

December

BTA

THE BULLDOG BEAT



Doris Dapaah | Principal
Raisa Turner | Assistant Principal



DECEMBER 2024

Santa came to town at BTA!



Santa sprinkled our school with holiday magic as students and families lined up for the ultimate photo op with the jolly old guy! Thank you to the PTA and our BTA family for your participation, support, and sponsorship of this event! We look forward to more collaboration.





Congrats to the 6th and 7th grade students for meeting the MVCSD Attendance Goal of at least 90% for the month of December!



December				
Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade
78.77%	89.70%	86.55%	84.98%	81.88%

December			
5th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
84.05%	90.30%	93.45%	83.47%

Important Upcoming Dates: 2025

HAPPY NEW YEAR

- **January 1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!**
- **January 6** - Return to school for the New Year
- **January 7** - National Junior Honor Society Induction
- **January 13** - Picture Day (Grades K-7)
- **January 16** - Parent Engagement Workshop: Mental Health & Wellness with MVPD @ 5 pm
- **January 20** - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day (NO SCHOOL)
- **February 10** - Parent Involvement Day District-wide

A BIG, BUBBLY THANK YOU! 🎉

- A big thank you to Security Officer Fowler for spreading holiday joy among our scholars and staff.
- Our gratitude goes to Mrs. Kirkland-Hudson and Ms. Farquharson for spearheading the donation drive. We also appreciate everyone who contributed to support the family affected by the fire. Together as a school community, we raised \$750, along with generous donations of new clothing, coats, and toys for the family.
- Thank you to the BTA Staff for their thoughtful contributions to our custodial staff's Christmas Card. Your generosity was truly valued, and their smiles spoke volumes.

BTA spread the holiday cheer by showering students with a mountain of fabulous gifts! 🎁✨

A heartfelt thank you to our School Social Workers, Ms. Kirkland-Hudson and Ms. Farqharon, for organizing BTA's Annual Toy and Coat Drive, providing essential support for our scholars and their families!



Marking Period 1 Awards Ceremony!

On December 10, BTA held its inaugural Awards Ceremony to honor K-6 students for their achievements in Marking Period 1, while also recognizing our 7th and 8th graders who made the Honor Roll. The gym was filled with our biggest supporters—our families. The atmosphere buzzed with excitement as parents, siblings, and friends gathered to celebrate the hard work and dedication of the students. The ceremony not only celebrated academic excellence but also fostered a strong sense of community and encouragement, inspiring all students to strive for their best in the upcoming terms.







Kindergarten Literacy Activity with Principal Dapaah



At BTA, literacy is the real VIP! Principal Dapaah swung by to hang with the Kindergarten students and dove into the delightful tale, “Tough Cookie”. After the story, she whipped out some comprehension questions, colored gingerbread figures, and of course, indulged in some cookie munching! What a sweet way to learn!



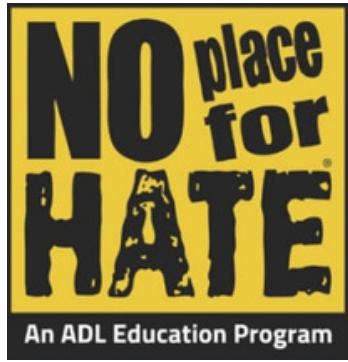


3rd-grade Literacy Activity with Principal Dapaah

Principal Dapaah had a pow-wow with our 3rd-grade testing champs, diving into the world of former President Barack Obama! They chatted about what makes a great leader, tackled obstacles like pros, and brainstormed their first 3-4 presidential to-do items! Who knows, we might have some future commanders-in-chief in the making!

