



# 2022-2023 BHS School Council Agenda

June 7, 2023 @ 3:30 p.m. in the BHS Library

Members: Dave Allen, Karen Williams, Zach Verriden, Heather Goldstein, Michaela Fitzgerald, Silvia Scott, Stacey Kinsman

Agenda Item	Notes
Andrew Kimball, O'Brien & Sons <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Playscape Review</li></ul>	

May 17, 2023

Members: Dave Allen, Karen Williams, Zach Verriden, Heather Goldstein, Michaela Fitzgerald, Silvia Scott

Agenda Item	Notes
Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>MCAS</li><li>Field Trips</li></ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Council</li> <li>• One Book, One Community</li> </ul>	
Social-Emotional Learning	
Blueberry Maintenance	
2023-2024 School Year	
BHS School Improvement Plan	

March 29, 2023

Members: Dave Allen, Karen Williams, Zach Verriden, Heather Goldstein, Michaela Fitzgerald, Silvia Scott

Agenda Item	Notes
Spring Conferences	<p>HG: Conferences in fifth grade were with the homeroom teacher only, some parents expressed interest to schedule appointments with other fifth grade teachers. This practice is in line with middle school conferences.</p> <p>HG/DA: Exploration of multidisciplinary student learning for spring conferences.</p>
MCAS	DA: MCAS fourth grade starts next week, with third and fifth grade the following week.
Vision of the Graduate	<p>Quick Brainstorm on how to showcase VOG as it is showcased at the elementary level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Posters</li> <li>Ice Cream Party</li> <li>Presentations to School Council</li> <li>Building Challenge/Competitions</li> </ul>

School Council Resources: [Responsibilities](#), [Membership](#), [Operation](#)

	DA met with a DEI coordinator Vonetta Lightfoot to explore issues related to DEI. The conversation covered many topics including a rephrasing of job advertisements.
<b>Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Bottle Filling Station</li> <li>• Cafeteria</li> <li>• Arbor Day</li> </ul>	<p>School Committee (?) has approved water bottle filling stations to be installed throughout BHS during April break.</p> <p>DA has a quotation for a wireless speaker system in the cafeteria.</p> <p>Arbor Day on April 28: Fourth graders get a sapling. There will be a memorial tree planted for Diana Landry.</p>
<b>Reading Curriculum</b>	Our phonics curriculum is Reading Foundation and Haggerty. District has hired Athena Consulting to do an indepth and exploration of the literacy in our elementary schools. This will include data, research and interviews. The consulting group will bring suggestions and improvements to the program. Expected findings are in June.
<b>Early Release Days</b>	The group discussed innovative ways of providing PD days with early release days.
<b>Emergency Procedures</b>	DA reviewed the steps that have been taken for updating BHS emergency procedures.

February 15, 2023

Members: Dave Allen, Stacey Kinsman, Karen Williams, Christine Limoges, Silva Scott, and Zach Verriden

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Make A Wish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school has raised over \$3500 from student donations</li> <li>• Fundraiser event at Batch Ice Cream was extremely well attended - do not know yet the exact amount going to Make A Wish from the event</li> </ul>

Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The district is asking for 1.5 million; Blueberry will remain at 20 classrooms for the 23-24 school year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 4th grade will reduce to three classrooms</li> <li>○ 1st grade will increase to four classroom</li> </ul> </li> <li>● A special education academic tutor was hired for the 22-23 school year as there were no applicants to fill the Grade 3-5 special education teacher position. That position will change back to a special education teacher for the 23-24 school year</li> </ul>
Math Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The roll out of the Bridges Math Curriculum is going very well at Blueberry</li> <li>● Teachers are feeling a lot more comfortable with the curriculum</li> <li>● Stacey noted that teachers have appreciated the half day unit planning meetings with the math coaches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Those planning meetings will continue next year with some of the meetings focused on math and some meetings focused on literacy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Student Council (starting up again)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The second session of the BHS Student Council will run from early March through May;</li> <li>● Student council members will plan a couple of BHS Spirit Days and organize a school/community event</li> </ul>
Chromebook/Charger situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Similar to other schools in LPS, Blueberry ran out of Chromebooks to loan out due to wear and tear and some Chromebooks being damaged</li> <li>● The district is looking at an insurance program for the 23-24 school year to pay for damaged Chromebooks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Families would pay a small fee to insure their child's Chromebook</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The district was able to recently purchase a handful of Chromebooks for each school to loan out and also has some extra Chromebooks in reserve for MCAS testing.</li> </ul>
Berkshire Hills Academy (March 24th)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We will be holding our first real assembly this year with Berkshire Music Academy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A student will be the guest announcer for the assembly</li> </ul> </li> <li>● As a school, we would like to hold more assemblies and are interested in getting the council's feedback about the purpose/focus of future assemblies, quantity, and community involvement.</li> </ul>

January 18, 2023

School Council Resources: [Responsibilities](#), [Membership](#), [Operation](#)

Members:

