

BUTLER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Back* to School  
2019–2020



# Our Mission and Beliefs

*The mission of the Butler Area School District*, a community committed to fostering a culture of forward-thinking, innovative and lifelong learning, is to prepare students to succeed in an ever-changing global society through academically rigorous and individualized learning experiences within a nurturing and safe environment.

## Our Beliefs

We believe in lifelong learning.  
We believe in empowering individuals.  
We believe that diversity must be respected.  
We believe that creativity powers innovation.  
We believe that all individuals are able to learn.

We believe in dignity and respect for all.  
We believe in the power of community pride.  
We believe that everyone has a right to learn.  
We believe in collaborative communication.

## Our Objectives

All students will have an individualized rigorous academic plan.  
All students will meet or exceed individualized rigorous growth targets.  
All students will respect themselves and others.  
All students will create an ongoing interest-based portfolio that provides a foundation for career planning.  
All students will read with accuracy, fluency and comprehension by the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.  
All students will demonstrate the social, emotional and problem solving skills required to be successful in their lifelong learning.

# Our Leadership

Dr. Brian J. White, Jr. – Superintendent  
Dr. Brian Slamecka – Assistant Superintendent  
Ms. Julie Hopp – Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development  
Mr. Aaron Royhab – Director of Special Education  
Mrs. Cari Boozel, Assistant Director of Special Education  
Mr. Nick Morelli – Acting Director of Business Services  
Dr. John Wyllie – Principal, SHS  
Ms. Alicia Beighley – Assistant Principal, SHS  
Mr. Doug Ford – Assistant Principal, SHS  
Mr. Stephen Dobransky – Principal, IHS

Mrs. Gretchen Crissman – Assistant Principal, IHS  
Mr. Harold Dunn – Assistant Principal, IHS  
Mr. Jason Huffman – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Principal, BMS  
Mr. Joshua Hundertmark – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Principal, BMS  
Mrs. Theresa Cherry – Principal, Center Township  
Mr. Chad Broman – Assistant Principal, Center Township  
Mrs. Hope Hull – Principal, Connoquenessing  
Mrs. Cassandra Pencek – Principal, Emily Brittain  
Dr. Carrie Morgan-Davis – Principal, McQuistion  
Mr. Matt Martinez – Principal, Northwest  
Mrs. Lesley Fidler – Principal, Summit  
Mr. Keenan McGaughey – Principal, Center Avenue

# Our School Board

Mrs. Nina Teff – President  
Mrs. Jennifer Cummings – Vice President  
Mrs. Suzie Bradrick  
Mr. John Conrad  
Mr. Bill Halle  
Ms. Alice Nunes  
Mr. Gary Shingleton  
Mr. Alvin Vavro  
Mrs. Mary Waggoner

The Butler Area Board of School Directors meets on the second and third Monday of the month. The meetings are open to the public.

## 2019-2020 Meeting Location & Times

Butler Intermediate High School Library  
551 Fairground Hill Road, Butler, PA 16001  
6:00 pm – Committee of the Whole  
7:30 pm – Regular Meeting

# Welcome Back!

Dear Butler Area School District Community,

Last year was full of change, particularly at the elementary schools. We began our full day kindergarten program, implemented MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) for reading in K-6, introduced a STEAM course for grades K-4, and engaged in intensive professional development provided by the University of Pittsburgh's Institute for Learning.

At the Intermediate High School, we reorganized our space to cluster students by grade level as opposed to subject area. We also participated in the Pathways 2 Graduation grant program to improve the outcomes of our special needs students.

At the Senior High School, we finished our second year of participation in the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI), launched our first Project Lead the Way course titled Introduction to Engineering and started a pre-apprenticeship program.

We also began implementing our Strategic Plan and transitioned to a new Student Information System. All of these initiatives and projects took tremendous effort from our faculty and staff across the district. I am very grateful for their professionalism, hard work and dedication.

This year, we will implement Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) across the entire school district. The intent of PBIS is to encourage and reinforce positive behavior by students. Both Center Township Elementary and Center Avenue Community School have been recognized for their work in PBIS. The Intermediate High School will implement the Botvin LifeSkills Training program. We will also implement a Project Lead The Way course titled Automation and Robotics, which will replace what was previously 8th grade tech ed.

