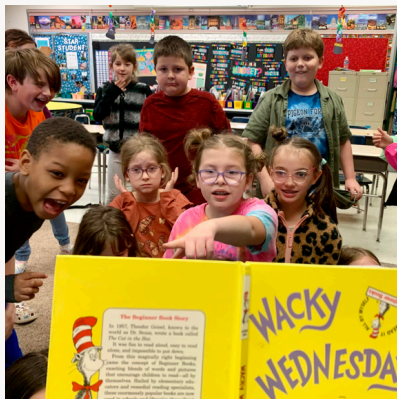
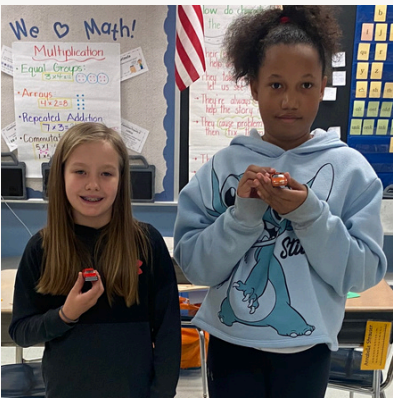


Welcome Back

**BUTLER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
2024-2025**



Welcome Back

Dear BASD Families,

The 2024-2025 school year will be filled with many exciting opportunities for the students in our school district. We received a 1.3 million "Stronger Connections" grant through the Pennsylvania Department of Education, which is primarily being used to personalize learning for our students. More regarding those efforts is in the following pages and will be highlighted in upcoming communications.

One area of change that we are working on is the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). While AI may be the key to many positive things in our world, it presents significant challenges for education as we know it. Artificial Intelligence isn't going away. Therefore, we need to evaluate how we educate our students in a world where AI is easily accessible.

In a very traditional manner, students' academic achievement has been measured by a product such as a test, a quiz, a paper or a project. I am challenging our faculty to rethink their focus of assessments of learning on process as equally to the final product. For example, in some courses, students are expected to write a paper. The students' learning is measured on the quality of that paper based on a rubric. Moving to a more process based approach, the students' learning would be measured on documentation of the brainstorming, multiple drafts with documentation of edits, then a final paper. Similarly in math it's not just the correct final answer, it's the steps the student took to get to their answer.

I believe all of us want our students to learn. I encourage all parents/guardians to ask your child how they answered questions, how they wrote a paper, how they did their homework. The "how" really matters to learning. I recognize that students all want good grades. However, the grades are meaningless to their future if they have not learned the skills needed to thrive.

I'm excited for the upcoming school year and can't wait to welcome our students and staff back to school later this month.

Sincerely,



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

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 3rd 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
Dr. Laura Miller, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development
Dr. Carrie Morgan-Davis, Assistant Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development
Mr. Aaron Royhab, Director of Special Education
Mrs. Cari Boozel, Assistant Director of Special Education
Dr. John Wyllie, Assistant to the Superintendents
Mr. Curt Springer, Assistant Director of Behavioral Supports
Mrs. Heather Bonzo, Director of Finance & Operations
Mrs. Kristen Clouse, Director of Human Resources
Mr. Jason Huffman, Principal, SHS
Ms. Alicia Beighley, Assistant Principal, SHS
Mr. Doug Ford, Assistant Principal, SHS

Mr. Daniel Buzzard, Dean of Students, SHS
Mr. Justin Tanaka, Dean of Students, SHS
Mr. Stephen Dobransky, Principal, IHS
Mrs. Gretchen Crissman, Assistant Principal, IHS
Mr. Harold Dunn, Assistant Principal, IHS
Mrs. Vanessa Boyd, Principal, Broad Street
Mrs. Tanya Lewis, Principal, Center Township
Mrs. Nicole Munko, Dean of Students, Center Township
Mrs. Hope Hull, Principal, Connoquenessing
Mr. Joshua Hundertmark, Principal, Emily Brittain
Mrs. Theresa Cherry, Principal, McQuiston
Ms. Elizabeth Santillo, Dean of Students, McQuiston
Mr. Matt Martinez, Principal, Northwest
Mr. Chad Broman, Principal, Summit
Mr. Keenan McGaughey, Principal, Center Avenue

OUR BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Mr. Al Vavro, President
Mr. Gary Shingleton, Vice President
Mr. John Conrad
Mrs. Jennifer Cummings
Mrs. Jennifer Daniels-Wells
Mr. Phil Heasley
Mr. Terry Stivason
Mrs. Nina Teff
Mrs. Cecilia Tomko

The Butler Area Board of School Directors meets on the second and third Monday of the month. This year, one meeting per month will be a traditional board meeting and one meeting will be a community engagement session. Both meeting styles are open to the public.

