	11/16
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	11/28
Discovery	9/27
Dunbar	11/29
Edison	11/19
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	11/20
Tisdale	10/25
Waltersville	12/3
Winthrop	10/29
*Detention Center	3/19
*University School	10/31
Adult Education	11/1