Our Project Lead The Way courses at the IHS and SHS, STEAM program at the K-4 elementary schools and Middle School, and our pre-apprenticeship program with Penn United Technologies, Inc. are all part of our strategic effort to prepare our students for future career opportunities. Read more on page 9.

We have been able to offer many of these opportunities through grant funding. In the past two years, Butler Area School District has received \$578,754 in grant funding. This number does not include the generous support our district has received from The Golden Tornado Scholastic Foundation, Inc. While grant funding has enabled us to do a lot for our students and our schools, the district still has financial needs.

This past year I recommended, and the School Board approved, a tax increase to help our district begin saving for capital expenses and rely less on the need to borrow funds. Learn more on page 4.

Earlier this summer, I sent a communication discussing our school reorganization options and included a survey link to gather your feedback. I intend to keep the survey link active until August 30, 2019. If you have not shared your thoughts, please do so by using this link: [www.basd12.org/news/345](http://www.basd12.org/news/345). I plan to share the results of the survey with the school board and the community in September 2019. Read more on page 5.

No matter how we are organized, what courses we offer, or what programs and projects we engage in, it is the students and families we serve, the faculty and staff we have and the community members who support us that make Butler a special place. I'm thankful for each of you and wish you all the best in the upcoming year.

Sincerely,



Brian J. White, Jr., Ed.D.  
Superintendent, Butler Area School District



# Save the Date

## Orientation

- 7th Grade: Tuesday, August 20 from 9:00-11:00 am
- 10th Grade: Thursday, August 22 from 1:00-3:00 pm

## Kick Start Kindergarten

- Kindergarten Only: Tuesday, August 27 from 4:00-5:15 pm

## Back to School Night (formerly Open House)

- Elementary Grades 1-4: Tuesday, August 27 from 5:30-6:45 pm
- BMS 5th Grade: Tuesday, August 27 from 6:15-7:30 pm
- BMS 6th Grade: Wednesday, August 28 from 6:15-7:30 pm
- Center Avenue: Tuesday, September 10 from 5:00-7:00 pm
- Intermediate High School: Tuesday, September 3 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- Senior High School: Thursday, September 5 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm

# Operating Budget

The School Board adopted a budget of \$104,224,013 for the 2019-2020 school year, which includes a tax increase. The primary purpose of this tax increase is to begin saving for capital expenses and rely less on the need to borrow funds. The tax increase will allow us to contribute \$650,00 to the capital fund annually.

Currently, the district has \$131,336,951 in outstanding debt, \$45,378,567 of which is interest.

The district also has \$38,142,510 projected capital needs over the next ten years based on the facility assessment completed by Thomas and Williamson. The prudent financial strategy is to save funds in order to pay for the projected \$38,142,510 capital needs. If the district borrowed funds to cover the projected capital needs, the cost including interest would be approximately \$70,000,000.

The creation of a capital fund is the first step to funding deferred capital maintenance projects. Contributing \$650,000 does not meet the full long term capital project needs for our facilities. We are working on our long term strategy to meet our future capital needs.

Stay  
Connected  
[www.basdk12.org](http://www.basdk12.org)



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[www.instagram.com/butlerareasd](http://www.instagram.com/butlerareasd)



[www.flickr.com/ButlerAreaSD](http://www.flickr.com/ButlerAreaSD)

# School Reorganization

The impending infrastructure renovations needed at the current Middle School (old junior high school building) led us to begin reviewing our school configurations in the fall of 2018.

Throughout the 2018-2019 school year, we conducted several community engagement sessions at each elementary school, the Middle School and the Intermediate High School to obtain feedback from our faculty, staff, parents, students and community members.

In June 2019, Dr. White, BASD superintendent, presented a report that included a summary of the collected feedback and a recommendation to the School Board and community. His report assessed four possible scenarios. Scenario A is our current configuration.

- A: six K-4 Elementary Schools | one 5-6 Middle School | one 7-9 IHS | one 10-12 SHS
- B: six K-4 Elementary Schools | two 5-6 Middle Schools | one 7-9 IHS | one 10-12 SHS
- C: seven K-5 Elementary Schools | one 6-8 Middle School | one 9-12 High School
- D: seven K-4 Elementary Schools | one 5-8 IHS | one 9-12 SHS

After evaluating the data that was collected, Dr. White recommended we proceed by further assessing scenario D. However, there is no right or wrong answer when it comes to organizing our schools. Thus, before we move forward with one of these scenarios, we want your feedback. If you have not already taken the community survey, please do so. Your feedback is an important part of this process.