[Click here for more information](#), including a list of meeting dates, times and locations.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES



Introducing Dr. Laura Miller, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Laura Miller as our new Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development. Dr. Miller joins us from the Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3, where she served as the Training and Consultation Coordinator. She brings extensive experience in curriculum development and instructional leadership, holding an Ed.D. in Education Leadership and Administration from Point Park University. We are excited to have her on board and look forward to her contributions to our district.

Dr. John Wyllie, Assistant to the Superintendents

We are excited to announce that Dr. John Wyllie has transitioned into the role of Assistant to the Superintendents. In this position, Dr. Wyllie will co-lead the implementation of the new teacher evaluation system. He will also oversee the coordination and management of the school district's student support assets. In addition, he will help us align K-12 career education initiatives and programs, and develop a comprehensive College In High School partnership program, pathways to earning an associate degree in high school, and industry credentials. His experience and dedication to our district make him well positioned to successfully implement these endeavors.



Mr. Jason Huffman, Senior High School Principal

As part of our reorganization, Mr. Jason Huffman, who also previously served as Co-Principal at the Senior High School, is now the Principal of Butler Area Senior High School. In his role as Principal of the Senior High School, Mr. Huffman will continue to play a crucial role in shaping the educational environment and ensuring the academic success of students. Mr. Huffman will oversee the daily operations of the school, and collaborate with the faculty and staff to provide exceptional educational opportunities in a positive learning environment for all students. Mr. Huffman's dedication, experience, and commitment to our students and community are an asset to our school district.



THE IMPORTANCE OF STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

School attendance remains a focus again this year. It is essential that we all collectively work together to help all of our students understand the importance of being at school. We also all need to take steps to put our students in the best possible position to be present at school.

Our Student Attendance Review Board helps encourage attendance at school. If a student has missed a considerable amount of school or the parent/guardian requests support from the school, the Student Attendance Review Board will meet and discuss the student's situation. They will then work independently or with the student and family to create a plan and put the necessary support measures in place to help improve the student's attendance. We believe if a student is struggling to attend school, offering resources and support is more effective than issuing a consequence, such as a fine – or worse – a suspension, which equates to more missed school.

We will continue to reinforce the importance of attendance at school with students. We ask that our families do the same at home. If you are finding barriers to your student attending school, please contact your child's school so we can help. We want to work with you to help every student be consistently present at school. With that said, we understand that students do get sick. As important as attendance is, please do not send your child to school if they are ill.



BUTLER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
VOLUNTEER & CAREER AWARENESS
SUPPORT SURVEY

We are incredibly fortunate to live in a community that is committed to supporting our students and our schools.

There are many ways to get involved throughout the year. Please complete the form linked below to let us know if you are interested in volunteering or helping our students learn about a career. If you are willing to do both, please submit this form twice—once for volunteering and once for career awareness support.

[Click here to complete the BASD Volunteer and Career Awareness Support Survey.](#)

Please note that completing this form does not commit you to anything. It simply helps us build a database of people who have expressed an interest in volunteering. We will reach out as opportunities arise, at which point you can decide if you are able to help with the specific need.

Thank you for your continued support of our school community!



VOLUNTEER
FORM





BUTLER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT FOOD SERVICE WELLNESS & ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Join the BASD Food Service Wellness & Advisory Committee

BASD parents, students, staff members and community members are invited to be a part of our Food Service Wellness & Advisory Committee.

There will be four meetings a year focused on meal planning and initiating the school wellness policy. The tentative dates for the 2024-2025 school year are below:

- September 9, 2024
- November 18, 2024
- February 10, 2025
- May 12, 2025

The Butler Area School District recognizes that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to students' physical well-being, growth, development, and readiness to learn. The School Board is committed to providing a school environment that promotes student wellness, proper nutrition, nutrition education, and regular physical activity as part of the total learning experience. In a healthy school environment, students will learn about and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices that can improve student achievement.

