

STATE OF OUR SCHOOLS



REPORT 2024-25

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

It's been my pleasure to chat with so many Brownsburg families at school and community events since I was named Superintendent in July. You've probably already heard by now, I'm not really new around here. I started my student teaching at White Lick Elementary in 1993 and never left Brownsburg. When I first entered the classroom as a student teacher, the district's enrollment was 3,778. Brownsburg Schools have grown 182% since I started. While I have crossed paths with so many families over my 31 years here, we have welcomed many new students in that time. The numbers below illustrate why we serve more meals than any restaurant in town and we are the largest employer in Brownsburg.

The State of Our Schools comes out each January to share a snapshot of our schools with every Brownsburg resident. Please read on to meet some of our exceptional students and staff. You'll also get the latest information about when the current BHS construction project will be completed. Spoiler alert: It's getting close!

ENROLLMENT

10,638 students enrolled
PK-12 on the first day
of school 2024-2025



STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

58% White, 22% Black,
9% Hispanic, 5% Mixed Race,
4% Asian, <1% American Indian,
Alaskan Native, Pacific Islander



LANGUAGES

87 languages
spoken in the homes
of BCSC students



STAFF

1,202 benefit eligible
staff members,
including 612
certified teachers



SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS

36% of students qualify for
free or reduced meals



GRADUATES

99.6% Graduation Rate
BHS Team 2024

Learn more about Brownsburg Schools
at www.brownsburg.k12.in.us

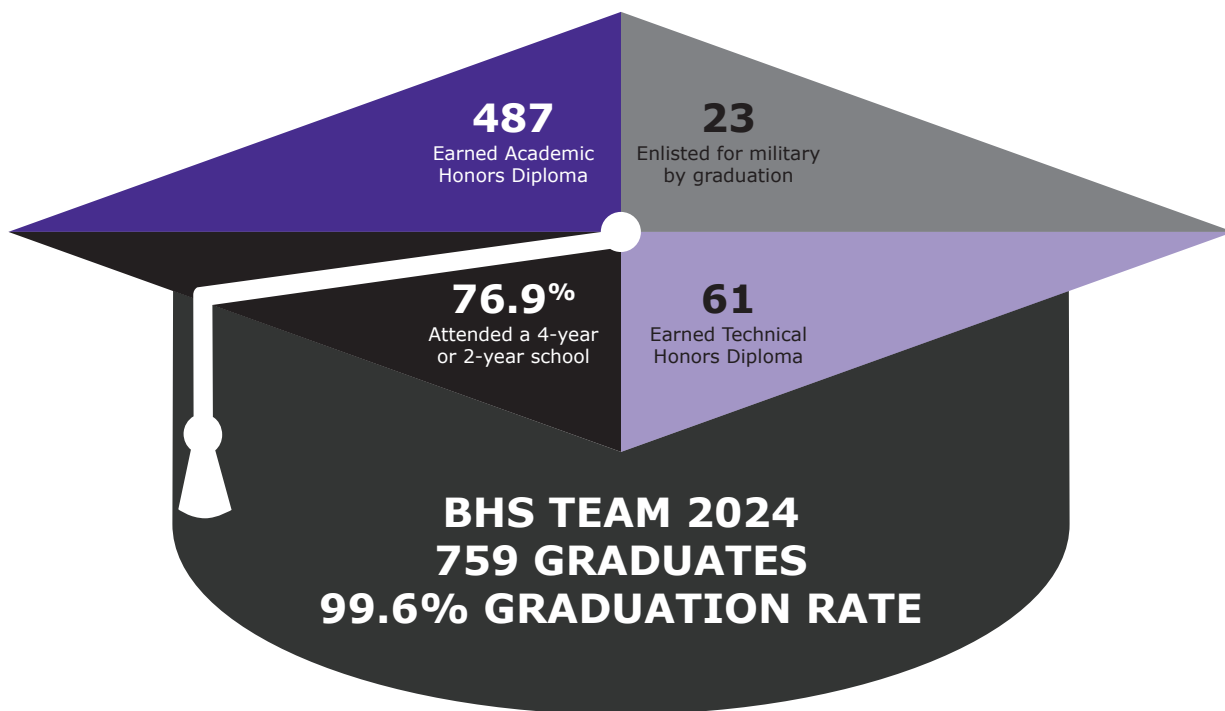
BHS: SERVING ALL STUDENTS

Every student is unique. Brownsburg High School works hard to offer options to help all students be successful in the next chapter of their life.

