



Brookfield Public Schools

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Mission of the Brookfield Public Schools

To inspire, challenge and prepare all students to live
meaningful and productive lives.

Every student is empowered to become a critical thinker, problem-solver, effective communicator, global citizen, and life-long learner through rigorous, relevant and comprehensive educational experiences, expansive student opportunities, and active community involvement.

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Anthony J. Bivona, Superintendent of Schools

DATE: November 1, 2012

RE: Priority Areas of Focus 2013-2014 Operating Budget

As we begin the development of the 2013-2014 Brookfield Public Schools Operating Budget, we must remain focused on our students' needs to ensure that essential resources are acquired to improve upon their achievement. Furthermore, we must make certain that all students receive and meet the new Common Core State Standards recently adopted by the Connecticut State Department of Education. Additionally, it is vital that our students attain the 21st Century skills necessary to prepare them for a highly competitive post secondary world of higher education and employment.

In an effort to sustain academic excellence in the Brookfield Public Schools, the following areas of focus were articulated by the Board of Education during their October 17, 2012, meeting: adhere to class size guidelines, continue to enhance and support our fine arts program and School-wide Enrichment Program, continue the implementation of the World Language program to elementary grade levels, continue tablet initiative with incoming freshmen classes and earlier grades, support professional development initiatives - i.e. curriculum development, new Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Plan, complete prioritized capital/maintenance projects, and re-allocate funds when warranted to address changing student needs.

To this end, the following commitments are recommended by the Board of Education and the administration as priority areas for the 2013-2014 operating budget for the Brookfield Public Schools:

1. Adhere to class size guidelines to ensure that individual student needs are met.
2. Enhance fine arts, music and World Language programs which promote system-wide capacity to develop student creativity.

3. Strengthen remedial programs for students not meeting academic expectations on local and state assessments.
4. Ensure that appropriate levels of support staff (guidance, social workers, and psychologists) are available to meet the needs of our students.
5. Implement professional development activities to support changes in the curriculum based on the Common Core State Standards and new Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Plan. Continue to provide support for data teams to analyze student data and base instructional decisions on such data, and enhance the work of our professional learning communities.
6. Support the district's Technology Plan and tablet initiative to improve instructional practices and to enhance organizational and operational efficiencies.
7. Continue the implementation of the district's security plan to ensure a safe and secure environment for students and staff.
8. Complete capital budget projects as determined by Business and Facilities Sub-Committee necessary to ensure that our buildings are efficiently maintained and provide students, staff, and community with safe and optimal learning environments. This would include locker room updates, gymnasium flooring improvements and other minor construction projects.

Additionally, the Ad-Hoc Sub-committee for Long Range Facilities and Organizational Planning will assess, identify and prioritize the long-term educational and facilities needs for the district. This would include upgrades to the Brookfield High School auditorium, school/grade configurations and major upgrades to Huckleberry Hill Elementary School.

Brookfield High School auditorium, gymnasium flooring and locker rooms, portable classrooms at Whisconier Middle and Huckleberry Hill Elementary Schools.

In closing, we have dedicated group of faculty, staff, and administrators, as well as a Board of Education and parents who are committed to increasing student achievement. Let us continue to work together with the Brookfield community to meet our pledge to our students through providing a budget that provides the resources necessary to fulfill our mission "To inspire, challenge and prepare all students to live meaningful and productive lives". Our students deserve this commitment.