



# Hurricane Watch

A publication designed to share the excellent stories of the Brooklyn City Schools

Fall 2022

*Tradition. Pride. Excellence.*



Superintendent  
Dr. Theodore Caleris

Dear Brooklyn City Schools Community,

The 2022-2023 school year began successfully on Wednesday, August 24th with a profound sense of excitement and Hurricane Pride. Our students have had a successful transition back to school this year and are experiencing success academically and contributing outside the classroom. Brooklyn's caring and dedicated staff have been providing effective instruction to meet the unique learning needs of each student. Our families have also contributed to the successful start through strong engagement and support.

#### Issue 4 Renewal Levy Approved by Brooklyn Voters

On Election Day, Tuesday, November 8th, the District's Issue 4 Renewal Levy was approved by Brooklyn voters. Thank you to the Brooklyn community for your support of Issue 4 and the Brooklyn City Schools! The passage of Issue 4 will renew approximately \$2,254,000 annually, for the next five years, and enable the district to continue to provide our students diverse academic and co-curricular opportunities while avoiding an operating deficit. Thank you once again for your continued partnership with the Brooklyn City Schools!

#### Building Highlights, Capital Improvements, and More!

Inside this Fall 2022 edition of The Hurricane Watch newsletter, readers will have the opportunity to enjoy spotlights of student learning both inside and outside the classroom throughout our entire campus. The school community can also view an update on the ongoing capital improvements initiative by the district to ensure that your students have facilities that are not only safe and maintained for future use, but that maximize opportunities for learning and success in the future. Thank you for your continued support of the Brooklyn City Schools.

Go Hurricanes!

Dr. Theodore Caleris

Superintendent of Schools



*The Brooklyn Hurricane Marching Band proudly represented the district with an outstanding performance at the 2022 Buckeye Invitational.*

## BROOKLYN HURRICANE MARCHING BAND PERFORMS AT OHIO STADIUM

The Brooklyn Hurricane Marching Band had the unforgettable opportunity to perform at the historic Ohio Stadium in Columbus on Saturday, October 15th, as part of the 2022 Buckeye Invitational. Featuring forty-four marching bands from across the state of Ohio, the competition is sponsored by the Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) and hosted by The Ohio State University Marching Band. Brooklyn students represented themselves, the district, and the greater community with Hurricane pride, delivering an impressive performance on the football field inside the heralded venue known affectionately as The Shoe.

The Brooklyn community can watch the Hurricane Marching Band's 2022 Buckeye Invitational performance on their official YouTube Channel, *TheBrooklynBands*. A special thank you to Director of Bands, Mr. Sean Sullivan, Mr. Matt Larson, the "Voice" of the Hurricane Marching Band, advisors, and parent volunteers for their support. The Brooklyn City Schools proudly congratulates the students of the Hurricane Marching Band for their remarkable performance and another outstanding season!







## Walk to School Day Celebrates Brooklyn Safety Forces

Students, teachers, staff, and families celebrated hometown heroes from the Brooklyn Fire and Police Departments during a special *Walk with Our Local Heroes* community walk on Wednesday, October 5th. Participants were encouraged to wear red, white, and blue to show their support for our Brooklyn safety forces and join a group at one of three meeting locations before the start of school, which included Marquardt Park, Brooklyn Recreation Center, and Brock Park. Students, family members, and district staff were joined by members from the Brooklyn Fire and Police Departments as they walked or biked from each meeting point to school.

The annual *Walk with Our Local Heroes* event was part of the annual celebration of Walk to School Day sponsored by the Ohio Department of Transportation's Safe Routes to School program. For each day of the week-long program, students were encouraged to walk or bike to school and participate in a variety of fun and educational themed activities. A special thank you to our Brooklyn Safety Forces for their dedication and continued support of the Brooklyn City Schools. Finally, thank you to our Brooklyn students and families for their participation, school pride, and support.



*Students, staff, and families walked to school with members of Brooklyn's safety forces during this year's Walk with Our Local Heroes event.*



## Brooklyn HS Science Classes Explore Big Creek Reservation



*Through hands-on learning with knowledgeable program partners and volunteers, students explored the Big Creek Reservation watershed.*

On Thursday, October 6th, approximately thirty Brooklyn High School students from BHS Science teacher Catherine Woodruff's Physics and Earth Science classes, along with students from John Marshall High School, participated in an immersive, hands-on learning experience near the Big Creek Reservation's Memphis Picnic area. The full day educational program was organized through the Big Creek Stream Monitoring Program which is funded annually by a General Motors Community Impact Grant. During the visit, the students interacted with staff from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, West Creek Conservancy, Big Creek Connect, Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District, and the GM Parma Plant.

Students participated in a walking tour of the area to study the native plants and trees while learning about watershed management and the impact of human activities on the environment. Students also compared and recorded the water quality of the East and West branches of the Big Creek, as well as identified and studied various macro-invertebrates living in the water. In the main picnic area, students interacted with watershed models to discover the impact of fertilizers and other pollutants on water quality, the relationship between turbidity (level of cloudiness), dissolved oxygen, and water quality, and conducted real-world lab tests for pH, Nitrate, and Phosphate on collected water samples.

The Brooklyn City Schools would like to thank all program partners for providing our students this engaging, real-world learning experience.



