

Hurricane Watch

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

Fall 2023

Tradition. Pride. Excellence.



Superintendent
Dr. Theodore Caleris

Dear Hurricane School Community,

I want to extend my congratulations to our students, staff, and families on a successful first grading period. Your hard work and dedication have truly paid off, and I want to recognize the effort and commitment you have demonstrated to start this school year.

As we embrace the coming winter season, I want to remind everyone of the importance of staying focused and active during the long, chilly months ahead. While winter can be a time of taking a break from the rush of the summer and fall seasons, it can also present challenges in maintaining our educational and personal goals. The upcoming months are a wonderful opportunity to set new objectives and push ourselves towards academic and extracurricular excellence. Continue to explore your passions in the district and engage in learning, even when the days grow shorter. Remember, knowledge knows no season, and our commitment to providing extracurricular opportunities and exceptional educational programming remains unwavering.

Additionally, staying physically active during the winter is crucial for our overall well-being. Whether it's participating in a winter sport, school-sponsored club or finding an indoor activity that keeps you moving, maintaining a healthy physical and emotional lifestyle is essential. The habits you establish now will set the tone for a productive and energized spring ahead. I would encourage all of our students to participate in a school-sponsored activity this winter!

I have every confidence that this next grading period will be a season of growth and accomplishment for our students. Keep your goals in sight, stay motivated, and support one another in your educational journey. Together, we'll make this winter season one of positive momentum and anticipation for this upcoming spring.

Warm regards,

Dr. Caleris

Dr. Theodore Caleris, Superintendent
Brooklyn City Schools

Brooklyn City Schools

Overall Rating: 4 STARS
Exceeds State Standards
2023 Ohio Report Card



- **Brooklyn City Schools exceeds state standards in academic achievement**
- **Significantly exceeds state standards in closing educational gaps for Progress and Graduation Rate (5-Year) component**
- **Graduation Rate (4-year) shows significant evidence that the district exceeded student growth expectations**
- **Overall ratings for buildings include Brooklyn High School: 4.5 stars (exceeds state standards) and Brooklyn School: 3.5 stars (meets state standards)**
- **District is grateful for overall progress made and will continue to use assessment data and programming results to improve academic programming**



2023 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony



The rich Tradition, Pride, and Excellence of the Brooklyn City Schools was celebrated during the district's Hall of Fame Class of 2023 induction ceremony on Thursday, September 7th in the Auditorium. The Hall of Fame Class of 2023 includes:

Patricia Dehaney (1972)

Len Trocano (1974)

Ken Soeder (1981)

Kathy Kudravi (1983)

Mark Maliniak (2004)

Jocelyn Rivera (2013)

1983 Varsity Softball Team

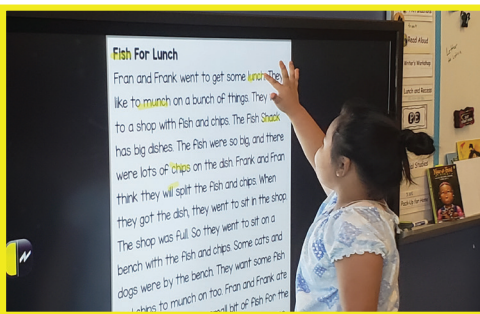
1998 Varsity Baseball Team

Mr. Ron Szudy, a highly regarded former Brooklyn High School teacher and coach served as Special Guest Speaker. Legendary Brooklyn High School Wrestling, Softball, and Football coach, Joe Drago was present for the renaming of the Joe Drago Wrestling Room.

Congratulations to the HOF Class of 2023 and honored guests! Visit the Alumni/Hall of Fame page at www.bcsHurricanes.org to learn more.



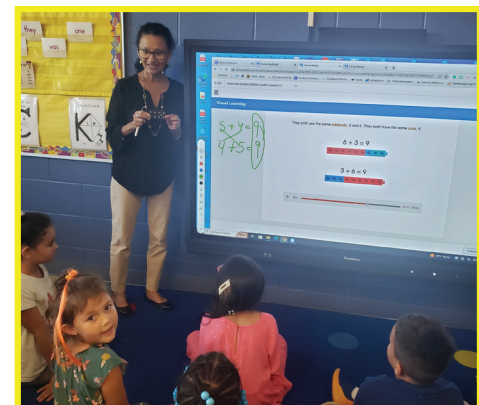
Investment in New Classroom Technology Supports Student Learning



The new Promethean Boards provide students a new and interactive way to learn in the classroom.

As part of the district's commitment to providing our students excellent educational programming and in support of the targeted instruction delivered by our dedicated teachers and staff, the Brooklyn City Schools recently invested in an innovative classroom technology that has generated excitement from students and educators alike. Multiple classrooms across the district campus are now utilizing new Promethean Interactive TVs and Smart Notebook software to provide instruction that is interactive and generates increased student engagement.

"The Promethean Interactive TVs and Smart Notebook software bring a high definition, engaging experience to the classroom," shares Dave Wallis, Director of Systems and Instructional Technology. ***"I'm glad we were able to outfit ten classrooms this school year to support our amazing staff and students."***



2nd grade teacher Mrs. Trimmer enjoys the capability to lower the Promethean board to students' eye level while leading instruction.

Brooklyn's second grade teachers and students have experienced first-hand the many benefits provided by the new classroom technology. For instructional purposes, the teachers utilize the whiteboard app and split screen feature which allows more than one student to be working at a time. The ability to move the board around the room and adjust to different heights provides students the capability to annotate reading passages and pages from the Envision Math program. ***"The new Promethean board is fantastic for my math lessons,"*** shares second grade teacher Nora Trimmer. ***"I am able to engage students by lowering the board to their eye level."***

These and other investments in classroom learning technology are one of many ways the Brooklyn City Schools are providing our students resources to help them achieve success in the classroom and beyond.