The district plans to engage students, parents/guardians, teachers, food service professionals, health professionals, and other interested community members in developing, implementing, monitoring, and reviewing district-wide nutrition and physical activity practices which impact students, families, and staff.

If you would like to get involved, please reach out to Heather Bonzo, BASD Director of Finance and Operation, at heather.bonzo@basdk12.org.

ENHANCING SECURITY MEASURES AT BASD

At Butler Area School District, the safety and well-being of our students, staff, and community members remain our top priority. We are committed to continually reviewing and strengthening our security measures and protocols to ensure a safe learning environment for everyone.

This year, we are taking a significant step forward by implementing weapon detection systems at both the Intermediate High School and the Senior High School. In addition, we will be piloting these systems at several elementary schools to evaluate their effectiveness in different settings. Through this process, we will continue to utilize metal detectors screenings in buildings that have not received these systems, and also in the high schools due to the use of multiple entry points during morning arrival.

These advanced systems will also be deployed at larger events within the district, including football games, basketball games, and concerts. If you have visited PNC Park or Acrisure Stadium, you may already be familiar with the type of technology we are introducing.

We are in the process of acquiring these systems and anticipate having them operational in the near future. Once we are ready to roll them out, we will provide additional communication to ensure everyone is informed about the new procedures.

As always, we remind our community that no weapons are permitted on school property. The implementation of these weapon detection systems is just one of the many ways we are working to maintain a secure environment for all.

Thank you for your continued support as we strive to create a safe and welcoming space for our students to learn and grow.

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

All Butler Area School District schools will continue to implement Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) this year.

The intent of PBIS is to encourage and reinforce positive behavior from students by creating schoolwide expectations. PBIS is part of the larger Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) that the district uses. This system of supports includes both behavioral and academic components.

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.

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. There are three tiers that schools work toward implementing to fidelity.

Implemented Tier 1 to Fidelity

McQuiston Elementary School | Intermediate High School | Senior High School

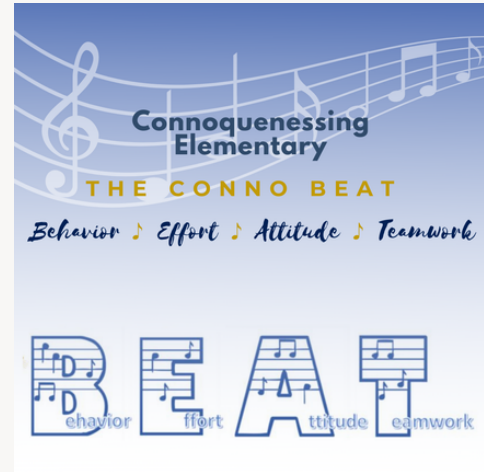
Implemented Tier 2 to Fidelity

Broad Street Elementary School | Connoquenessing Elementary School | Emily Brittain Elementary School | Northwest Elementary School | Summit Elementary School

Implemented Tier 3 to Fidelity

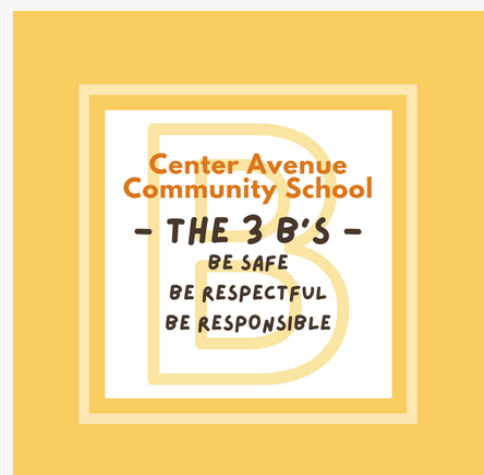
Center Township Elementary School | Center Avenue Community School

** Center Avenue has sustained advanced tiers for the past five years.*



Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

Each of our schools has their own PBIS program. While the goal is ultimately the same, it's fun for each school to take a unique approach. So what does PBIS look like at each school? Check out the graphics to see your school's theme!



PLEx

Personalized Learning Experience

One of our primary goals as we continue to implement our Portrait of the Graduate is to offer students a more personalized learning environment. This school year, we are excited to introduce a new Personalized Learning Experience (PLEx) for rising juniors and seniors who are taking Honors English 11 and 12, Intro to Tech Math, Honors Modern American History and/or Sociology.