You can find a link to review Dr. White's full report from June 2019 and the survey here: [www.basdk12.org/Content/schoolorg](http://www.basdk12.org/Content/schoolorg). The survey will be active until August 30, 2019.

# Learn More

Visit our website to learn more and share your feedback.

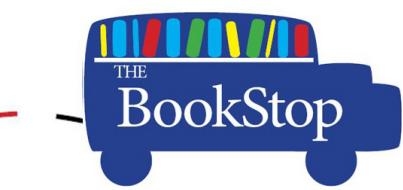
[www.basdk12.org/  
Content/schoolorg](http://www.basdk12.org/Content/schoolorg)



## The Butler BookStop

The Butler BookStop continues to grow! The BookStop is now able to offer books for children of all ages as well as adults. The BookStop makes a run through the community every year in June and again in August. Children, teens and adults are welcome to meet up with the BookStop and pick out a free, gently used book to take home. In addition, the BookStop will also be at several school and community events throughout the year. Check our website or follow us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram to find out when the BookStop is available!

If you'd like to support the BookStop, you can drop a book donation off at the Administration Building during normal business hours. Contact 724-214-3107 with any questions. Thank you!



# Welcome New Principals!

Butler Area School District is excited to introduce several new principals and assistant principals.



**Mrs. Theresa Cherry** is the new principal at Center Township Elementary. Mrs. Cherry comes to us from Beaver Falls School District where she was the principal of two elementary schools. She has previously served as a teacher, reading coach, district literacy supervisor and principal.

**Mr. Matt Martinez** is the new principal at Northwest Elementary.



Previously, Mr. Martinez served in several roles throughout the district, most recently serving as the assistant principal at Center Township.

**Dr. Carrie Morgan-Davis** is the new principal at McQuistion Elementary School. Previously, Dr. Morgan-Davis served in several roles throughout the district, most recently serving as an assistant principal at the Intermediate High School.



**Mrs. Cassandra (Cassie) Pencek** is the new principal at Emily Brittain Community Partnership and Demonstration School. Mrs. Pencek comes to us from Fox Chapel Area School District where she was the assistant principal at Dorsevile Middle School. She has previously served as a teacher, educational consultant and assistant principal at various schools.



**Mr. Chad Broman** is the new assistant principal at Center Township Elementary. Previously, Mr. Broman was the principal at Emily Brittain. In his new role, Mr. Broman will also be our District Homeless Liaison and Elementary Blended Learning Coordinator.



**Mrs. Gretchen Crissman** will begin her first full year as an assistant principal at the Intermediate High School. Previously, Mrs. Crissman served in several roles throughout the district, including teaching elementary and secondary mathematics.



**Mr. Harold Dunn** is a new assistant principal at the Intermediate High School. Previously, Mr. Dunn was a school counselor at the Middle School, Northwest Elementary and Connoquenessing Elementary. Prior to that, he was a school counselor at the State College Area School District and in the Baltimore City Public Schools.



# The Golden Tornado Scholastic Foundation, Inc.

What began in the fall of 1990 as a small group of people interested in replacing the condemned bleacher seats at Butler Senior High School stadium has developed into The Golden Tornado Scholastic Foundation, Inc., a non-profit, publicly supported organization administered by a board of volunteers focused on supporting projects that enhance educational opportunities for students in Butler Area School District. Financial support is generated through grants, fundraisers and contributions from businesses and individuals.

## Scholarships

The Golden Tornado Scholastic Foundation, Inc. awarded \$119,743.30 in scholarships to the Butler Class of 2019!

## Creative Teaching Grants

In the last five years, The Golden Tornado Scholastic Foundation, Inc. has awarded \$95,237.75 in Creative Teaching Grants. These grants support the innovative work of BASD faculty and have impacted more than 10,669 students over the last five years!

## Fine Arts & Beyond (FAB) Showcase

Each spring The Golden Tornado Scholastic Foundation, Inc. hosts The Fine Arts & Beyond (FAB) Showcase. This community-wide event showcases the artistic work and musical talent of Butler Area School District students and professional community artists. Proceeds from FAB help The Golden Tornado Scholastic Foundation, Inc. provide funding to a number of programs, including Creative Teaching Grants, Kids' Weekend Backpack Program, scholarships for graduating seniors with financial need and technology.

