BHPS BUZZ

908-464-1718 * WWW.BHPS.ORG * @BHPSNJ

Message from the Superintendent

I am thrilled to introduce our new community newsletter, the BHPS Buzz! In an effort to boost communication and keep you informed about the exciting happenings, important updates, and achievements across our schools, the BHPS Buzz will provide a snapshot delivered right to your inbox and accessible via social media.

We believe that strong communication is key to a thriving school district. My hope is that the BHPS Buzz will become a quick, reliable source for additional information you need to know about our students and schools.
Thank you for your continued partnership in making this a great year, together!

Warmly,

Dr. Kim Feltre, Superintendent of Schools

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **STRATEGIC PLANNING INPUT MEETING #3**
  November 24, 6:30-8pm
  Focus - How are we going to get there? Develop goal statements and objectives.
- **ALWAYS CONNECTED - *Helping Parents Understand Social Media and Cybersecurity to Keep their Children Safe (adults only)***
  December 15, 7:00-8:00pm
  GLHS Auditorium
- **SCREENAGERS: THE NEXT CHAPTER**
  January 27, 2026, 6:30-8:30pm
  GLHS Auditorium



Academic Spotlight

Who Owns the Learning?

The theme for BHPS this year is "Who Owns the Learning?" This guiding question prompts district staff to reflect on our practices and intentionally design learning experiences that empower our students to take ownership of their educational journey. It encourages us to shift our focus towards fostering self-directed, reflective, and engaged learners who are active participants in their own growth.

Our District Goals for 2025-2026 are designed to support this theme and guide our collective efforts:

- Foster a district-wide culture of student-centered learning
  - Empower all students to become self-directed, reflective, and engaged learners
  - Empower teachers to create differentiated, meaningful, and relevant learning experiences
  - Focus on student thinking, engagement, and high-level cognitive challenge, evident in lesson clarity, questioning, discussion, and active participation
- Build capacity for data literacy and instructional decision making
  - Cultivate a district culture where educators systematically analyze and respond to multiple sources of student data to inform instruction
  - Cultivate a district culture where educators systematically analyze and respond to multiple sources of student data to drive intervention and monitor progress
  - Use data effectively to make more informed decisions that directly support student growth
- Support the whole child
  - Integrate evidence-based social-emotional learning (SEL) practices and self-regulation frameworks, such as Zones of Regulation, to ensure all students are emotionally ready to engage, connect, and succeed academically

Important News!

REFERENDUM INFORMATION - NOVEMBER 20th BOE PRESENTATION

Join us on November 20 at 7:30pm for a Presentation at the Board of Education Meeting to learn more about the upcoming referendum and the projects being proposed. Click here to view the meeting live on zoom.

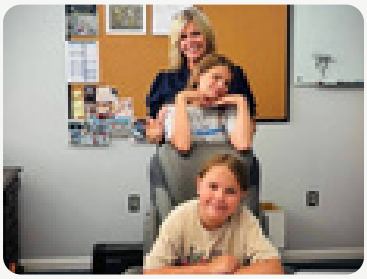
Visit the website below for project-specific information:
https://www.bhpsnj.org/page/referendum



SAVE THE DATE! REFERENDUM SPECIAL VOTE ON MARCH 10, 2026

Welcome to Our New Administrators

Visit 'Meet Our New Admins' to read more about each of these new BHPS Administrators



Ms. Jennifer Nicholson is the new Business Administrator for the district.



Mr. Chris Derflinger joins BHPS as the new Principal of Thomas P. Hughes Elementary School



Mr. Michael Santoro joins BHPS as the new Supervisor of Social Studies and World Languages.



Dr. Millenini Basumatary is the new Supervisor of English, Music, and Media.



Strategic Planning for 2025-2026 School Year Underway

BHPS has been holding meetings this Fall to gain community input on the Strategic Planning Process. Please be sure to visit the dedicated 'Strategic Planning' area of the BHPS website to stay up-to-date on the process and view recaps of the previous meetings.