PLEx is a customized approach to learning where students can choose from different learning modalities that best meet their academic needs. Through PLEx, students will utilize the components of our Portrait of the Graduate to acquire skills related to preparedness, responsibility, resilience, and engagement.

[Learn more about PLEx.](#)



The Golden Tornado Scholastic Foundation, Inc.

WHAT BEGAN in the fall of 1990 as a small group of concerned alumni interested in replacing the condemned bleachers at the Butler Senior High School stadium, in time became The Golden Tornado Scholastic Foundation, Inc. The Scholastic Foundation is a non-profit, public supported organization administered by a volunteer Board of Directors whose mission is to support excellence in the 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 \$36,000 in direct scholarships and facilitated \$74,588 in private scholarships to the Butler Class of 2024.

CREATIVE TEACHING GRANTS

In the last five years, The Golden Tornado Scholastic Foundation, Inc. has awarded \$105,198 in Creative Teaching Grants. These grants support the innovative work of BASD faculty and have impacted more than 10,957 students over the past 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 classroom 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

Save the date for the Tuff Tornado Run on Saturday, September 28, 2024 from 11am-2pm at Alameda Park. This fun run with 23 obstacles is great for all ages. Register online at GoldenTornadoScholasticFoundation.org. Register by September 4 to receive a free t-shirt!

GoldenTornadoScholasticFoundation.org



BROAD STREET *Elementary School*

Broad Street Elementary School (BSES) is a community centered school that utilizes all stakeholders for the holistic development of our uniquely brilliant scholars. BSES educates all scholars via exposure to community resources, career, agricultural, STEAM, entrepreneurship, and peer-leadership. Exposure to all the aforementioned provides all scholars with the tools needed to successfully navigate their academic experiences.

A Look Back...

2023-2024 Highlights

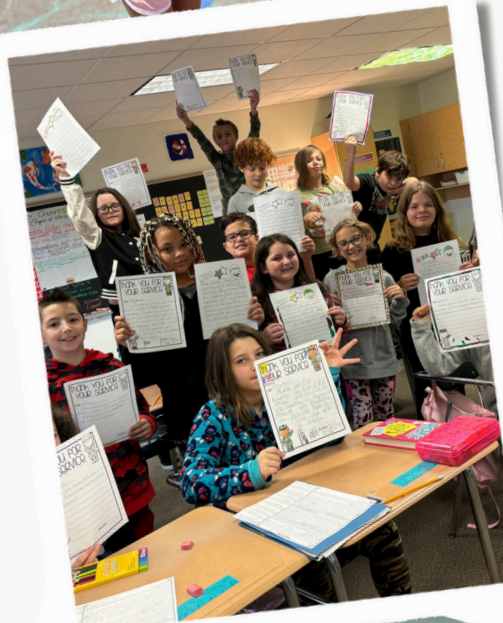
Our kindergarten scholars gained confidence in themselves as we celebrated their many accomplishments. In first grade, implementing Foundations has increased student engagement and excitement for learning, while strategic differentiation maximizes growth. In second grade, high standards foster empathy, academic understanding, and a love for the school community. Our third graders developed collaboration, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills, while our fourth graders focused on data-driven instruction and teamwork, producing confident scholars. Our fifth graders are well-prepared for their next academic journey, confident in their strengths and seeking support when needed.

A Look Ahead...

Scholars will continue to learn, grow and thrive at Broad Street Elementary School. Our staff, community partners and parents are all invested in the holistic development of every one of our scholars. As we look ahead to next year, BSES remains committed to sending prepared youth to their next assignment ready to make informed decisions.

SCHOOL THEMES

Our elementary schools will continue to develop their school themes this year. [Visit our website to learn more.](#)



CENTER TOWNSHIP

Elementary School

At Center Township Elementary School, we're committed to educating the "whole child" to become confident to try new things; encouraging student collaboration, contribution, and leadership; and developing confident individuals who utilize critical thinking skills.

A Look Back...