## Kids' Weekend Backpack Program

The Golden Tornado Scholastic Foundation, Inc. and our school community have come together to help fight hunger by supplying weekend food for students in need. These students receive child-friendly snacks and easily prepared meals each week. Monetary and food donations are accepted to help support the program.

## Tuff Tornado Run – October 5



Save the date for the Tuff Tornado Run on Saturday, October 5, 2019 from 1-4 pm at Alameda Park. This 2 mile run with 18+ obstacles is fun for all ages. Register online at [www.goldentornadoscholasticfoundation.org](http://www.goldentornadoscholasticfoundation.org). Register by Sept. 9 to receive a free t-shirt!



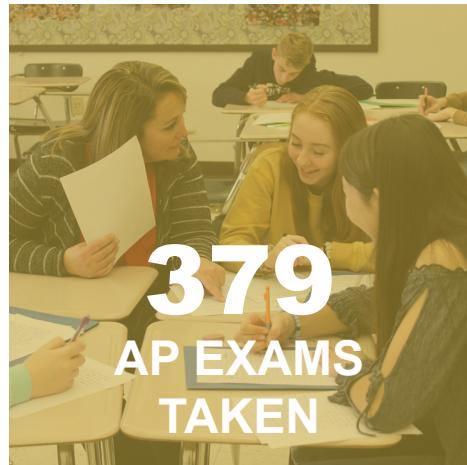
**The Golden Tornado  
Scholastic Foundation**



**6,335  
STUDENTS**



**148  
COLLEGE  
COURSES TAKEN**



**379  
AP EXAMS  
TAKEN**



**3,224  
STUDENTS USING  
CODE.ORG**



**10  
STEAM SPACES**



**500  
CAP INTERVIEWS  
(CAP = Career Action Plan)**



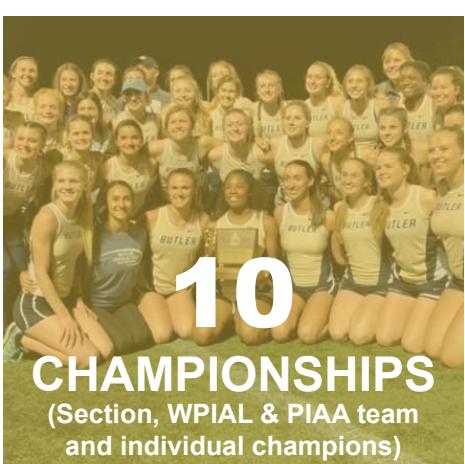
**18  
PARTNER  
ORGANIZATIONS**



**140K  
GTSF GRANTS &  
SCHOLARSHIPS**



**147  
PROF. DEV.  
OPPORTUNITIES**



**10  
CHAMPIONSHIPS  
(Section, WPIAL & PIAA team  
and individual champions)**



**45  
PMEA  
PARTICIPANTS**



*Manufacturing in this country is a \$2 trillion dollar sector, and if it were a country, it would be the world's 8th largest economy. Productivity in manufacturing is far outpacing all other sectors, allowing US manufacturers to be globally competitive. And who are the establishments contributing to these metrics? They are our nation's small companies - 99% of all manufacturing establishments have less than 500 employees - the companies in this room, that are investing in their facilities and their employees, and looking at future growth opportunities, such as Additive Manufacturing.*

- Catalyst Connection



## STEAM

Last year our elementary schools added a special area class called STEAM for all 2,205 students in kindergarten through grade 4. STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) gives all students experience with coding and the engineering design process.

The curriculum includes use of Code.org and Story Time STEM-Packs developed by the Math & Science Collaborative at the Allegheny Intermediate Unit. These packs focus on math, science and engineering design through literature followed by hands-on activities. Students also have the opportunity to apply their new skills using Bee Bots, Makey Makey kits and K'NEX.

At the Senior High School, we began a unique Pre-Apprenticeship Program with Penn United Technologies. The Pre-Apprenticeship Program is an opportunity for high school students to participate in a program that is relevant to their post-secondary career path. The rigorous program is intended to help students develop and strengthen skills that are necessary to pursue a career in advanced manufacturing.