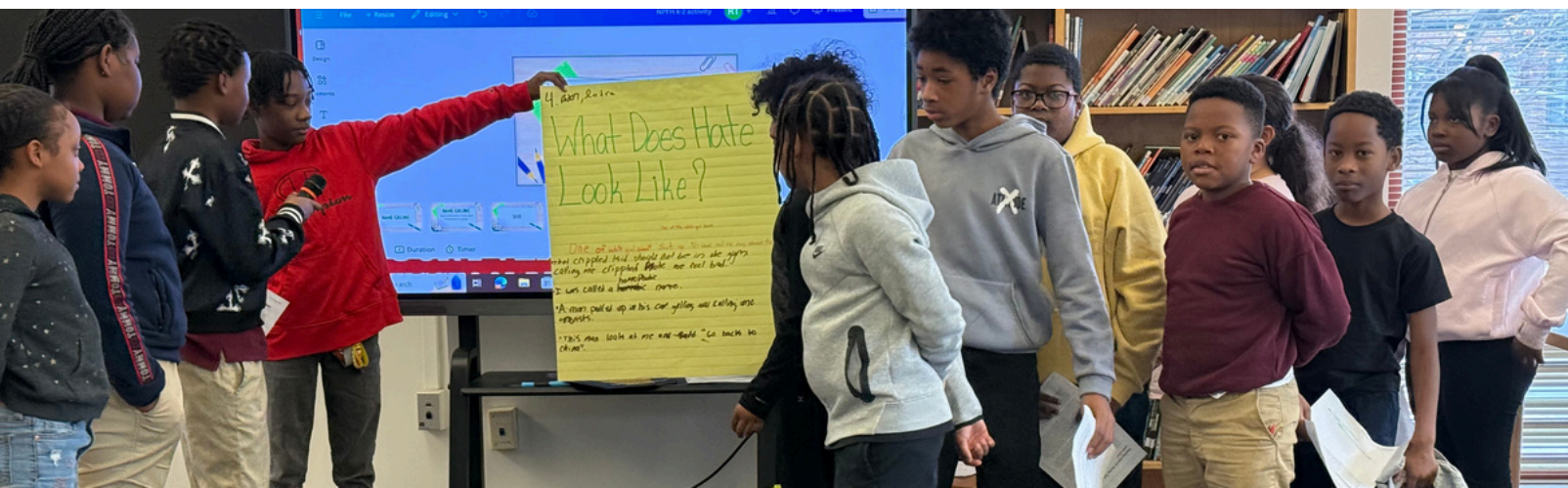
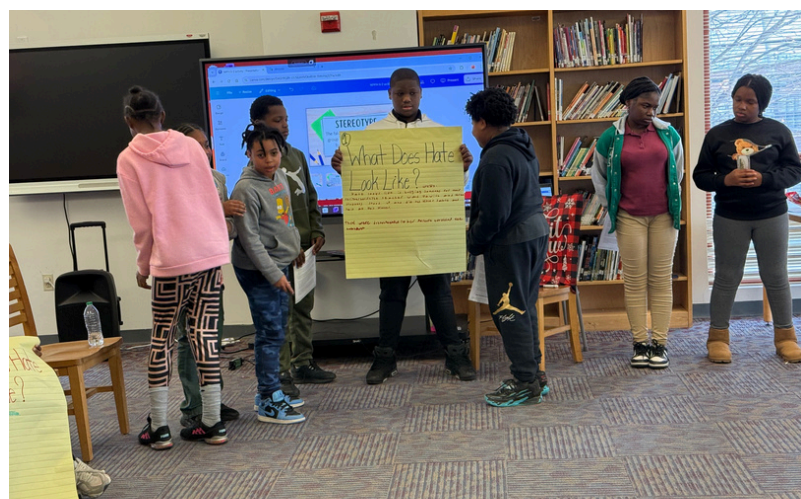
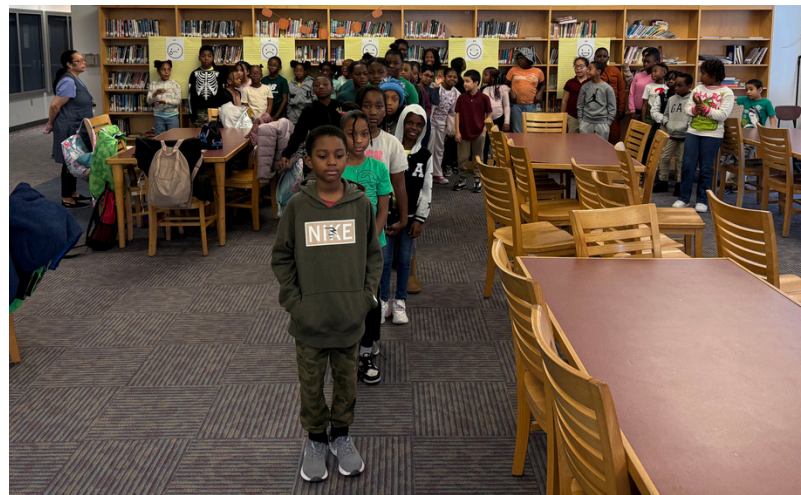
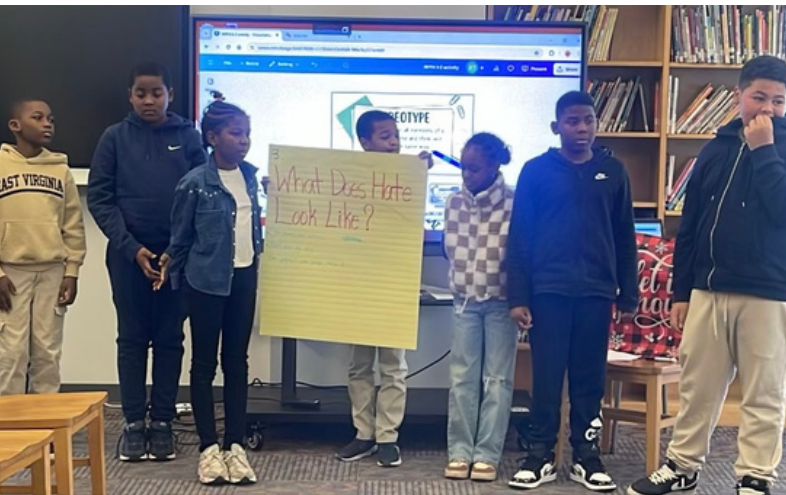