2023-2024 Highlights

We kicked off CT's Creative Thinking and Arts focus last year. Students had many different opportunities as we began to infuse Creating Thinking and Arts into our school culture and community. Some of these activities involved presentations and experiences from talented local artists and musicians. Some of our learners wrote scripts, designed story boards, recorded the audio, and made their own "TED Talk" type video productions in collaboration with Wonder Media Group. Students also had the opportunity to be involved in SOAR Side Kick Leadership, yoga club, reading with therapy dogs, and Girls on the Run, just to name a few. We also opened our outdoor classroom and rebuilt our sound system for better quality of sound during performances.

A Look Ahead...

Students will continue to build and strengthen our school family culture through whole school morning meetings, school performances, and even a talent show. We also plan to infuse more creative thinking and problem-solving experiences into our lessons and units while providing students with increased creative thinking and arts student experiences, and performances and presentations. We're looking forward to another incredible year of growing confidence, academic skills, social skills, as well as building friendships, and rich learning opportunities!

SCHOOL THEMES

Our elementary schools will continue to develop their school themes this year. [Visit our website to learn more.](#)



CONNOQUENESSING

Elementary School

A Look Back...

2023-2024 Highlights

Connoquenessing Elementary School has spent the past two years developing an Outdoor Appreciation Campus infrastructure. Classrooms have enjoyed enhancing their curriculum with hands-on and project-based learning opportunities that are supported by the wooded trail and recently renovated courtyard. An outdoor classroom is currently being built to support collaboration in an outdoor setting as well.

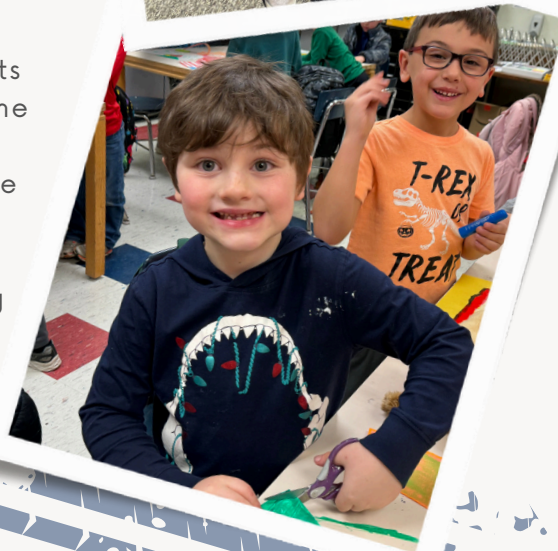
A Look Ahead...

This coming year, classrooms from all elementary schools will be visiting the trail for an interdistrict site visit to enhance the curriculum and develop environmental learning. This will enable teachers to more thoroughly work toward the new STEELS science standards. The teachers continue to be trained in environmental education and project based learning. They have been provided resources and time to enhance instruction and develop collaborative, engaging learning that is relevant to the world we live in.

Ongoing collaboration with community resources such as the Audubon Society, DCNR, Jennings Environmental Center, Boy Scouts of America, Butler County Conservation District, Pennsylvania Game Commission, Penn State Agricultural Extension, and 4-H provide learning experiences and opportunities that are specialized to the outdoor setting at Connoquenessing Elementary. In addition, our teachers will continue to develop lessons that are project-based and engage and immerse students in thinking and problem solving collaboratively.

SCHOOL THEMES

Our elementary schools will continue to develop their school themes this year. [Visit our website to learn more.](#)



EMILY BRITTAIN *Elementary School*

A Look Back...

