



# Brecksville-Broadview Heights City School District

## Superintendent Update Email

May 2024

Dear Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools Community,

Together, we are experiencing an active season throughout the district during this time of the year, and I encourage our school family to [visit our website](#), the various calendars, and also to keep track of events, activities, and occurrences on social media to follow our Bees in action.

Our 141<sup>st</sup> Commencement celebration will take place on Saturday, May 25th, at 1 p.m. at the State Theater. Please join me in being among the first to congratulate our graduating Class of 2024 and wishing our senior class the very best in their future endeavors. Your families are to be commended as well, and I anticipate very much, the honor it will be to share this special occasion with you next Saturday. Congratulations all, once again.

A special 'thank you' is expressed to our teachers and staff in honor of National Teacher and Staff Recognition Week, which is celebrated each year during May. We thank the adults in the Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools who invest in mentoring and educating our students on a daily basis, for their self-sacrifice, and devotion to their work. Our school district remains an elite institution because of our staff members, and we thank them very much for their service and their contribution.

### **Online Survey for Your Participation and Feedback!**

Thank you to everyone who has participated until this point in our information gathering sessions that have been ongoing in our community since January. Thus far, three in-person feedback sessions have taken place among the staff and citizens of our community. A survey has been conducted throughout the communities since last month. [Here, with this email, you will have an opportunity to participate in a survey that we intend to remain open at least through June 1st, 2024.](#) District leaders value the input you will provide here, and strongly encourage you to participate so that we can learn about your concerns and your input regarding the overall operation of the Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools. Our appreciation to you, once again.

### **BBHHS Receives High Marks from *U.S. News and World Report***

Congratulations to Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School, who was recently recognized by *U.S. News and World Report* as one of the top-performing public high schools in Cleveland, the State of Ohio, and the nation! BBHHS was ranked 27<sup>th</sup> overall in the State of Ohio in the 2024 Best High Schools rankings by the publication. This noteworthy designation is calculated according to U.S. News and World Report's ranking metrics which factors student scores on state assessments, access to and performance on Advanced Placement courses, graduation rates, and an assortment of college readiness markers. BBHHS has consistently achieved high rankings from *U. S. News & World Report* which reflects the hard work and achievement of students, the dedicated efforts of teachers and staff, as well as support from parents and the greater school community. [To read more, see the nearby story.](#)

### **Middle School Innovation & Design Class Promotes Creative**

## Learning with Robotics

Eighth grade students in the Innovation and Design Class at Brecksville-Broadview Heights Middle School are developing valuable STEM and other future-ready skills through collaborative learning experiences featuring robotics. Over the course of the semester, students have been working with the VEX V5 Clawbot, which includes being able to identify and understand the main function and purpose of key components such as motors, cables, central computer, and controller. They've developed valuable problem solving, critical thinking, communication, and collaboration skills while working as a team with their robot as well. These skills are practiced daily in a variety of common scenarios. [Read more about Mrs. Roderick's class here.](#)



### Elementary School Educational Activities and Opportunities Courtesy of PSO!

Special thanks to the PSO at the Elementary School, whose sponsored educational activities have led to fun and collaborative learning among our K-5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Recently, BBHES welcomed Jim "Basketball" Jones to the building who graciously conducted a full day of assemblies with each grade and their education teams to learn about leadership, kindness, and

positive thinking. Students were captivated with the presentation and activities which demonstrated valuable life lessons. Our specials teachers, substitutes, and the aides helped conduct the activities during the assembly, and kept the students engaged. In honor of National Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, the PSO treated the Elementary staff members to a creatively F.R.I.E.N.D.S.-themed week recently, encouraging television-themed feature days, along with activities and bites on which to snack. Thanks to all who participated to celebrate our teachers and staff. Finally, the Kindergarten screening process has been successfully underway, and the elementary school is pleased to report that New Bees have been periodically visiting to conduct assessments and meet our Kindergarten team. In all, the Elementary School has been busy, educationally and with exciting learning experiences! Thanks to the PSO for their leadership, involvement, and cultivation of educational experiences for our students and staff!

### Calendar Changes for '24-'25 School Year. First Day for Students Now August 21st

Finally, one matter of housekeeping, which was finalized at the Board of Education Meeting this past week, and this is to report that the school calendar has changed for the start of the 2024-2025 school year, whereby the first day of school for students will now be August 21st, rather than August 19th. And the teachers will return Thursday, August 15th - Friday, August 16th and Monday, August 19th - Tuesday, August 20th for professional development. This school calendar change is due to the state-mandated, newly adopted ELA curriculum. We will continue to share this with our school community as we approach the start of next school year.

As a reminder, we will be off from school on Monday, May 27th, for Memorial Day. Congratulations, once again, Class of 2024!

GO BEES!

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Harrison  
Superintendent

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