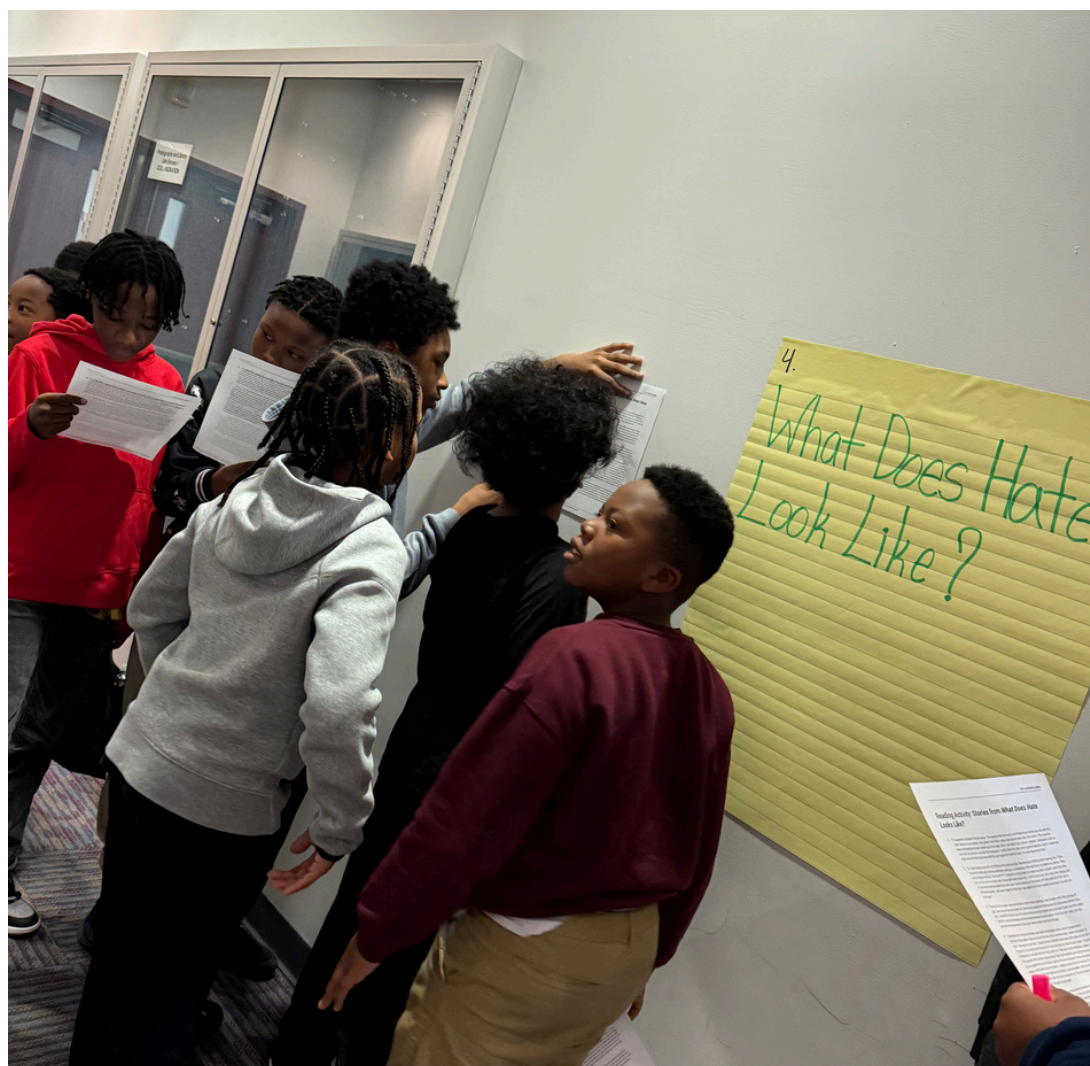
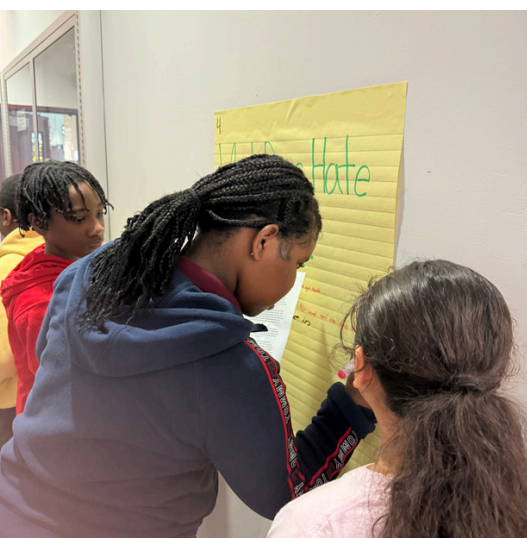
No Place For Hate Activity #1