2023-2024 Highlights

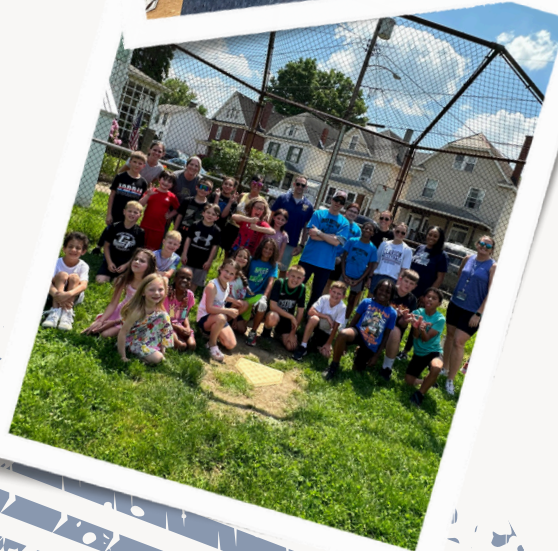
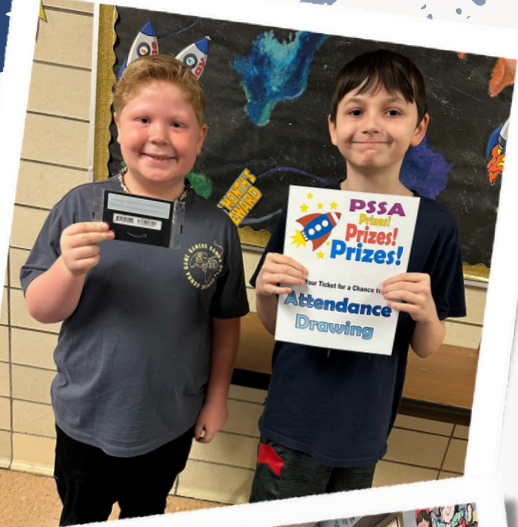
Emily Brittain Elementary School is a Community Partnership and Demonstration School whose mission is to develop a network of community partners to assist families with meeting the needs of every child to ensure they become successful learners. We have focused on partnering with various community agencies and organizations to provide our students and community with ongoing opportunities to enhance learning experiences. This past school year, we partnered with the Butler Cultural District and Tom Panei, our Artist in Residency, to create the first community bench as part of the Inspiration Trail. All Emily Brittain students contributed to the design.

A Look Ahead...

This school year, we will focus on the creation of school clubs and activities that continue to provide students with opportunities and experiences based on individual interests. We have partnered with CMU and Project Baseplate to start a Lego Brick Club. We have also expanded our raised bed gardens to include vegetables and flowers to be part of a weekly student run farmer's market available to our school community. We are proud of our success and will continue to be ambassadors to our community.

SCHOOL THEMES

Our elementary schools will continue to develop their school themes this year. [Visit our website to learn more.](#)



MCQUISTION *Elementary School*

A Look Back...

2023-2024 Highlights

At McQuiston Elementary School, all students engage in creative exploration through STEAM, integrating science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics in an immersive environment. We offer hands-on learning opportunities that foster creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking, allowing students to explore their talents through experimentation. By involving students, families, and the wider community, we create authentic learning experiences that inspire enthusiasm and ignite curiosity about future career paths. Highlights include our Science Fair, where students and families explore and present self-selected scientific concepts, and Remake Learning Night, a global festival celebrating the wonder of learning. Additionally, our first and second grade students participated in a discoveryED! program where they "swapped schools" and collaborate on STEAM projects, such as building catapults.

A Look Ahead...

We are excited for the upcoming school year at McQuiston, packed with engaging and innovative STEAM activities. We're looking forward to a bigger and better Science Fair, where students will have the opportunity to dive deeper into their scientific interests and present their findings to the community. Our new STEAM-based recess fun will integrate creative and hands-on learning during playtime, encouraging students to explore and innovate even outside the classroom. Additionally, we are planning visits to STEAM-based businesses, providing students with real-world insights and inspiring potential career paths. With these exciting initiatives, we are moving full STEAM ahead into a year of exploration, discovery, and growth!

SCHOOL THEMES

Our elementary schools will continue to develop their school themes this year. [Visit our website to learn more.](#)



NORTHWEST *Elementary School*

A Look Back...

2023-2024 Highlights

Last school year, Northwest Elementary implemented the school's focus, Wonders of Work. All students had the opportunity to learn about their own interests and values while being exposed to numerous careers. Each grade level was able to take a site visit to a career they learned about during school.

The SOAR program (Safety, Ownership, Acceptance, Respect) was recognized by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania being implemented with Fidelity. SOAR is simply our rules and expectations for student behavior. Students learn about expectations through engaging lessons and fun assemblies.