Agenda Item	Notes
Fall Feedback	Small response rate; no identifiable patterns; Some feedback about communication
Report Cards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Report cards will be distributed on January 27th</li><li>• Link to the <a href="#">Family Information site</a> will be communicated to families in a cover letter from principals on the day report cards are distributed</li><li>• There is a link to a <a href="#">Loom presentation</a> about the new learning behaviors on the report card</li></ul>
Vision of the Graduate	Discussion about increasing awareness and education amongst parents regarding the VOG Some ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gather representative from each grade level to talk about the Learning Behaviors connected to the VOG</li><li>• Use a news show format to have students share with other students about the learning behaviors related to the VOG</li><li>• Put together slide deck of examples of students exhibiting VOG characteristics</li><li>• Focus on VOG characteristic to start with</li></ul>
School Committee Presentation	Principals have been asked to share with the School Committee about learning happening at the elementary, middle, and high schools. Dave will share about BHS on April 11th Discussed ideas for demonstrating learning at BHS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focus on standard and show progression through the different grade levels</li><li>• Focus on a math activity and have students participate along with School Committee members</li><li>• Focus on VOG characteristics and have students talk about them via video or in person</li></ul>

October 26, 2022

School Council Resources: [Responsibilities](#), [Membership](#), [Operation](#)

Members: Dave Allen (P), Christine Limoges(P), Stacey Kinsman(A), Silvia Scott(P), Heather Goldstein(P), Zach Verriden(P), Michaela Fitzgerald (P), and Karen Williams(P)

Agenda Item	Notes
Welcome	The goal is how to make Blueberry better and the focus of SC. What's manageable for us.
<a href="#">School Improvement Plan</a>	<p>Closely tied to the SIP.</p> <p>MTSS. Met with the other 2 elementary schools to where we are in this process, early steps. What is our process? Meeting with teachers individually to hear concerns, if currently in intervention, receive updates. Hear teachers' concerns, make suggestions for tier 1 and/or tier 2 instruction. Making sure tier 1 is solid before moving to intervention. Trying more of a push-in model rather than pulling out.</p> <p>Hoping to be fully staffed with a Math specialist and tutor soon.</p> <p>How do we build capacity in the classroom? How do we become more inclusive-more push in services.</p> <p>Building more partnerships within the community.</p> <p>Checking in with the other elementary schools- on the same page. During the first staff meeting all discussed UDL and MTSS. We are in the infancy stage of UDL. Many teachers have made this an actional goal in their PPG and SLG. Each teacher completed an inventory on their learning style- led to good conversations. Got us thinking about different learning styles. Handed out current article on UDL. BHS &amp; District goal.</p> <p>VOG is also in the early stages. In the survey many were unaware of the VOG. What does that mean here at BH? Want to get posters to show around the school.</p> <p>Questions: none at this time.</p>

<p><a href="#">MCAS Results</a></p>	<p>It's one data point, we need to look at the whole child. We look at BAS 3 times a year, Bridges assessments, formative &amp; summative assessments, and i-Ready. Math curriculum last year was Envision and 3 pilots going on- Illustrative, Bridges, &amp; ?</p> <p>Math          ELA-dip in Exceeding, down in Meeting, increase in PM, and increased not meeting.          Science/Tech</p> <p>Thoughts/Questions: none at this time.</p>
<p><a href="#">BHS Family/Caregiver Survey</a></p>	<p>Review and actionable steps. Last year's group spent a great deal of time revising and updating the survey questions. It was sent out pretty late in June, maybe that had some bearing on the lack of response.</p> <p>Questions of survey that were discussed-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Admin communication response- Agree/Strongly Agree 47.3%</li> <li>2. Teachers communicate-73% Agree/Strongly Agree (stress regular and timely communication for this year) Teachers are doing a preview or summary of the week.              Heather- the question might be a bit misleading- not just weekly update but how my child is doing besides the report card.              Zach- how about a URL 3-4 questions- what's working? What's not...This might be a good check-in after several months.              Michaela- maybe right after P/T conferences to see if they received feedback on their child's progress.</li> <li>5. Could be that parents don't know about intervention.</li> <li>6. Meeting academic needs- some disagree 10%, strongly agree 37.8%, strongly 4/1%</li> <li>8. Relevant work-Agree/Strongly Agree 20% and Neutral 20.8%</li> </ol>

	<p>Sivia- we should review the homework policy, many might not be aware. Michaela being a new parent (K) doesn't know about the homework policy. Heather-hear that parents are concerned that students are not ready for the homework that is expected in middle school.</p> <p><b>Next steps:</b> Dave to check in with the Admin team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Social needs- mainly agree</li> <li>11. Culturally, equitable, responsive, etc -Agree 48.6%/ Strongly agree 32.4%</li> <li>12. Treated respectfully-Agree 50%, Neutral 24.3%</li> <li>13. Mean behavior-64% Yes and 35 % No</li> <li>17. Responsive to behaviors</li> <li>19. GOV- largely parents are unaware.</li> </ul> <p>74 respondents- does this really represent our community since it's so low?</p> <p>Quick update-</p> <p>Playground-district/town is responsible for this. Not sure where the town is on this. Resurfacing has not been determined. Heather-WSB is redoing their playground. Dave-there is a grant for Wolfswamp and not sure if money will be received.</p> <p><b>Next steps:</b> send out an agenda in advance, you'll have edit rights to add any items to the agenda. Must be posted 48 hrs ahead of the meeting.</p>
Public Comment	None
Attendance	P will indicate present at the meeting and A will be absent.