On Wednesday, December 4, and Monday, December 9, 2024, the brainy bunch at Benjamin Turner Academy gathered around with Assistant Principal Ms. Turner to sign the No Place for Hate pledge!

After soaking up some serious wisdom during a powerful assembly about the magic (and mayhem) of words—especially online—they were all fired up! The mission? To arm students with the courage to battle hate and sprinkle kindness, tolerance, and respect like confetti!





BENJAMIN TURNER ACADEMY
 I promise to take a stand
 against bullying.

NAME Shantale Hughes (Ms purple)

DATE 12/13/24

NO place for HATE
 Anti-Discrimination Language

BENJAMIN TURNER ACADEMY
 I promise to take a stand
 against bullying.

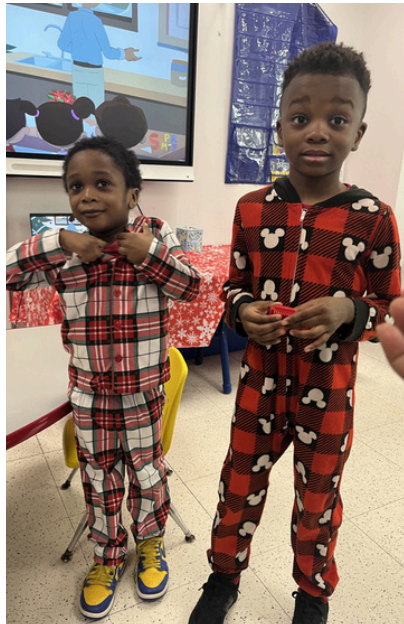
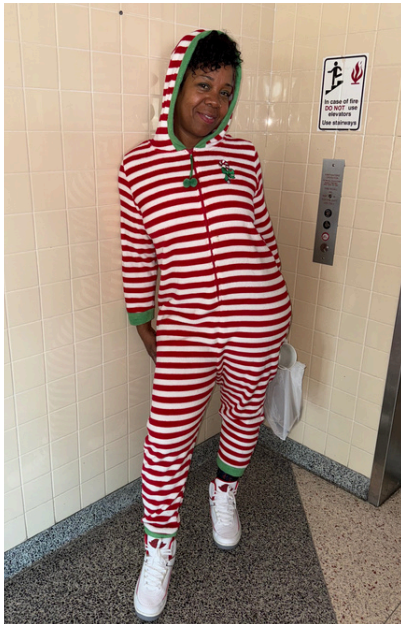
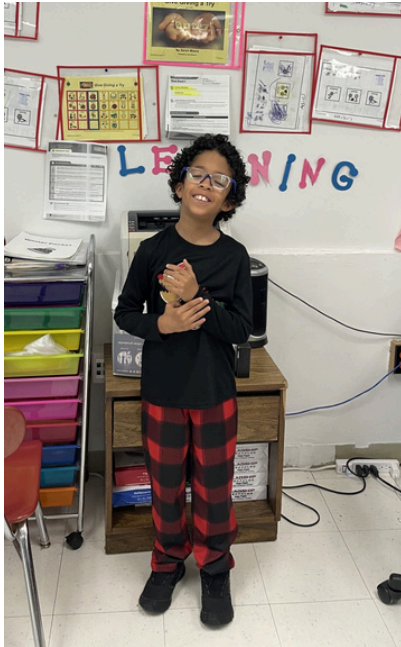
NAME Velma Hester