There is one more opportunity to join the Board of Education, Superintendent of Schools, and members of the BHPS Administrative Team to share your thoughts and participate in the District's Strategic Planning Process. The final meeting on Monday, November 24th, 6:30-8:00pm will focus on, "How are we going to get there?" RSVP requested for planning purposes. All meetings will be held in the GLHS Cafeteria.

Please RSVP at the following link

Link to Strategic Planning section of BHPS website:
Strategic Planning Information

NEXT STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING:
NOVEMBER 24th, 6:30-8:00pm
Focus: "How are we going to get there?"
Develop goal statements and objectives.

GLHS FALL DRAMA
November 20-22
The GL Hilltop Players Present:
The Hound of Baskerville

For ticket information visit:
GLHP.booktix.com



News from Our Schools

Mary Kay McMillin Early Childhood Center

Our youngest learners at MKMECC started the year with a Back-to-School Social, which featured a DJ, an ice cream truck, a giant inflatable slide, a rock painting station, and an opportunity to write a letter to their new teacher. The October precept, "Life is Better with Friends," and the "Week of Respect" helped kick off the month, and the two themes were tied together and celebrated with a spirit week. The staff organized a t-shirt fundraiser for Breast Cancer Awareness month and raised nearly $300 for charity, and both students and staff were encouraged to raise awareness by wearing pink every Wednesday.



William Woodruff Early Childhood Center

Following the successful opening of their newly renovated library, students and staff at Woodruff have enjoyed themed Community Celebrations like September's *Play, Learn, and Grow Together and* October's *Life is Better with Friends. A* Welcome Back Picnic sponsored by the PTO was also held. Two Little Free Libraries have been installed on school grounds, inviting students to "take a book and share a book." The school also hosted a successful *Walk-to-School Wednesday*, where students learned about the health and environmental benefits of walking to school, and recently completed a collection of fuzzy socks and fidget spinners for the With Grace Foundation.





Mountain Park Elementary School

Mountain Park students and staff had a vibrant start to the season, beginning with a Fall Festival that featured the MP Cake Walk, inflatable games, a DJ, and food, and set the tone for a welcoming, engaging school year. In September, the school showed support for Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month by wearing gold and raising funds for research and awareness. Most recently, students participated in the Week of Respect, the nation's largest drug prevention initiative, with themed spirit days and educational activities that reinforced messages of kindness, respect, and healthy choices.



Thomas P. Hughes Elementary School

Hughes kicked off the school year with a successful Welcome Back Picnic, highlighted by a lively foam party that brought families together in a spirit of fun and community.

Students continue to shine through the beloved SPARKLE ticket program, earning recognition for acts of kindness, compassion, and positive behavior.

New Principal Mr. D also hosted a PTO Family Meet and Greet, giving families a chance to connect with school leadership and share their thoughts as the year gets underway.

Columbia Middle School

CMS launched the CMS Respect Agreement, an updated code-of-conduct philosophy that integrates Restorative Practices to repair harm and strengthen community. Students are working hard in and out of the classroom, including Outreach students who developed community service projects and the student council who are working to create a platform to provide students with more of a voice in school matters. CMS Unfiltered Club led a Week of Respect fundraiser for Breast Cancer Awareness, selling pink ribbons to students that were worn in solidarity for this important cause, and the National Junior Honor Society are establishing a new peer-led tutoring service for students.



Governor Livingston High School

GLHS students jumped into the year with a wide range of activities. A College Fair featuring over 100 colleges, universities, and service academies, along with Junior College Night were both held. Twelve students were honored by the National Merit Scholarship Program and celebrated with their families at a recognition breakfast. The Homecoming Dance - revived just three years ago - has quickly become a tradition and once again drew a strong turnout. GLHS also welcomed the No Hate School Tour, an engaging and impactful program that uses action sports to deliver powerful peer-to-peer messages about bullying prevention and inclusion.