We launched our first Project Lead The Way course, Introduction to Engineering, last year and will add another course titled Automation and Robotics to the 8th grade curriculum this year. In addition, the Butler County Vo-Tech has an outstanding advanced machining program.

We are committed to preparing our students for careers and college, and will continue to grow our STEAM education this year thanks to the generous support of the Arconic Foundation, the Benedum Foundation and the Grable Foundation.

# 40 Years of Distinguished Graduates

In 1980, the senior class officers established the first annual Distinguished Graduate Award to recognize the professional and humanitarian achievement of Butler High graduates. Since then 40 musicians, educators, diplomats, medical doctors, scientists, business and government leaders, and humanitarians have been recognized for their accomplishments and contributions to our community and the world!

## Distinguished Graduates

1980	DR. GEORGE P. YOUNG
1981	P. RICHARD RITTELMANN
1982	DR. EDWARD M. IFFT
1983	ORLANDO S. PRIDE
1984	WILLIAM K. PARKER
1985	DR. WILLIAM GRECCO
1986	MARGARET C. PUFF
1987	DR. THOMAS O. OESTERLING
1988	DR. PETER E. SHEPTAK
1989	DR. DOROTHEA DREWS JOHNSON
1990	DR. SAMUEL SCARNATO
1991	MR. H. CRESTON DONER
1992	DR. WILLIAM J. PERRY
1993	DANIEL D'ANIELLO
1994	DR. ERNEST E. MOORE, JR.
1995	DR. REBECCA WEST
1996	WILLIAM PURVIS
1997	DR. WILLIAM H. DUMBAUGH
1998	JOHN W. GUMPPER
1999	CARL YANKOWSKI
2000	CARMEN SCIALABBA
2001	GEORGE "MIKE" KELLY
2002	ADMIRAL JONATHAN W. GREENERT, USN
2003	PAULA J. SMITH HARTLEY
2004	DR. RICHARD HOEHN
2005	JAMES PUGH
2006	MS. KERRY DUMBAUGH
2007	GEORGE P. KIESTER
2008	THOMAS J. RUTKOSKI
2009	PATRICK C. SMITH
2010	JOHN KOSAR
2011	CHESTER AARON
2012	JOHN L. PINDER, JR.
2013	JIM ANDERSON
2014	DR. JOHN CONNOR
2015	DR. JAY T. LAST
2016	DOUGLAS BALOG
2017	DR. ERIC KLANN
2018	MICHAEL J. OESTERLING
2019	DAVID J. KENYON, Ph.D.

## 2018-2019 Accomplishments & Accolades

- **Butler Area School District** implemented full day kindergarten at the start of the 2018-2019 school year.
- **Butler Area School District** made the College Board Annual AP District Honor Roll for the second year in a row. BASD was one of 373 school districts in the U.S. and Canada honored during the 2018-2019 school year.
- **Butler Area School District** has been recognized as a Common Sense Media school.
- **Butler Area Elementary Schools** successfully grouped students across a grade level in order to better meet the individual student's instructional needs during WIN (What I Need) time.
- **Butler Area Elementary Schools** created and implemented STEAM Labs where students learned coding skills, worked together to solve problems, created structures using K'nex blocks and more!
- **Center Avenue** established a partnership with the ARC of Butler County to create the Abilities Enrichment and Readiness Opportunities (AERO) program. The AERO program provides students who are enrolled in the program with a job coach to assist with job exploration and work development skills that are essential for competitive employment.
- **Center Avenue** hosted their second annual Transition Fair for secondary students.
- **Center Avenue** implemented a new blended learning program called Multi-tiered Personalized Learning Units for Students (M-PLUS). In M-PLUS students have the opportunity to take both in-person and online classes during the school day while receiving interventions and supports from highly qualified teachers.
- **Center Township** kicked off S.O.A.R. The S.O.A. R. program models the expectations for behavior at Center Township (be Safe, practice Ownership, have a Positive attitude, show Respect and Responsibility).
- **Center Township** took the STEAM program to the next level through the development of a STEAM lab where students engaged in computer programming, team design projects, and creative programming.