DATE 12/13/24

NO place for HATE
 Anti-Discrimination Language

Winter Holiday Spirit Week at BTA!

“Pajama Day!”



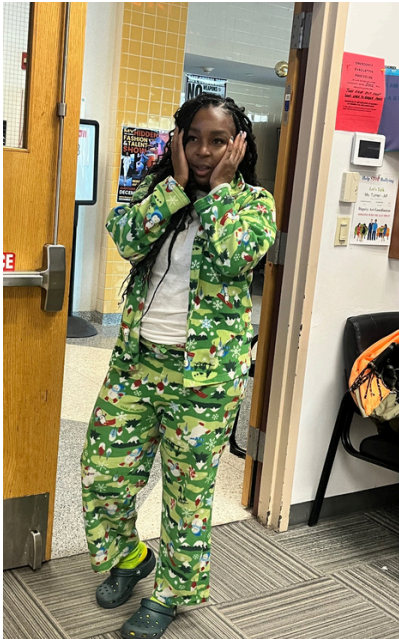
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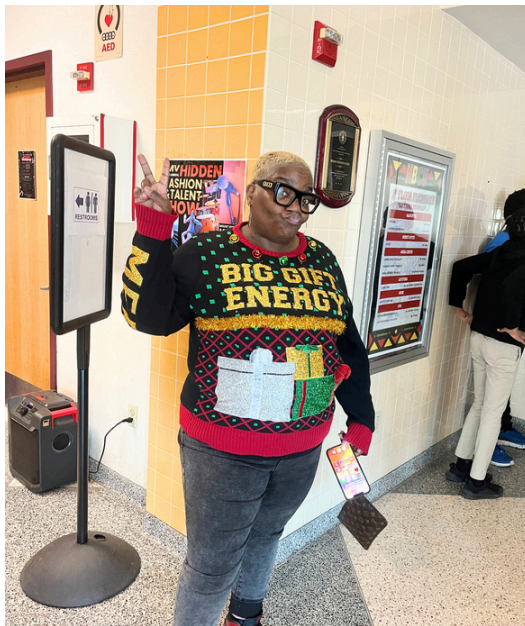
Winter Holiday Spirit Week at BTA!

“Ugly Sweater”



