



Superintendent's Update

December 14, 2023

PUBLIC SCHOOLS of
BROOKLINE

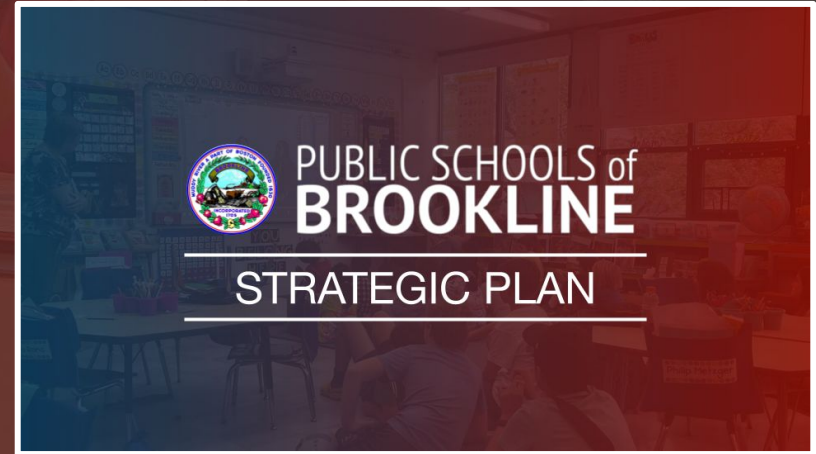


Agenda

- Community Highlights
- Superintendent's School Visits
- Important Dates
- Spotlight on Excellence

Extension of Strategic Plan Survey

Thank you to the individuals/families/staff that have responded thus far. In an effort to ensure ample opportunity for all voices in the Brookline community to be heard, we have extended the feedback period of the Strategic Plan draft survey until 4pm on Friday, January 5, 2024.



Chronic Absenteeism

"We acknowledge that there are often valid reasons for students to be absent, but, to a troubling extent, students are missing more school now than they did previously. Before the pandemic, 13 (statewide data) percent of students were chronically absent, meaning they had missed 10 percent or more of the school year. Last year, 22 percent (statewide data) of students – close to 1 in 4 statewide – were chronically absent."

Commissioner Riley



MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Elementary
and Secondary Education

Congratulations to Heath/Hayes Chorus Kids



On Sunday, December 3, 39 school students, between grades 5-8, from the Heath/Roland Hayes school performed *Lift Every Voice and Sing* on the ice at the Providence Bruins hockey game. The "PBruins" are the farm team for the Boston Bruins in the NHL.

By singing this song at *Hockey is for Everyone* Night, the students represented the Black National Anthem. Heath/Hayes students are the first ever to do this at any AHL/NHL event in the country.

Heath/Hayes 8th Graders' Project

In October this year, Heath/Hayes school 8th graders went to Hillside Pond in Milton, to collect data related to environmental changes. They used sediment cores and tree cores as sources of proxy data to interpret past environmental change. These are the same techniques that climate scientists use to gain an understanding of how our climate is changing. Using proxy data helps scientists build better climate models, make better predictions for the future, and, hopefully, lead to a society that is more sustainable.

Students prepared presentations in which they explained what they did during this project, i.e. what observations they made, what claims they came up with and why those claims make sense.



BHS Winter Concert



Brookline High School's annual Winter Concert will take place on Friday, December 15 at the Robert/Dubbs Auditorium & Commons. This is a great way to take in the wealth of vocal and instrumental ensembles at BHS. The Winter Concert features performances by Concert Choir, A Cappella Choir, Camerata Choir, Concert Band, Music Collective (Advanced Contemporary Music Ensemble), Concert Orchestra, String Orchestra, and Advanced Chamber Orchestra.

Brookline Adult & Community Education: Winter Camp

Brookline Adult & Community Education (BA&CE) is organizing a winter camp for kids from December 26 to 29. The four-day event will include activities like robot building/competition, acting, singing, dancing, arts & crafts, Minecraft, and more.