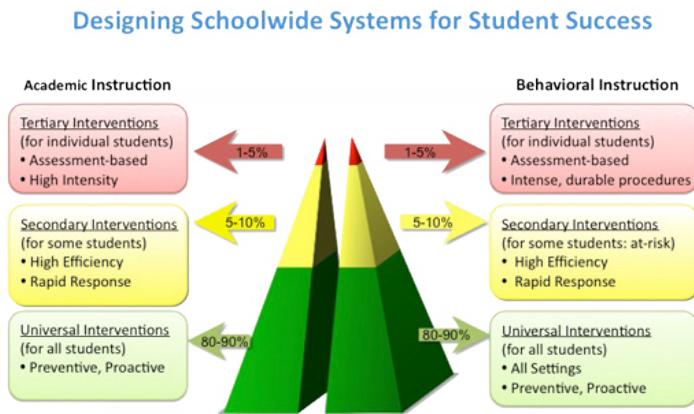
# 2018-2019 Accomplishments & Accolades

- **Connoquenessing** implemented the Conno BEAT. This is a positive school wide behavior program that encourages good Behavior, Effort, Attitude, and Teamwork.
- Through their fundraising efforts, **Connoquenessing** donated thousands of dollars to Caring Angels, the Leukemia Society of America, The Food Bank, and Children and Youth Services Christmas Toy Drive.
- **Connoquenessing** implemented the Girls on the Run Program. This program inspires girls to be joyful, healthy and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum that creatively integrates running.
- **Emily Brittain** added sensory bins to their classrooms to enable students to take a break and not miss important instruction.
- **Emily Brittain** hosted The Golden Tornado Scholastic Foundation's second annual Stuff-A-Bus event in support of the Kids' Weekend Backpack program.
- The **Intermediate High School** created and expanded a makerspace in the school library. The students utilized this space to apply their learning by using creativity, innovative thinking and teamwork to create projects and accomplish designated tasks.
- The **Intermediate High School** received a grant to begin a program in partnership with the Midwestern Intermediate Unit 4 to develop supports for students who are at risk of dropping out.
- The **Intermediate High School** was awarded a grant through the University of Colorado for a new health and wellness curriculum. The grant will provide training and materials for our health classes regarding healthy choices and positive decision-making.
- The courtyard in the heart of **McQuistion** was converted to a usable outdoor STEAM classroom space, complete with learning stations and work tables with umbrellas.
- **McQuistion** kindergarten students achieved growth in reading thanks to the new full day kindergarten program.
- **McQuistion** teachers received a \$10,000 grant to participate in the Department of Education's Enhancing Early Literacy Cohort Series. Staff received specialized training and materials to help students become fluent readers by grade 3. This training and materials are now being shared across the district to benefit all K-2 students.
- The **Middle School** was one of 158 schools in Pennsylvania to be named a Distinguished Title 1 School by the Department of Education.
- The **Middle School** implemented a MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) to successfully meet the reading needs of all learners. As a result, students made significant gains in English Language Arts.
- Through grant funding, the **Middle School** established a fully functioning fishery within the school that was managed and maintained by students and staff. This included collaboration with local business and the PA Fish and Boat Commission.
- **Northwest** Northwest students, families and staff raised \$2,782 for Caring Angels.
- **Northwest** students and staff participated in a Suessabration week to honor author Dr. Seuss. Many fun activities were planned and several guest readers visited classrooms to read their favorite Dr. Seuss book to students.
- As the capstone project in the K-12 Guidance Plan for career preparation, all 478 members of the **Senior High School** junior class had the opportunity to present their Career Action Plan to an individual working in the identified field and spend 15-20 minutes getting feedback and invaluable advice.
- Seven **Senior High School** students helped pilot the Pre-Apprenticeship Program with Penn United, completing their introductory employee training modules online at the SHS, getting on-site experience at Penn United, and earning industry-recognized credentials.
- **Senior High School** students implemented a local chapter of the national Best Buddies program, creating pairs of disabled and non-disabled students to form strong friendships during both in-school and out of school experiences. This concept was broadened through Rachel's Challenge and the formation of a Friends of Rachel Club. These help lay the foundation for the upcoming implementation of PBIS.
- Thanks to WIN time, **Summit** students increased their reading scores across all grade levels.
- **Summit** partnered with the United Way to run an after school tutoring program.
- **Summit** started the Summit Giving Tree that provided holiday gifts to more than 25 families as well as the Summit Clothing Closet that provides free gently used clothing to local families.