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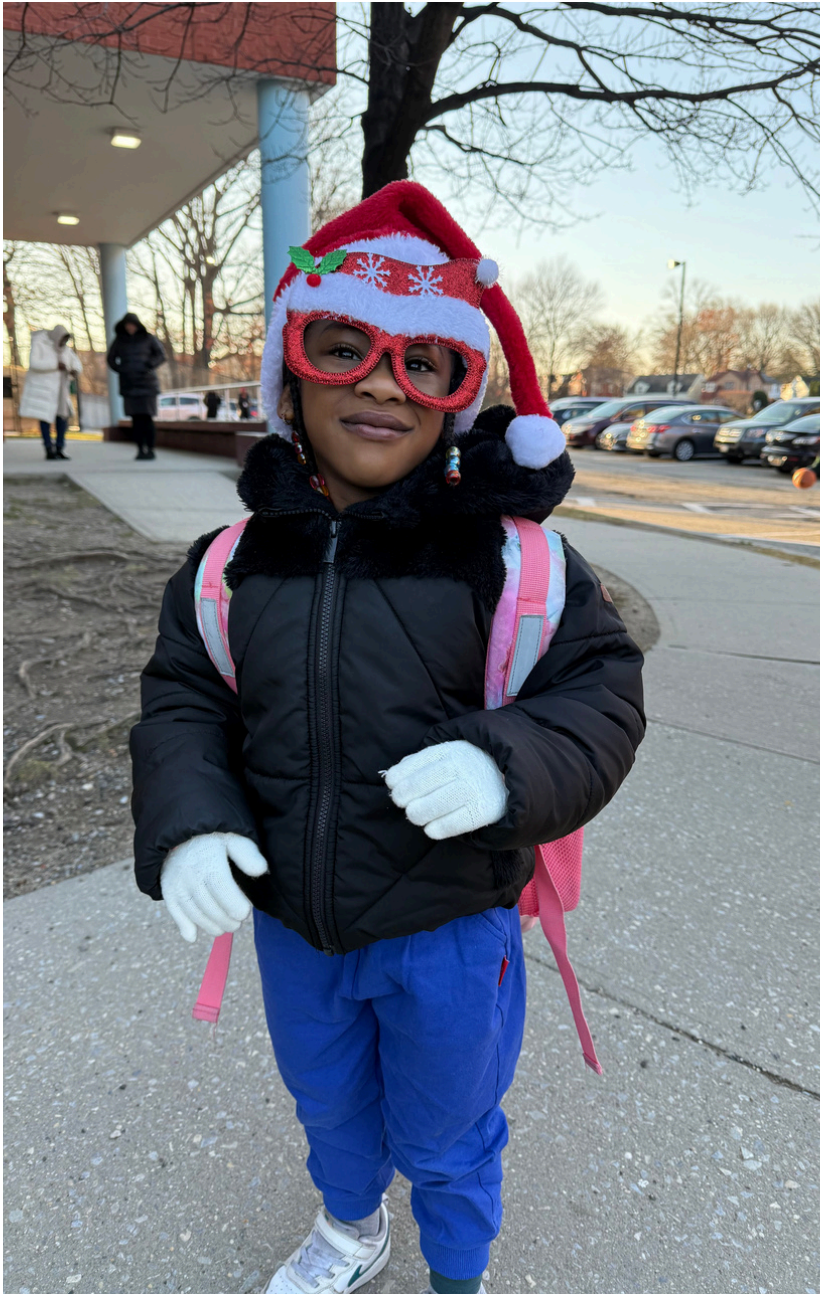
Winter Holiday Spirit Week at BTA!

"Grinch Day"



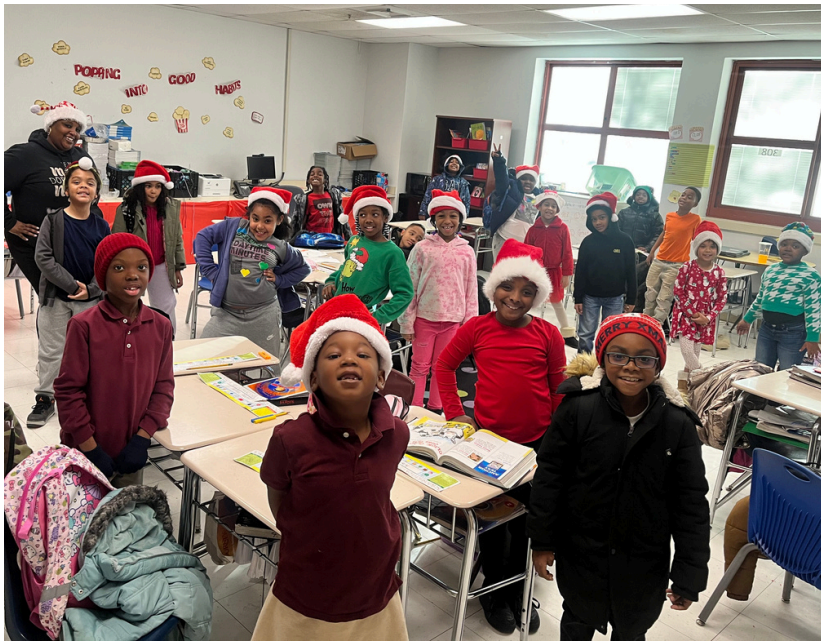
Winter Holiday Spirit Week at BTA!