Taylin Mason graduated from BHS in 2021 and was on track to succeed in college. She filled her high school schedule with many college-level classes. She started her biology degree at Indiana University with nearly fifty college credits that she had earned at BHS. This gave her early access to signing up for classes in college and helped prepare her for postsecondary education. "I feel like I didn't really notice how much it helped until I got into college" Her high school education not only prepared her well for college, it allowed her to graduate from college a whole year early, something her parents really appreciate. Taylin's mother Taryn says, "We're thankful to Brownsburg for not only preparing Taylin to be academically ready for college, but also for offering the college credit courses that saved us a lot of money on tuition. A lot of her grad school will be paid for because of the undergrad savings." Taylin is currently applying for Physician Assistant schools as she works as a medical assistant, a certification she was able to achieve in college. This allows her to get patient care hours and earn some money while she prepares for graduate school.



PROFILE OF A BHS GRADUATE





Chanelle Drummer won't leave BHS till graduation this June, but she is already working in her chosen field. She completed the first year of the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Pre-Nursing program through Area 31 during her junior year. At the end she earned her CNA and CPR certifications through one of the four Area 31 programs offered at Harris Academy here in Brownsburg. Now in her senior year, Chanelle is part of the CNA Capstone program which allows her to work as a CNA while earning high school credits. She serves the residents of Brownsburg Meadows while gaining this valuable experience, and she earns a paycheck. Chanelle wants to become a travel nurse someday and appreciates all that she is learning about health care through this program. "Every course you take, you'll have hands-on experience. If you already know what you want to do, or

just want to test the waters out to see what you don't want to do, I recommend it." While Chanelle is currently applying to college nursing programs with some of her credits already earned, many in her CNA cohort will opt to continue working as a CNA after high school graduation, embarking on a fantastic career with the skills they learned at Area 31.

NEW GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Brownsburg High School's curriculum seeks to set all students on a path for success after high school. This path goes beyond preparing for college. On December 11, The Indiana State Board of Education approved changes to the Indiana high school diploma. These changes will be mandatory for all Indiana high schools starting with the class of 2029. Current BHS students will not be affected by these changes.

Essentially, with these changes students can earn a diploma with one of three seals that align with their chosen path. These seals show either readiness for college, readiness for the workforce, or readiness to enter the military. The new diploma also adds requirements for courses that focus on communication, personal finance, and computer science. It also adds some flexibility in other core subjects and electives.

BHS is conducting a Next Steps meeting with Team 2029 families (current 8th grade) in January to share how these changes could impact the classes their incoming freshman will take as they think about moving on to high school.

See the graphic for details.



BHS CONSTRUCTION HITTING THE HOMESTRETCH

Brownsburg High School has seen significant renovations in the last eight years. A renovated cafeteria, auditorium seating, science lab, and an additional 53 teaching stations have been added since 2017. Hallways have been expanded to accommodate the growing enrollment and additional windows have brightened up the space. In October, the renovated aquatic center was reopened with two additional lanes and an upgraded HVAC system to create a better experience for fans. The tennis courts that were displaced by the new pick-up and drop-off line have been relocated to the corner of Airport Road and Odell St.

In the coming months, we will celebrate the opening of the new fieldhouse on the north end of the building. BHS is the last high school in the Hoosier Crossroads Conference to add a fieldhouse. This space will be home to PE students during the day and also allow our girls and boys track teams to compete at home during the indoor season. Families who participate in travel sports could have less weekend trips out of



Brownsburg as we expect this space to support our local grassroots organizations. This will also bring tourism dollars into our community. The fieldhouse is expected to open in July. When the '25-26' girls and boys basketball season is over, the 23-year-old roof over the varsity gym will be replaced, as well as bleachers and other interior finishes. It will re-open in the fall of 2026.

When the Senior Academy renovations are complete this fall, the space will have 44 additional teaching stations and a cafeteria that can serve classes of 1,000 students.