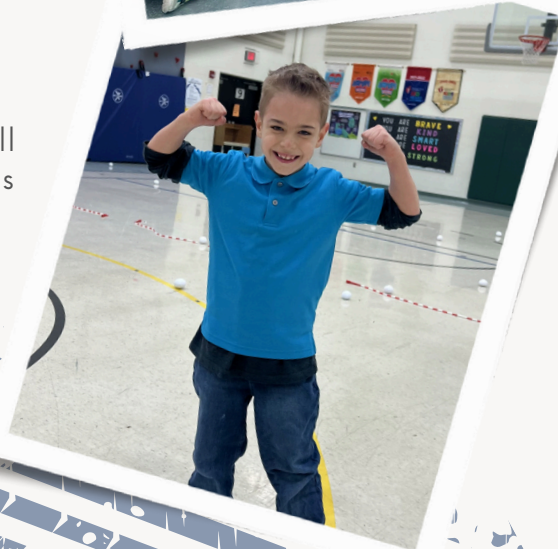
During the 23-24 school year, Northwest also started a chapter of Best Buddies. Best Buddies is an organization that helps students with disabilities make and sustain friendships. In addition, Northwest houses the district's Multi-Disability Support Classroom.

A Look Ahead...

This school year, students at Northwest will spend more time understanding what careers best match with their interests by utilizing the RIASEC personality assessment. The SOAR program will continue to expand by creating individualized behavioral supports for students who need them. The Best Buddies organization will create several events during and after school to help foster friendships.

SCHOOL THEMES

Our elementary schools will continue to develop their school themes this year. [Visit our website to learn more.](#)



SUMMIT Elementary School

A Look Back...

2023-2024 Highlights

Summit Elementary (CAPS) opened up our greenhouse this past spring. Students and staff were able to start plantings that eventually went into the raised beds and tilled crop area. This allowed us to start harvesting some items in June.

Summit is recognized not only as a Tier 1, but now also a Tier 2 school for Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS). This new level focuses on those students that need just a little bit more support to be successful. Along with this new recognition our students earned an astounding 1,102 SOAR badges this past school year for their SOARING behavior.

A Look Ahead...

During the 2024- 2025 school year, we are excited to start using our FarmBots in the greenhouse. Students will be able to program the robots to plant, water and weed the approximate 10x20 raised beds. This technology will not only allow our students to continue to learn more about agriculture, but also gain programming skills as well as problem solving strategies. Not only students at Summit will be able to benefit from the FarmBots, but students at each elementary school will have a small section of one of the beds to practice their programming skills as well as hone their agriculture knowledge. Using the embedded camera, they will be able to remotely see the progress of their small garden!

SCHOOL THEMES

Our elementary schools will continue to develop their school themes this year. [Visit our website to learn more.](#)



INTERMEDIATE *High School*

A Look Back...

2023-2024 Highlights

The IHS Best Buddies Chapter has grown to 150 members from grades 6-8, and Butler Intermediate High School has joined the Special Olympics PA Interscholastic Unified Sports Bocce program. The Starfish Leadership Program continues with 50 eighth grade students trained to lead incoming 6th graders in team-building activities, with Starfish lessons embedded in Advisory. The PBIS Program, SOAR (Safety, Ownership, Attitude, and Respect), continues with advisory lessons, quarterly assemblies, and activities. Additionally, the school offers around 30 clubs, which sometimes vary year to year based on student interest.

A Look Ahead...

We are thrilled to continue expanding the positive impact of our small learning communities, building on the progress we've made over the past two years. At the IHS, these communities are organized by grade level teams, fostering collaboration and personalized learning. Our 6th grade teams include five dedicated groups, while both 7th and 8th grades are supported by three teams each. These small learning communities are instrumental in creating a nurturing environment where every student can thrive. In addition, we are continuing to grow programs for our students such as our Starfish Leaders program, Best Buddies club and our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) initiative. We are also excited to incorporate some of the work our elementary students are doing related to their unique school themes at the IHS. We look forward to further enhancing the success and growth of our students through these focused efforts.



SENIOR *High School*

A Look Back...

2023-2024 Highlights

This year, we successfully continued to implement our Portrait of the Graduate, equipping students with essential skills such as critical thinking, creativity, teamwork, communication, and adaptability. A significant highlight was the student leadership retreat, funded by the Grable Foundation, where 100 juniors at the Senior High School brainstormed their "dream school" and developed ten initiatives that will shape our future. Our student leaders, alongside their peers, will be instrumental in bringing these initiatives to life. Additionally, our students excelled across the board, earning numerous awards in the arts, athletics, academics, and volunteerism. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved.

A Look Ahead...