“Holiday Hat Day”



Winter Holiday Spirit Week at BTA!

“Holiday Hat Day”



“Grinch in your Pocket Staff Game”

The BTA Staff kicked off some holiday shenanigans with a game of “Grinch in your Pocket!” Six sneaky Grinch cards were secretly handed out, and the staff had to play detective, roaming around to see who had a Grinch hiding in their pocket! By day’s end, six lucky Grinch-holders emerged victorious! Don’t miss the spotlight on our winners and the real-life Grinch who just couldn’t snag the title!

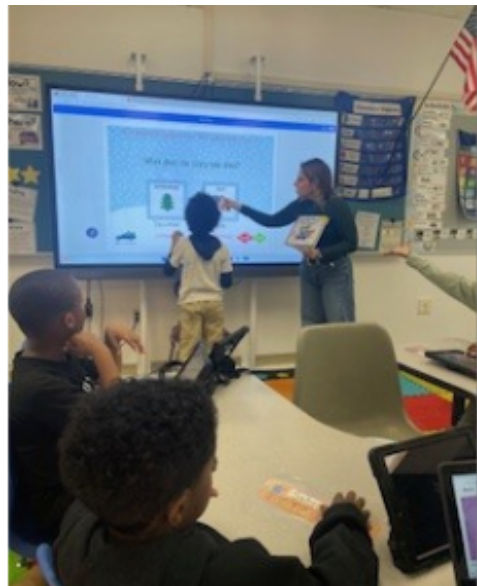


*GRINCH
vibes*



Christmas Tree Activity in Speech Class

Feast your eyes on these jolly snapshots of Ms. Sturm’s Speech students diving into a Christmas book bonanza and crafting adorable Christmas trees from ice cream cones and a mountain of green frosting! Sweet holiday magic in the making!



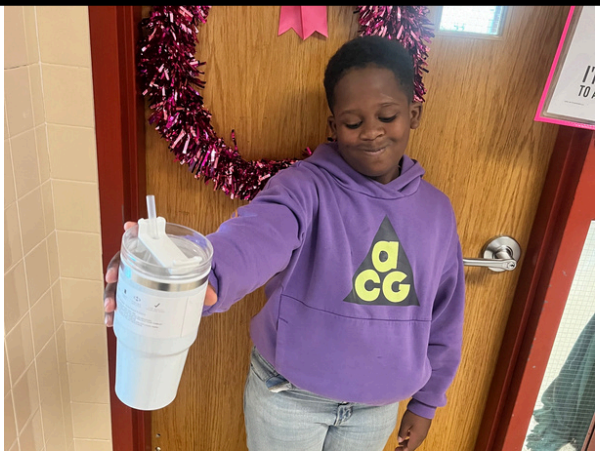
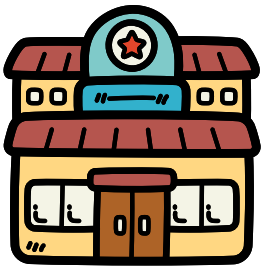
BTA Christmas Carolers



On the final countdown to holiday break, a merry band of 5th to 8th graders spread festive cheer by belting out Christmas carols on every floor, turning the school into a winter wonderland of song! Leading the jingle parade were our fabulous PTA President, Ms. Marissa Wiley, and the ever-joyful Music Substitute, Ms. Normearleasa Thomas.



PBIS Shoppers!





Holiday PARTY



Thank you to the Sunshine Committee at BTA, consisting of Ms. Blagmon, Ms. Marsh, Ms. Scott, Ms. Harris, Ms. Brown, and Ms. Terri, who organized a wonderful Holiday Party for the staff at Eastwood Manor. We enjoyed a fantastic turnout of over 80%. The camaraderie we experienced truly felt like a family gathering. Additionally, two staff members, Ms. Kat and Mr. Brooks, were honored as the Holiday Queen and King for their exceptional contributions thus far!