Finally, the practice field that was displaced by the new student parking lot is being relocated to the space north of the varsity football field. It will also be used for lacrosse, band, and other activities. In addition, the entrance to the football field is currently being reconfigured. The bleachers are being expanded as well. They should be in place in time for Team 2025's commencement in June.

BULLDOGS ARE STATE CHAMPS

In 2024, two BHS programs who have seen significant success over the last decade climbed to the top of the mountain and brought home an IHSAA State Championship. After placing 2nd the last two years, BHS Wrestling finished in the top spot with two individual champions. BHS Football won its first State Championship since 1985 after finishing at or near the top of the Hoosier Crossroads Conference several times in the last decade.



BCSC CAFES ARE SERVING FROM SCRATCH



When reminiscing about school lunch, many of us conjure up stories of rectangular pizza and creamed corn. In Brownsburg cafeterias, students and staff experience an upgrade in the school meals that many remember. BCSC Nutrition Services is made up of one hundred team members of all ages. These women (and men!) served 1,498,757 meals in the 23-24 school year. Our schools offer breakfast and lunch every day. Students at the secondary level have more choices than ever with the homemade pizza topping the best-seller list.

Speaking of homemade, the Nutrition Services staff has 250 active recipes for scratch-cooked items served in meals throughout our schools. These range from soup to meatballs to cinnamon rolls. Actually, 52% of the cooking done in BCSC kitchens is scratch cooking. All meals served in BCSC cafes adhere to the nutritional guidelines set forth by the FDA.

One of the more popular items is the Niña Salsa. This recipe has been used in our kitchens since the new BHS kitchen opened in 2020. It's called Niña Salsa after a team member who affectionately refers to her teammates as "Niña." This recipe was created by her mother in their home in Maria Lombardo de Caso, Oaxaca, Mexico. She shares, "Seeing it on the serving line makes me happy and reminds me of my family and my home." Niña Salsa is on the menu at BHS and both middle schools. Now your family can serve Niña Salsa at home!

INGREDIENTS

- 7.5 pounds raw diced tomatoes
- 5 jalapeño peppers, seeded and diced
- 1 whole red onion, diced
- 2 cups cilantro, de-stemmed and chopped
- 6 teaspoons kosher salt
- 8 tablespoons fresh lime juice

STEPS

1. Add all ingredients together and stir to combine. You may also pulse until combined in a food process or blender, if preferred.
2. Chill and serve.

Serving size: 2 tablespoons

Recipe yields 100 servings or 12.5 cups

NIÑA SALSA

BCSC NUTRITION SERVICES



INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANTS FILL VITAL ROLES

Brownsburg Schools has 633 certified/teaching staff who provide outstanding instruction to our students every day. BCSC also employs about 180 Instructional Assistants (IAs) in key support positions throughout the district. While these staff members are not licensed teachers, they provide services to students in various environments to serve the needs of our students. Meet three members of the IA team at BCSC, one of which is currently completing her teaching degree. If you or someone you know would like to be added to the pool of IA substitutes or would like to talk about any IA openings, start the application process by scanning the QR code below or visit www.brownsburg.k12.in.us/employment. Previous experience is not required and BCSC will provide training and support.



Karlye Gebauer joined the Cardinal Elementary staff in 2016, took a break after the birth of her youngest child, and returned in 2021. She loves the schedule and the opportunity to make a positive impact. "The hours are great! You can't beat them, especially if you have children in school." She also enjoys the school breaks and being on the same calendar as her children. Karlye supports students in the Learning Lab and likes to collaborate with teachers to find strategies to help students learn. "That is a really good feeling, if they are struggling with a certain problem or homework, that you're just that one that they can talk to and help them through it."

Working at the Early Childhood Center (ECC) made lots of sense to Kativa Singh. Her son attends BCSC's developmental preschool, and she says that it's an excellent environment for her son. "They are so good. I am impressed." When her son started preschool, she worked as a substitute teacher in Brownsburg elementary schools and also at ECC. When she was approached by the ECC Co-ordinator about becoming an Instructional Assistant, Kativa jumped at the chance to work with our youngest Bulldogs full time. She shares her love of her job with friends and family. "They are so kind. They help me with everything." While she is not assigned to her son's classroom, Kativa enjoys supporting the learning of his schoolmates every day.



