



The Bronco Update

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Principal's Message

Burrillville High School had an exceptional opening for the initial five days. Thanks to the support of faculty and staff and cooperative students.

Guidance is addressing minimal schedule changes which allow teachers to focus on optimal learning.

Contractual sanctions appear to be decreasing as teachers are supporting after school academic support and co-curricular activities. Thanks to the grant writing effort of the Director of Student Services, Susan Moore, teachers will be compensated for supporting students in the areas of English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. A virtual learning program will be offered for credit recovery and enrichment Monday through Thursday and Saturday morning 8:00AM – 11:00AM. Details will be provided as the program evolves. A Homework room with personalized monitoring will be offered to freshmen from 2:10PM to 2:45PM. A late bus will be available at 2:45PM Monday through Thursday to service this program and after school activities.

Many thanks to the Gridiron Club for their recognition of 75 years of Burrillville High School Football. Organizers inspired outstanding student participation at the parade and football scrimmage. Student athletes are demonstrating support and spirit by attending games of other sports.

The Freshmen Orientation had more than 250 students and parents attending. Parents attending September 10th Open House will have an opportunity to meet teachers of their son's and daughter's. They will also have the opportunity to pre-schedule conferences with teachers at the next Parent Teacher Conference which is schedule for Wednesday, November 18th.

9th Grade Parents

Homework Group starts Monday the 14th. It runs Monday through Thursday until 2:45 in room D-2. Daily attendance is not required. If the student only has homework two or three days a week then he/she is welcome to attend on those days when they feel they can most benefit from the quiet place and /or the help.

Diploma System Update

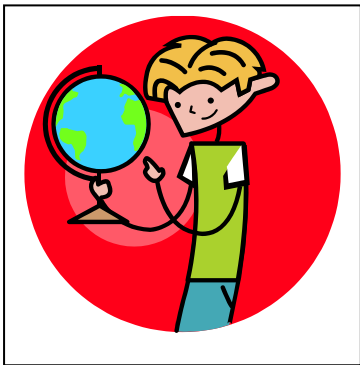


Burrillville High School is currently one of three districts in the state of Rhode Island without an approved diploma from the Board of Regents. BHS must demonstrate significant progress toward meeting the state regulations surrounding the Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements (PBGR) during the coming school year. BHS must meet the PBGR requirements by 2012, or we will not be able to award Regents approved diplomas. We are asking that all stakeholders in the school community join us this year as we seek to create committees aimed at meeting these state mandates. This work will primarily be done through the school improvement team. The work will mainly focus on revising and updating the following: the mission, student expectations for learning, alignment to the state grade span expectations, updating and revising the digital portfolio system, implementation of individualized learning plans for all students, and creating school wide rubrics used across all content areas. We will endeavor to have participation from among the school committee, central office, school administrators, teachers, parents and students. The parent outreach newsletter will be used as a vehicle to communicate our progress toward achieving a regent's approved diploma. If you have any questions regarding the BHS diploma system, or would like to serve on the school improvement team, or sub-committee please contact Michael Whaley or Sherrill McKeon.

Email

whaleym@bsd-ri.net

mckeons@bsd-ri.net



Guidance News

Scholarships Available: Wendy's High School Heisman Award, Union Plus Scholarship, The 100 Club of Rhode Island, Matthew Siravo Memorial Foundation, American Fire Sprinkler Association Scholarship Contest, Outstanding Students of America, and the Horatio Alger Association Scholarship. For more information on these scholarships please stop by Guidance.



<u>College Name</u>	<u>Date of Visit</u>	<u>Time of Visit</u>
New England College	09/14/09	12:15 p.m.
St. Anselm College	09/24/09	10:15 a.m.
UMass-Amherst	09/25/09	12:15 p.m.
Providence College	09/28/09	8:15 a.m.
University of Rhode Island	09/29/09	1:00 p.m.

DECA

DECA is a national organization of marketing students. Its national membership is over 100,000 high school members. BHS students who are currently in a business class or have a career interest in the field of business should attend the first meeting on Tuesday, September 15 at 2:00 in room D2

Math Team

BHS Math League is starting up. First practice/informational meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9th in Room A5 at 2:00. All students interested are invited to attend. The math meet schedule for this year is as follows (all meets are on Wednesdays, host schools TBA):

Meet I: 10/28
Meet II: 12/9
Meet III: 1/27
Meet IV: 3/3
Playoffs: 4/14

If anyone needs further information, contact Mr. McNulty or Mr. Horne.