## Share With Us!

We're proud to share a few of our accomplishments from last year, but we know this doesn't capture them all! If you have positive news to share, let us know by completing this form: [www.basd12.org/Content/sharenews](http://www.basd12.org/Content/sharenews)

# Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports (PBIS)



This year all schools in the district will implement Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). Both Center Township Elementary and Center Avenue Community School have already been recognized for their work in PBIS.

The intent of PBIS is to encourage and reinforce positive behavior from students by creating school-wide expectations. PBIS is part of the larger Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) that the district has been implementing. This system of supports includes both behavioral and academic components. WIN Time is an example of an academic support that was implemented in the elementary schools last school year.

Since every school is at a different step in the implementation process, each school has a PBIS Team that works to create an individualized framework for that particular building. The PBIS guiding principles include:

- Every child can learn proper behavior.
- Stepping in early can prevent more serious behavior problems.
- Each child is different and schools need to provide many kinds of behavior support.
- How schools teach behavior should be based on research and science.
- Following a child's behavioral progress is important.
- Schools must gather and use data to make decisions about behavior problems.

## Emily Brittain Community Partnership and Demonstration School

We are excited to share that Emily Brittain Elementary School is now the Emily Brittain Community Partnership and Demonstration School! This shift has created an opportunity for educators at Butler Area School District to collaborate with our community, collegiate and university partners with the goal of meeting every student's individual needs while moving each of them forward academically, socially and emotionally.

In addition to ensuring all students are prepared for future success, the Emily Brittain Community Partnership and Demonstration School is a place for educators to learn from one another while inspiring each other to serve as leaders in their profession.

As our global society changes, so do the needs of our students. Through a culture of collaboration, the Emily Brittain Community Partnership and Demonstration School will be a place to demonstrate best practices in education, pilot innovative learning, programs, curriculum and instruction, and research student learning, achievement and innovation.



## What's New at Our Schools?

### K-4 Elementary Schools

- All kindergarten students will participate in physical education and art class in addition to music, library and STEAM.
- Elementary teachers will be trained in differentiated instructional strategies that foster a growth mindset and seek to meet the needs and strengths of all of our students.
- All elementary schools will implement Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) for math during "What I Need" WIN Time each day.
- Center Township will host the district's elementary gifted program.
- Connoquenessing is creating a new outdoor classroom amphitheater with support from the Eagle Scouts as well as renovating the courtyard for environmental education thanks to the Butler Garden Club.
- Emily Brittain is now the Emily Brittain Community Partnership and Demonstration School. (More about this on page 12).
- McQuistion Elementary was awarded a \$7,000 grant from the Department of Education to continue its work leading the district in best practice materials for early literacy.
- Northwest will implement a new Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) theme, SOAR, which stands for Stay Safe, Ownership, Acceptance and Respect.
- The Summit PTO will sponsor many fundraising efforts for the school's playground including fun family night events.



# What's New at Our Schools?

## Middle School

- The Middle School will enhance their “Be Tuff Stand Up” program to align with Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) standards with the goal of creating a social culture in our schools that will encourage positive behavior and interactions.
- The Middle School will be creating a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) for mathematics that provides interventions and enrichment for all students.
- An additional full time counselor will be at the Middle School to support the social and emotional needs of students at this critical age of personal development.
- The continuation of the Middle School’s fisheries program will include the expansion of aquaponics. This will combine aquaculture with hydroponics to create a symbiotic environment that can be maintained and managed by students and staff.

## Intermediate High School

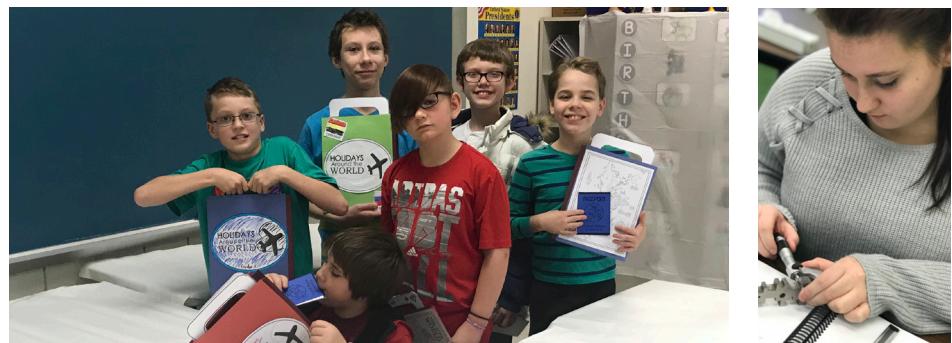
- The Intermediate High School has created a schedule that will allow teams of teachers to have common groups of students. By sharing groups of students, teachers will be better able to identify and meet the unique individual learning needs of their students in a safe and nurturing environment.
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) will be introduced to the students at the start of the school year. PBIS is designed to recognize and promote positive behavior, while ensuring a safe and supportive learning environment.
- A new bell schedule will be in place at the start of the year. Every student will have a period 7 study hall. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, this will double as a time for the advisory program. The advisory program is an opportunity for students to participate in programs that promote positive student behavior and academic growth.