As we look ahead to the upcoming year, we are eager to continue our work with the Portrait of the Graduate, including introducing new and exciting opportunities such as PLEx. PLEx offers a customized approach to learning, allowing students to choose from various learning modalities that best meet their academic needs. Through PLEx, students will further develop the skills outlined in our Portrait of the Graduate, including preparedness, responsibility, resilience, and engagement. Additionally, we plan to expand clubs and opportunities that promote inclusion, such as Best Buddies and Unified Sports, to ensure the Senior High School remains a positive learning environment where all students can thrive.



CENTER AVENUE

Community School

A Look Back...

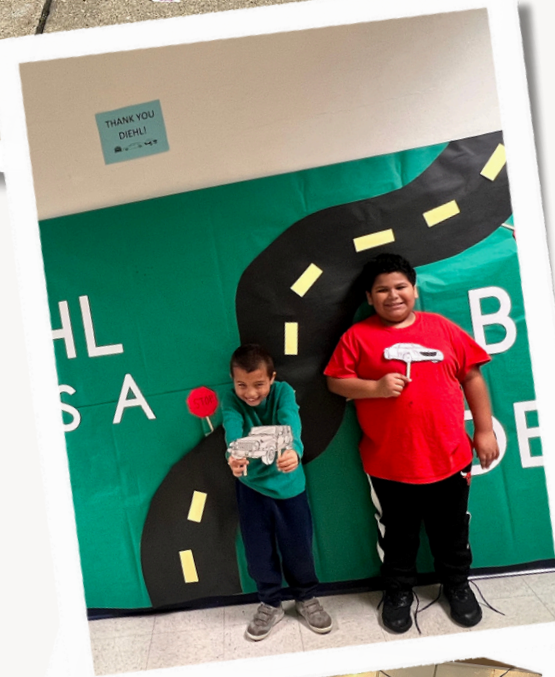
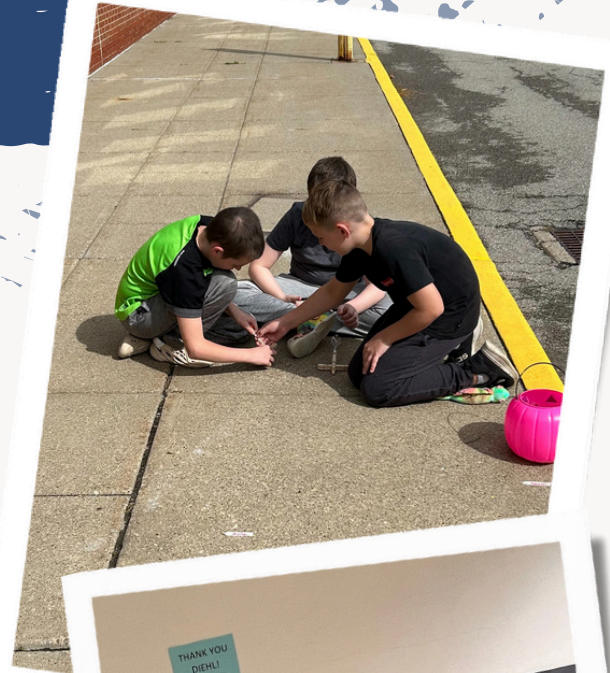
2023-2024 Highlights

The 3Bs, best known as Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe are the expectations of the Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) program at Center Avenue. In the spring of 2024, Center Avenue's 3B initiative was evaluated for fidelity by educational consultants from the Midwestern Unit IV and earned a perfect score for all three tiers.

As a result of the hard work our staff and students have put into PBIS, Center Avenue Community School will be recognized by the Pennsylvania Department of Education for these scores at the 2024 Innovate and Integrate: MTSS & PBIS Advanced Implementation Forum in Hershey. Additionally, teachers Katlyn Earl and Michelle Hohn, along with principal, Keenan McGaughey were selected as presenters. Their presentation topic is titled "Advanced Tier Implementation: A Framework for Alternative and Special Education Programs."

A Look Ahead...

Center Avenue and Justice Works Youth Care have teamed up to offer proactive support coordination for students and families who are identified as high-risk. This partnership will develop early outreach dedicated to secondary Center Avenue students. The focus will be to improve attendance, grades, and behavioral interventions for identified students. These cross-over supports include academic support, parent engagement, truancy elimination, intrapersonal skills, and job shadowing/employability. This will help Center Avenue students develop short and long-term goals in the areas of education, post-secondary employment, family engagement, and generalization of skills.



Wishing everyone
a wonderful
school year!