BHS EEP News:

Any student enrolled in the EEP classes at BHS will be invited to a meeting in late September or early October to explain the registration processes. These are courses in which students receive college credits for taking courses on the high school campus. Teachers provide college-approved syllabi and are considered adjunct faculty at Rhode Island College. Students are expected to pay the tuition (fifty dollars per credit plus an enrollment fee) as part of their course obligations. Credits may be transferred to the college or university of the student's choice once grades are processed. Please contact me with any questions.
Mrs. Carpenter, EEP On-Site Coordinator

Yearbook

The deadline for submitting baby pictures for publication in the 2010 Burrillville High School yearbook is **Friday, October 16, 2009**. We are producing an all-color yearbook and all baby pictures and messages will be printed in the advertising section. Please return the baby picture form that was mailed home, your senior's baby picture, and a payment of \$40 to:

Baby Pics,
c/o Jennifer Smith,
Yearbook Advisor
Burrillville High School
425 East Avenue
Harrisville, RI 02830



The Feinsein Community Service Club

The Feinsein Community Service Club (named for our benefactor, RI philanthropist, Alan Shawn Feinsein) has been very active in community service projects raising funds to buy food for the hungry by running food drives throughout the year to help supply the food church pantries in town with food items. Last school year we donated over \$3,600 to St. Patrick's, St. Theresa's, Berean Baptist, and Our Lady of Good Help church food pantries in Burrillville so they could purchase food for the hungry, and collected more than 3,000 lbs. of food that we delivered to them, as well.

Our group also spent a day at the RI Community Food Bank in Providence sorting and packing food products for numerous hunger agencies in our state. We perform these services in conjunction with the Feinsein Foundation and have been recognized by Mr. Feinsein and our town council for our efforts. Burrillville High School has been designated a Feinsein Leadership School and we are proud to partner with him in helping feed the less fortunate.

We encourage all interested students to join the Club. Our goal is to encourage students to get involved in community service and help make a difference in the lives of others by giving of themselves. We meet monthly to plan our events and fundraisers and welcome all incoming freshmen as well as upperclassmen to join us. To find out how, they should listen to announcements, read Feinsein Club posters on the walls, or leave a note with their name and grade (or email address) for Mrs. Erickson in the main office. The first meeting of the club and sign-ups will be scheduled for Tuesday after school, September 22nd in D-3.

Superintendent

Dr. Frank Pallotta

Principal

Mr. Ralph Olsen

Assistant Principals

Mrs. Sherrill McKeon

Mr. Michael Whaley

Calendar

**Chess Club: Every
Wednesday-Mr. Daignault**

**9/10/09
Open House**

**9/18/09
Welcome Back Dance**

**10/02/09
Progress Reports**

Announcements

PSAT Sign-Ups:

BHS will administer the College Board PSAT's on Saturday October 17 from 8:00 am to 11:30 am approximately. This will be offered at no charge to BHS students. All interested students must sign-up in the Guidance office with Mrs. Lavallee by Friday October 9.

Students not enrolled at BHS are welcome to take the PSAT's at this site for a fee of \$15.00. Please contact Mrs. Lavallee in the Guidance Office at (401) 568-1315 to register.



Discipline Update

Many changes have occurred at BHS in terms of the discipline & attendance codes. One of the changes involves how students sign into the building after 7:30 am. We are asking that any student reporting late to school sign in at the main office. Any student accumulating more than three unexcused tardies, will be assigned a disciplinary consequence. We ask that you please provide a phone call anytime you expect your student to be late, or come in to sign them into school.

We will also be restoring the Saturday school program, which will run from 8 am to 11 am. Students will be responsible for providing their own transportation. Saturday school will be issued for disciplinary, and attendance violations, as well as remediation for struggling learners. This program will provide students who have missed an excessive number of school days due to absence, or tardiness an opportunity to receive instruction in order to catch up on their missed work.

Some of the behaviors we will be targeting to begin the school year will include lateness to class, drinks in the building, dress code violations, and electronic devices. The policy for confiscated items is as follows: an item confiscated will be returned to a parent/guardian who comes in to the school to pick it up, or the item will be held for a period of seven school days from the time it was confiscated. We encourage any parent wishing to contact their student, to contact them through the school by calling the main office. We thank you for your cooperation in these matters, and look forward to a safe and productive school year for all students.

Athletics

On Wednesday evening, September 24, 2009 at 6:00pm, there will be a mandatory meeting for all BHS athletes and at least one parent/guardian. The main focus of the meeting will be to inform both athletes and parents the negative impact that Substance Use/Abuse has on a student athlete and their team. The schools Substance Abuse policy will be distributed to each athlete and explained during the meeting. Mr. Thomas Hermanowski, a consultant in ADAPT, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Training, will be the guest speaker.

Fine Arts

Approximately 40 members of the High School Band participated in the annual Freshman Band Orientation on August 26th and 27th. The days' activities included instruction in marching techniques, information regarding class preparation, and rehearsal of football season songs. The time was well spent in preparation for the Memorabilia Night Concert on September 3rd and the Parade and Football Games on September 5th organized to celebrate 75 years of football in Burrillville.

The High School Band members will continue to prepare additional tunes for the home football games on September 12th, 19th and October 10th.

In addition, the High School Band will be performing in the annual Autumnfest Parade on October 12th where last year's crowd numbered more than 40,000 spectators.