

Belmont School Committee Meeting

Superintendent's Update

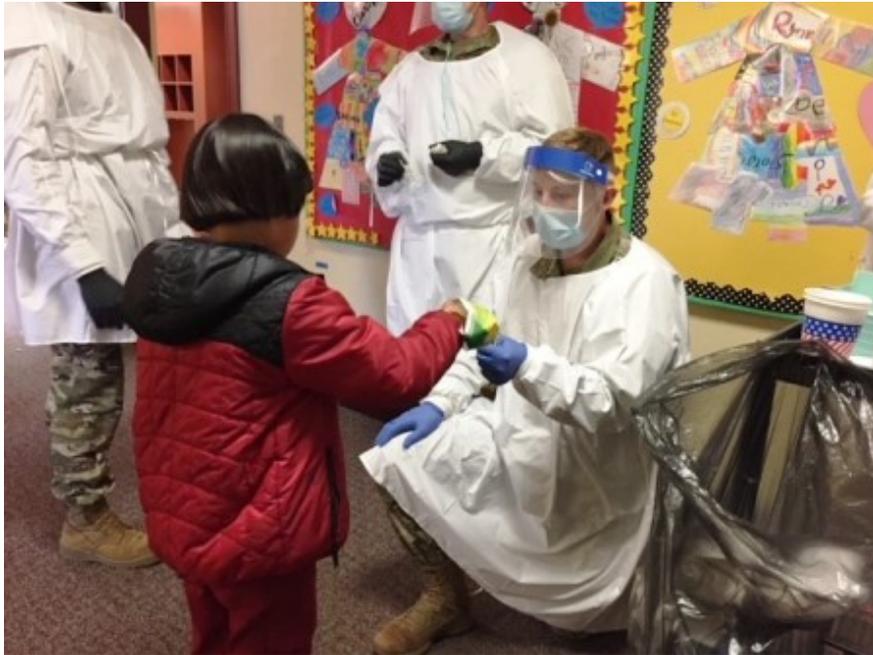
October 19, 2021

Testing Update

Belmont Public Schools, CIC, National Guard

- ❖ CIC is the Belmont Public Schools state sponsored testing partner and has encountered challenges scaling up the necessary resources to implement our pool testing protocols.
- ❖ As communicated to our school community last week the school department has been assigned National Guard support to our “pool testing” efforts.
- ❖ A team of three Guard members will be working with our Nursing Team and will be in each of our elementary schools this week.
- ❖ The Guard will be in place for up to 6 weeks to give CIC time to bring on board the needed support.

National Guard Support at Butler



Testing Priorities and Progress

1. Test and Stay - **currently up and running**
2. Routine Safety COVID-19 Checks (pool testing) for elementary schools - **with National Guard support, this work started October 18, 2021**
3. Routine Safety COVID-19 Checks for middle and high school - **with National Guard support projected starting date Monday, October 25, 2021 ***

* CMS and BHS testing with National Guard dependent upon state and CIC supplies

Health Summary

- ▶ Vaccination rates for staff and students are high:
 - 96.5% of employees have provided evidence of vaccination status (not including AFSCME); 6 employees have sought religious exemption (requiring regular symptomatic testing) as of 10/5/2021
 - Grades 10-12 range from 83 to 81%; Grades 7-9 range from 73 to 79% as of 9/13/2021
- ▶ Vaccination dates for community will be communicated to families
- ▶ Extracurricular vaccination policy meetings taking place to operationalize the process and communicate to school community
- ▶ Test and Stay and Routine Safety COVID-19 Checks are moving forward
- ▶ Weekly COVID case communications are consistently sent out each Wednesday as planned
- ▶ School administration is discussing our indoor lunch options for winter and will communicate to families and staff by November 1, 2021

2021/2022 Belmont Public Schools Strategic Work and Priorities

- ▶ Daily support of school operations for students and staff from an academic and SEL/clinical lens
- ▶ Daily supervision and effort to maintain and move forward all **health mitigation strategies, testing and vaccination**
- ▶ **Strategic planning for BPS budgeting** for the FY23, FY24, and FY25 fiscal years
- ▶ Strategic planning for the **vision of teaching and learning**, upcoming configuration work, as well as the district strategic planning
- ▶ Lead and support the **DEI audit process and strategic planning** for our ongoing equity work

2021/2022 Belmont Public Schools Strategic Work and Priorities

- ▶ Engage in and complete our **negotiation** process with our five union groups
- ▶ Continue to take part in the planning for **Phase 2 of the BMHSBC** work and construction our new middle school building
- ▶ Address and work through our **staffing shortage issues** that exist in our schools
- ▶ Continual work with traffic and neighborhood concerns
- ▶ Work connected to the:
 - ▶ rink proposal, parking,
 - ▶ community path,
 - ▶ work west of Harris Field

At Our Schools...

- ▶ Burbank classes are out at the vegetable and flower gardens, learning about fall planting and winter preparation
- ▶ Butler second graders had a remote read aloud and Q&A with author Rajani LaRocca
- ▶ CMS students and staff are asked to wear orange to celebrate National Unity day on October 20. National Unity Day is to show unity for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion, started by [PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center](#)
- ▶ Wellington Fun Run is October 29, rain date November 1, Butler Fun Run is October 21. The fun runs promote healthy bodies and minds, build community spirit, and raise funds for school enrichment opportunities for all students
- ▶ Winn Brook begins School Spirit Week beginning October 25 where participating students and staff wear different themed clothing each day such as their favorite color, sports team or fitness items, and pajama day

Belmont High School Tours

- ▶ Wednesday, October 20, 2021 from 4:00 -6:00 pm
- ▶ Saturday, October 23, 2021 from 4:00 - 6:00 pm
- ▶ Wednesday, October 27, 2021 from 4:00 -6:00 pm



BHS Broadway Night Coming Up...





VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

2021-22: *Reviving and Rebuilding*¹¹