## Civil Engineering and Architecture Class Visits Edgewater Park

Students in the Civil Engineering and Architecture class at Brooklyn High School recently traveled to Edgewater Park for a firsthand look at the ongoing redesign efforts of the Cleveland waterfront. During the visit, students went to the Cleveland Metroparks Edgewater Park Beach House to learn about the specific structural needs of waterfront property, including the overall support structure and ways to make it resistant to the strong Lake Erie winds. Students also learned about the overall costs to construct the Edgewater Park Beach House and other similar projects. The trip proved to be a valuable learning experience that applied classroom concepts into real-world examples.



*Brooklyn HS Students learned how civil engineering and architectural knowledge played a role in several projects along the Cleveland waterfront.*





## Fourth Graders Apply Math Concepts in Creative Ways with Pick-a-Project

Fourth grade students in Mr. Patrick Yarman's class recently completed an open-ended learning activity, known as "Pick-a-Project" which offered them the opportunity to select a research topic, make connections to a specific math concept, and then choose a method of presenting their projects to the class. The list of potential topics included "The Planets," "Populations of Ohio," "Heights of Mountains," and "Westward Expansion of the United States." To help reinforce classroom learning, each project required students to accurately add and subtract multi-digit whole numbers using the standard algorithm. Students could then use a variety of mediums, including tangible methods such as poster boards, physical model, diorama, mobile, or any combination, as well as electronic forms such as Google Documents or Slide presentations to present their projects.

Most students selected "The Planets" as their topic which required them to research the size of and make a model of the eight planets and the Sun. Students then wrote information about each planet's radius and compared their sizes, using accurate addition and subtraction to find the difference in size between one planet larger and one planet smaller in comparison to the Earth. This marked the first of several "Pick-a-Project" activities that students will complete during the school year. Throughout the learning process, the students demonstrated creativity, hard work and a strong commitment to learning.



*For this year's first Pick-a-Project activity, students researched one of several topics, demonstrated an understanding of math concepts and presented their findings to the class.*



## District Making Progress with Ongoing Capital Improvements Initiative



*Since being initiated during the 2020-21 school year, the district has invested approximately \$1.7 million into the upgrades and maintenance of district facilities and infrastructure, including new carpeting in the Auditorium.*

Over the past calendar year, the Brooklyn City Schools has continued an ongoing capital improvements initiative dedicated to ensuring the longevity of existing facilities while maximizing opportunities for students to achieve success. Since being initiated during the 2020-21 school year, the district has invested approximately \$1.7 million into the upgrade and maintenance of district facilities and infrastructure. These targeted capital expenditures, paid with both local and grant funds, are also an extension of the district's Strategic Plan which specifically seeks to continue to enhance school district infrastructure and operations through a continuous evaluation of district finances.

The list of capital improvements across the district has included new classroom furniture and new carpet in the Auditorium and various high school classrooms. Athletic facility upgrades include the repaving of Hurricane Alley and adjacent lots, athletic track resurfacing, construction of a new pavilion at Brooklyn Stadium and more. Upgrades to buildings and grounds include roof maintenance and masonry work at Brooklyn High School. The Brooklyn City Schools have also enhanced existing building safety and security with additional security upgrades. Safety improvements in transportation include the purchase of three new school buses and one transit van.

Moving forward, the Brooklyn City Schools will continue to engage with a Master Facility Plan with Architectural Vision Group (AVG), from which the district will be considering future renovation and refurbishment improvements to the campus and surrounding facilities. For more information, please visit [www.brooklyn.k12.oh.us](http://www.brooklyn.k12.oh.us).





## Fall Sports Senior Spotlight

The Brooklyn City Schools proudly congratulates all of our senior student-athletes on a successful fall of 2022 sports season! The students listed below served as positive role models by displaying good sportsmanship and leadership skills. A special thank you to our fall sports coaches, Athletic Department staff, Athletic Booster Clubs, and families for their continuous support. Congratulations, once again to our senior student athletes and best wishes in their future pursuits!

### Volleyball

Taylor Ruffin  
Tianna Ruffin  
Melaine Fernandez  
Valery Warner  
Laura Nguyen  
Ariana Rodriguez  
Savanna Coyle



### Boys Soccer

Tariq Hattab  
Ahmad Taher  
Angel Hernandez  
Almir Veljak  
Philip Bartelme-Loepp



### Football

Anthony Starr	Raymeir Cogburn
Oscar Davis	Nick Meehan
Aiden Nelson	Ryan Pepera
Matt Schnaak	Omarion Smith
Nate Wilson	CJ Watkins
Tariq Hattab	Jaiden Basinger

### Girls Soccer

Delaney David  
Alyssa Todorovich  
Katrina Gasper  
Andriana Rodriguez  
Jillian Treska



### Cheer

Lexi Fecko  
Alyssa Todorovich  
Ariana Rodriguez  
Andrianna Rodriguez



### Special Awards

Delaney David	Girls Soccer	BHS Record Holder: 95 Career Goals, 212 Career Points, 34 Single Season Goals Scored
Raymeir Cogburn	Football	BHS Record Holder: 97 yard kickoff return touchdown
Anthony Starr	Football	BHS Record Holder: 146 Single Season Tackles. BHS Record holder for career tackles: 294

