

PUBLIC SCHOOLS of
BROOKLINE



Superintendent Report

March 24, 2022

Agenda



- COVID-19 Update
- School Visits
- Community Engagement
- Equity work
- The Sagamore: Columbia Scholastic Press Association Silver Crown Award
- Spotlight on Excellence

COVID-19 Update

PSB has seen an increase in COVID-19 cases over the past week, at three school sites.

Individuals in the grade levels and classrooms affected have been encouraged to wear masks for 10 days after their initial exposure, as well as participate in at-home testing AND the weekly surveillance testing. Custodians will also complete additional rounds of disinfection at the exposure sites.

In consultation with Brookline DPH, PSB has **revised** its current COVID-19 mitigation strategies to include:

- Strongly encouraging individuals to wear a mask while attending any large indoor, community events and gatherings (e.g. Athletics, Performances, etc.) regardless of vaccination status.

Masks will continue to be available for everyone at all PSB locations and events.

A high-angle, yellow-tinted photograph of several students sitting on a tiled floor, working on laptops. They are arranged in a loose circle, focused on their screens. The text 'Superintendent School Visits' is overlaid in a large, bold, dark blue font.

Superintendent School Visits

Photo credit: L. Anderson

Recently completed:

- Pierce (3/7)
- BHS (3/16)
- Ridley (3/17)
- Heath (3/18)
- Driscoll (3/21)
- BEEP (3/24)

Upcoming:

- Lawrence (3/25)
- Runkle (3/28)
- Baker (3/30)

Community Engagement

**3/16:
BSU/AALSP/APAC
and BHS Stand
Together in
solidarity**



**3/19: Pierce School
7th & 8th Grade
Musical**

***The Dreadful
Dragon of
Dartmouth***



**3/19: LGBTQ+ Task
Force Kick-Off
Meeting in Town
Hall**



**3/22: Senior
Leadership
Meeting @ Lincoln
School**





Offices of Equity & Human Resources

Photo credit: J. Uttaro

Ongoing Work:

- Full faculty Equity Learning Teams (ELTs) at BHS, Driscoll & Runkle
- Anti Racism/Bias PD with PreK-12 educators and Senior Staff
- Implementing unconscious Bias Training with PSB interview committees
- 6th-12th grade Social Studies Curriculum Review with OTL
- Monthly SEED (Seeking Educational Equity & Diversity) seminars for 90+ PSB staff
- District-wide student-focused equity development work for educators via METCO funding
- MPDE (Massachusetts Partnership for Diversity in Education) collaboration and membership work
- Brookline CARE (Coalition for Antiracist Education) parent group designing culture and community engagement opportunities

Upcoming:

- PSB Educator of Color Retention event @ BHS Tappan Green, (3/29)
- Role out of Recruit & Hire “Records” Onboarding system
- Continued meetings with PSB HR & BEED (Brookline Educators for Educator Diversity) team to align diversity staffing and care efforts
- “Building Belonging for AAPI students” with Dr. Josephine Kim, (3/31)

On the Horizon:

- Review of current Codes of Conduct & Critical Incident Response Plans
- Professional development series “Leading Equity” with principals
- Planning for shared quarterly learning for all PSB staff in 2022-23

A Vision for METCO 2.0

METCO HQ Request: \$500K

- Identify best vendor for a curriculum audit of the social studies curriculum and perform
- Create a framework for how to collectively respond as a program to racial incidents that is restorative and just
- Train **disciplinarians at school** level on restorative justice practices and test its efficacy
- Work with **district leaders and school committee members** on the creation of a METCO continuum or practice that includes a road map for achieving an "Ideal METCO district." This will include areas important to successful racial integration such as school climate, access to after school activities, access to academic rigor, teacher diversity, inclusive curriculum, parent engagement, discipline approach etc
- Work with a training institution (already partnering with William James College) to develop a teacher anti-racism training **for teachers** within the METCO community to learn together on culturally responsive teaching leading to certification
- Work with **district leaders** on identifying a problem of practice and work with its leadership team to make some progress. (already working with experts from Harvard RIDES creators Dr. Lee Teitle and Dr. Darnisa Amante)
- Utilize cultural performances to bring urban and suburban communities together to learn and dialogue around race and culture
- Work with BIPOC youth and families to elevate their voices and share their experiences on how we can improve their experiences and school systems
- Educate suburban families on the history and impact of METCO to create allyship, family friends programs, and fundraising initiatives in support of integration initiatives
- Create a blueprint on school integration best practices within the METCO program and beyond for replication

Congratulations to *The Sagamore!*

Please join me in congratulating the staff of the BHS Student Newspaper, *The Sagamore*, on receiving the **Silver Crown Award for Digital News** from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association.

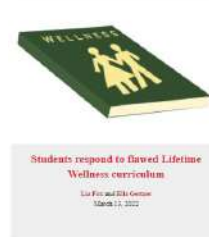
Over 800 student publications from around the US were reviewed. Judges noted that the *Sagamore's* **“service to and focus on its readers”** and referenced the website’s clear navigation and ease of access, as well as their diverse selection of stories and coverage that allow **“students’ and readers’ voices to be clearly heard.”**



COLUMBIA SCHOLASTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION
2022 Scholastic Crown Awards

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PUBLIC SCHOOLS of
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Spotlight on Excellence

**Laura Richardson
Baker School**

***Presidential Award for Excellence in
Mathematics and Science Teaching***

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Spotlight on Excellence

Pierce Partners Mentoring Program