Before coming to Brownsburg Schools, Veronica Pearl was a Registered Behavior Technician in a clinic that provided services to children with autism and other disabilities. The school schedule with three long breaks and summers off attracted her to an Instructional Assistant position in the Applied Skills program at BHS. She thinks that going to college right after high school wasn't the best fit for her. "As I got older and more experienced in the field, I decided I was ready to go back." Veronica is now earning a special education teaching degree while she works at BHS. The program allows her to complete her coursework online at her own pace. She looks forward to having her own classroom someday. "I just want to help as many kids as I can in the future."

**Considering a career as an Instructional Assistant?
We have full-time or substitute opportunities.**



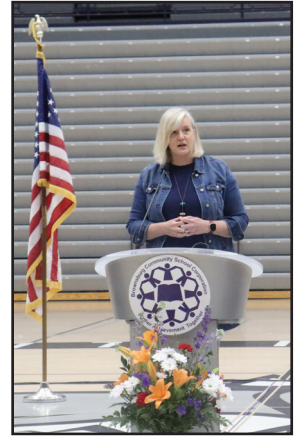
SCAN ME

BCSC TEACHER AND STAFF OF THE YEAR

The 2024 Teacher and Staff of the Year banquet honored the staff and teachers of the year in each school and department. The May event saw East Middle School's Teacher of the Year, **Kyla Reineke** chosen as the overall BCSC Teacher of the Year. Reineke joined BCSC in 2004 and was part of the group that opened East Middle School in 2005.



Reagan Elementary Staff Member of the Year, **Elisabeth Allgire** was chosen as BCSC Staff Member of the Year. Elisabeth works as a Instructional Assistant in Special Education at Reagan. She has also worked with students at BHS, East, White Lick and ECC over her 15 years at BCSC.



PETERSON CELEBRATES 40 YEARS

At the beginning of this school year, BCSC also marked 40 years of service for **Theresa Peterson**. Peterson started her career in Brownsburg Schools as a special education teacher at White Lick Elementary. She briefly worked at Brownsburg Junior High (which is now West Middle School), returned to White Lick, and also supported students at Delaware Trail. Theresa is part of the group who opened East Middle School in 2005. She has been part of the East family since it opened and was selected as their Teacher of the Year in 2010.



CHAMPIONSHIP SUPPORT

Hendricks Regional Health (HRH) continues to be a valuable community partner for Brownsburg Schools. HRH directs the BCSC Health Services Department with a Health Services Supervisor that facilitates the department and the HRH substitute nurses that care for students in our clinics. HRH has donated supplies and hospital beds to the Pre-Nursing program at Area 31 at Harris. HRH has provided athletic training services in Brownsburg for 10 years. The HRH team doctor and athletic trainers at the middle schools and BHS are a vital part of the team (pictured at this year's IHSA 6A State Championship game). BCSC student-athletes have access to excellent care in our community. The sports medicine physicians, physical therapists and orthopedic surgeons at Hendricks Regional Health provide a continuum of care to treat pain effectively, build strength, and prevent future injury.



The State of Our Schools newsletter is printed with funds provided by Hendricks Regional Health, your indispensable health and wellness partner working toward building a healthier Brownsburg.





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2025 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING DATES

The regular monthly business meeting of the Brownsburg Board of School Trustees typically occurs on the second Monday of the month. Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and are held in the Board Room of the F.L. O'Neal Administration Office at 310 Stadium Drive, unless otherwise noted. (Enter Door #7) Notifications of special-called meetings or changes in meeting times, dates and/or locations will be posted accordingly. Monthly Board Work Sessions are also open to the public. Dates below, locations vary and can be found online.

Regular Business Meetings

January 13, February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11,
September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8

Board Work Sessions

January 27, February 24, April 28, May 27, August 25, September 22, November 24



Jessica Heffernan
President
At Large



Dr. Matt Freije
Vice President
Lincoln Township



Gordon Hayward
Member
Brown Township



Mike Wells
Member
Lincoln Township



Katie Dixon
Member
Lincoln Township