



# BROOKFIELD BROADCAST

*"Create Your Tomorrow"*

Brookfield Public Schools Monthly Newsletter

September 2018

## INNOVATIONS & LEARNING

### BHS BLAST Program

The Brookfield High School marching program will produce *InstruMENTAL*, based upon the Broadway production *Blast!*, October 26 and 27. Similar to the original Broadway model, marching drum corps style techniques will be used to enhance the visual production of the program. The students will put their creative twist on the show with a more diverse array of musical voices. Please join us as we present this new exciting version of the marching arts!



### What is RULER? Social & Emotional Learning

<b>R</b>	ecognizing emotions in self and others
<b>U</b>	nderstanding the causes and consequences of emotions
<b>L</b>	abeling emotions accurately
<b>E</b>	xpressing emotions appropriately
<b>R</b>	egulating emotions effectively

RULER is an evidence-based approach for integrating social and emotional learning into schools developed at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. RULER teaches the skills of emotional intelligence — those associated with recognizing, understanding, labeling, expressing, and regulating emotion. Decades of research show that these skills are essential to effective teaching and learning, sound decision making, physical and mental health, and success in school and beyond. Our goal in implementing RULER is to create schools that our children truly, feel safe in.

## NEWS WITH NUMBERS

**3,268** student bus pick-ups and drop-offs per day  
- that's a total of **594,776** per year!

**106** new students enrolled in our schools over the summer

**70** new copy/printers to replace the district's **310** machines

**10GB** network upgrade to increase speed, improving reliability for students, teachers and administrators

## WORLD LANGUAGE

The World Language department has adopted the LinguaFolio online language learning portfolio system for K-12. The program promotes autonomous language learning. Our 1:1 device initiative at the middle and high schools and recent Chromebook purchases to support elementary use, have been key components of implementing this system. In an effort to further develop and improve the department, we will continue to make our Third Language Exploration Survey available to students. Students are encouraged to continue providing their input during flex classes.



## IMPORTANT DATES

- 9.25.18 WMS Open House
- 10.4.18 BHS Open House
- 10.5.18 PD Day - *No School for Students*
- 10.8.18 Columbus Day - *Schools & Offices Closed*
- 10.16.18 Joint BOS/BOF Meeting @ 7pm  
BHS Auditorium to discuss new elementary school project.



# “Brookfield’s Best” STAFF SPOTLIGHT

## BHS Athletic Department

The beginning of the school year proved to be unique with extreme temperatures! The BHS Athletic Department put together a Cooling and Hydration Station for students participating in sports after school.



## Rachel’s Challenge



Brookfield High School worked with Rachel's Challenge, a school engagement program, to stimulate social-emotional learning. The program uses the remarkable story of Rachel Scott, the first victim of the Columbine High

School tragedy, to awaken hope, desire, and purpose. By focusing on the connections among students, faculty, and staff, Rachel's Challenge promotes a safer, more connected school community. Brookfield Public Schools' staff, parents, and community members were all invited to join us for this moving presentation. Thank you Principal Balanda for bringing in this incredible program for our students. There is nothing that will impact our community like promoting a culture of kindness.



Brookfield High School's Principal Balanda and Assistant Principal Scheithe

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

### New Student Representative



The Board of Education welcomes Madeline O'Connor as its Student Representative for the 2018-2019 school year. Madeline is a Senior at Brookfield High School and currently serves on Student Council. She was recently inducted into the BHS National Honor Society and was named to the South West Conference of Connecticut All Academic Team for earning a 3.5 GPA while participating in swim team.

## Kindness Krew

“Brookfield’s Best” extends beyond our staff. A group of parents volunteered their time to paint a wall at Huckleberry Hill, filling it with inspirational quotes ahead of students returning to school.



Front Row (L to R): Katherine Boniello, Jeanne Jaquith, Joy Greenstein, Jessica Williams, Jennifer Felice, Lisa Bulakowski - Back Row (L to R): Kristine LeJava, Cheryl Bartholomew, Virginia Bonamarte, Melissa Engengro, Cathy Praissman, Nancy Brown, Ashley O'Grady, Adelia Eddy, Elisa Eddy - Absent from picture: Jenn DiLorenzo, Andrea Urvina, Holly Broadhurst, Beth Wutzl, Jessica Mitchell, Kelly LoFaso, Lisa Emmerson, Maria Alessandro

## TECHNOLOGY

### Upgrades for the New Year

- Twelve new interactive flat panel touchscreen displays will increase classroom presentation abilities!
- Huckleberry Hill received a mobile computer lab with 40 Chromebooks after a classroom was created in the former lab. Computers from the former lab replaced aging desktops throughout the district.
- Grade 8 is now one-to-one with mobile devices! 530 new Chromebooks were purchased over the summer for district wide use.
- A new district firewall will be implemented, to improve internet connectivity, security, and safety.
- Additional wireless access points have been added throughout district to improve wireless capacity.
- BHS Athletics now has outdoor wireless access.



Chromebooks are distributed to WMS students to begin the school year.