# What's New at Our Schools?

## Senior High School

- In continuing to expand curricular offerings to meet the needs of Senior High students, five new courses have been added for 2019-20. AP Latin V, AP Physics 1, BC3 Technical Math, Introductory Technical Math, and the Pre-Apprenticeship program as a class for credit.
- The fish have finally made it! The hatchery program that started several years ago at the Junior High and then moved to the Intermediate High is coming to the Senior High. Science teachers in the building are excited to incorporate the program into their classes.
- The Senior High will have a new main entrance on the city side of the building beside the library that will provide a more secure process for visitors to enter the building to help ensure the safety of our students and staff. This will also allow the bus circle to be closed during the school day, which will provide less exposure to students moving among the buildings that house the music and physical education departments.



## Center Avenue Community School

- Center Avenue will partner with Glade Run to provide therapeutic supports for students in the K-8 classrooms. Students will also have access to individual school based mental health services.
- Center Avenue will implement Tiers 2 & 3 of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports.
- Center Avenue partnered with the Nutrition Group to establish a free dinner meal program for students. As a result, students will be provided free dinner each day in addition to breakfast and lunch.

### Center Avenue Open House

Center Avenue will host four open house events during the 2019-2020 school year. Center Avenue families will be provided free dinner and have opportunities to learn about their child's progress in school, receive information on support services from community agencies, and attend various breakout sessions. Open house will take place from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

**Tuesday, September 10, 2019**

**Thursday, November 14, 2019**

**Tuesday, January 14, 2020**

**Thursday, March 12, 2020**

# Contact Us

Main Line: 724-287-8721

Administration: 724-214-3107

Business Office: 724-214-3104

Athletic Office: 724-214-3232

Food Services Department: 724-214-3223

Student Services Department: 724-214-3127

Communication Office: 724-214-3107

Transportation Department: 724-287-8723

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## **Senior High School**

Grades 10-12

Phone: (724) 214-3200

Fax: (724) 287-1596

120 Campus Lane

Butler, PA 16001

## **Intermediate High School**

Grades 7-9

Phone: (724) 214-3400

Fax: (724) 287-5457

551 Fairground Hill Road

Butler, PA 16001

## **Butler Middle School**

Grades 5-6

Phone: (724) 214-3600

Fax: (724) 287-7847

225 East North Street

Butler, PA 16001

## **Center Township Elementary School**

Grades K-4

Phone: (724) 214-3800

Fax: (724) 282-3503

950 Mercer Road

Butler, PA 16001

## **Connoquenessing Elementary School**

Grades K-4

Phone: (724) 214-4040

Fax: (724) 789-7478

102 Connoquenessing School Road

Renfrew, PA 16053

## **Emily Brittain Elementary School**

Grades K-4

Phone: (724) 214-4200

Fax: (724) 282-1013

338 North Washington Street

Butler, PA 16001

## **McQuistion Elementary School**

Grades K-4

Phone: (724) 214-3900

Fax: (724) 287-1119

210 Mechling Drive

Butler, PA 16001

## **Northwest Elementary School**

Grades K-4

Phone: (724) 214- 4100

Fax: (724) 287-2516

124 Staley Avenue

Butler, PA 16001

## **Summit Elementary School**

Grades K-4

Phone: (724) 214- 3880

Fax: (724) 287-2734

351 Brinker Road

Butler, PA 16002

## **Center Avenue Community School**

K-12 Alternative Education/Special Needs

Phone: (724) 214-3960

Fax: (724) 287-0263

102 Lincoln Avenue

Butler, PA 16001