Community Update on Master Facility Plan and Potential Renovation Projects

Through our district strategic plan, Vision 2030, the Board of Education adopted an updated Master Facility Plan in August 2023. This plan outlines a roadmap for updating the infrastructure of our District campus, including specific renovations targeted at the Brooklyn High School Campus, Board of Education Office, and the Hurricane Alley Stadium Athletic Complex.

At the October 17th Board of Education meeting, members of the Brooklyn Board of Education, by a majority vote of 5-0, approved the placement of a Bond Issue, in the amount of \$20,000,000, on the March 19, 2024, ballot for the public's consideration. If approved, funds generated by the Bond Issue would be used to address necessary renovations for the Brooklyn High School Campus, Board of Education Office, and Stadium Complex located at Hurricane Alley. More specifically, funds generated would be used to support proposed renovations:

1. Improved Security and Visual Enhancements at Exterior Entrances
2. Brooklyn Athletic Complex Enhanced Recreational and Competition Areas at Hurricane Alley
3. Community Walking Path at Hurricane Alley
4. Band and Choir Wing Renovation at Brooklyn HS Campus
5. Energy Efficient Initiatives - Window Replacement at Brooklyn HS Campus & Board Office
6. Renovation of Brooklyn HS Campus Science Labs
7. Renovation of Auditorium
8. Renovation of Restrooms at Brooklyn High School Campus
9. Various Common Area Interior Improvements at Brooklyn High School Campus
10. Main Gymnasium Renovations at Brooklyn High School Campus
11. Renovations Associated with Converting the Existing Brooklyn Library to a District Facility

The Brooklyn City School District values your input, and consequently, will be hosting a series of community forums where school community members can provide feedback, share ideas, and actively understand the facts related to the master facility plan and proposed renovation process. Your perspective and insight regarding the District's facilities planning are essential as the District moves forward with the potential renovations being considered by the Board of Education.



Infrastructure and safety upgrades are part of planned enhancements of the High School main entrance.



Renovated science labs will help Brooklyn students remain on the cutting edge of STEM skills needed in today's workforce.



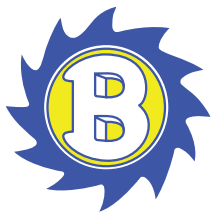
Upgrades to bathrooms will include accessibility for individuals with disabilities.



Proposed upgrades include a visual renovation of the exterior entrance of the Board Office and Auditorium.



Planned improvements to the Auditorium include installation of new seating and aisle lighting.



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Have a Question about the
Brooklyn City Schools?
Contact Dr. Caleris at
askdrcaleris@bcshurricanes.org

Upcoming Events in the BCS

11/15 - Fall Athletics Award Banquet, 5:45 pm
11/17 - Brooklyn School Family Movie Night (PK-5)
sponsored by Class of 2024 After Prom, 6:00 pm
11/29 - 2nd Annual Business Advisory Council Breakfast
co-sponsored by BCS & Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, 10:00 am
12/11 - Holiday Celebration with Brooklyn Seniors, 10:00 am
2/5 - 2/9 - Hurricane Heritage Week
2/16 - Teacher Inservice - No School for Students
2/29 - 2nd Annual College and Career Resource Fair
3/14 - 3/16 - Spring Musical - The Little Mermaid
3/14 - Spring Musical Preview for Senior Citizens
- The Little Mermaid, 10:00 am

Brooklyn Arts and Innovation Academy Encourages Learning Outside the Classroom



*National Junior Art Honor Society
students recently explored
The Cleveland Museum of Art.*

"Mrs. Mack, do you think that this pitcher plant would work well in my story setting?" A recent field trip to the Cleveland Botanical Garden inspired many students in Mrs. Kathleen Mack's Gifted Language Arts class to develop their ideas of what a setting could be. In its second year, the Brooklyn Arts and Innovation Academy has expanded its programming to include field trips to various local destinations. In conjunction with learning occurring in the classroom, students can increase their knowledge of a novel, in the above example, *The Secret Garden*, while applying what they learned in their writing.

The introduction of new programming in the Brooklyn Arts and Innovation Academy is part of the five-year strategic vision of the Brooklyn City Schools under the leadership of Superintendent Dr. Caleris. Additional academic opportunities through the Academy include the grades 4-7 Math Olympiad competition, Power of the Pen writing team, and Honors Math and Language Arts classes starting in sixth grade.

The growth of Brooklyn's arts programming is also part of the strategic vision for the Arts and Innovation Academy. Under the leadership of Art instructor Joanne Becker, the National Junior Art Honor Society was formed. NJAHS provides 7th & 8th-grade visual artists with opportunities to explore personal artistic and creative passions while utilizing their talents in leadership and service within the community. New members are inducted in May of their 6th or 7th grade year. Members enjoy a fellowship with creative peers, view works of art and media demonstrations, and have time to work on independent projects.

Student selection is based on teacher recommendation and focuses on four criteria—artistic passion, art scholarship, artistic ability, and character. Although the society's activities are designed to be flexible and supportive of individual adolescent schedules, a student can maintain good standing as a member through effort, regular attendance, and active participation.

This year, the NJAHS has taken two field trips alongside the High School chapter, beginning with the Cleveland Museum of Art and followed by the Cleveland Institute of Art. Our Brooklyn students left the experience energized and excited about a greater awareness of future opportunities after graduation.



*Gifted Language Arts Class students
used their visit to the Cleveland Botanical
Gardens as inspiration for their writing.*