WINTER CAMP
26-29 DEC
Lincoln School/ 19 Kennard Rd

AGE
5-12
YEARS

Register today at
brooklineadulted.org

brookline
Adult & Community Education

bacep@psbma.org
617-730-2700

The New Driscoll School's Ribbon-Cutting



Superintendent's School Visits

Recently Completed

Lawrence	Monday, December 4
Pierce	Tuesday, December 5
Runkle	Wednesday, December 6
Lincoln	Friday, December 8
Baker	Thursday, December 14

Upcoming

Heath	Friday, December 15
Ruffin Ridley	Monday, December 18
Driscoll	Monday, December 18
Pierce	Thursday, December 19
BEEP	Thursday, December 21
BHS	Thursday, December 21
Lawrence	Friday, December 22

Important Dates

December 22

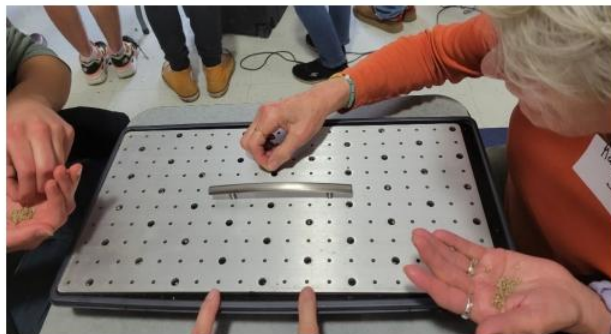
Early Dismissal for Winter Break

**December 25 -
January 1**

Winter Break (schools closed)

January 2

First Day of School after Winter Break



Spotlight on Excellence

PUBLIC SCHOOLS of
BROOKLINE



BHS INDOOR FARM



DECEMBER 2023



PSB Food Services

ABOUT THE INDOOR FARM



- ✓ Collaborative initiative funded by BHS PTO, the National Education Association, and PSB Food Services.
- ✓ Core activity in our work to build a culture of sustainability in our food system at BHS, from seed to soil.





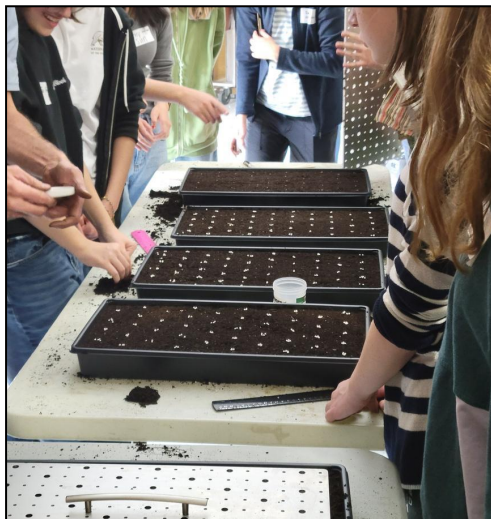
GOALS

- ✓ Grow and produce a weekly harvest of hyper local, nutrient dense, organic leafy greens and herbs to be used in the **school lunch program**.
- ✓ Create new hands-on **service opportunities** as we begin to recognize the impact that climate change is having on our students and the importance of offering opportunities to grow food sustainably.

PLANTING

INAUGURAL EVENT

November 27, 2023



PLANTING

INAUGURAL EVENT

November 27, 2023



... a couple of weeks later



Basil



Lettuce



MicroMix



Spinach



Kale

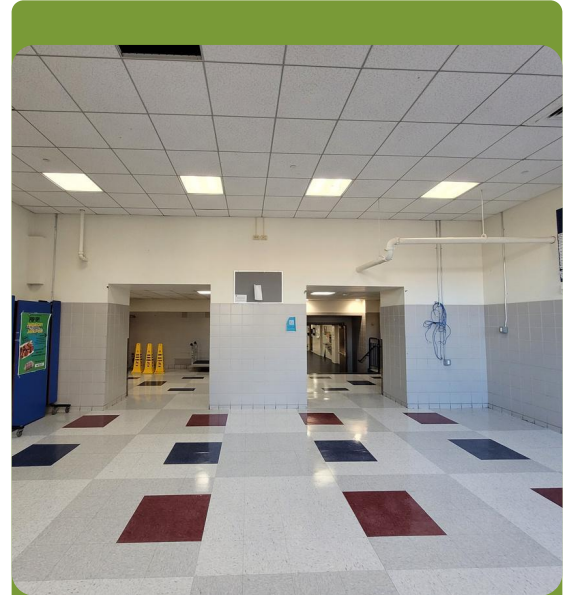
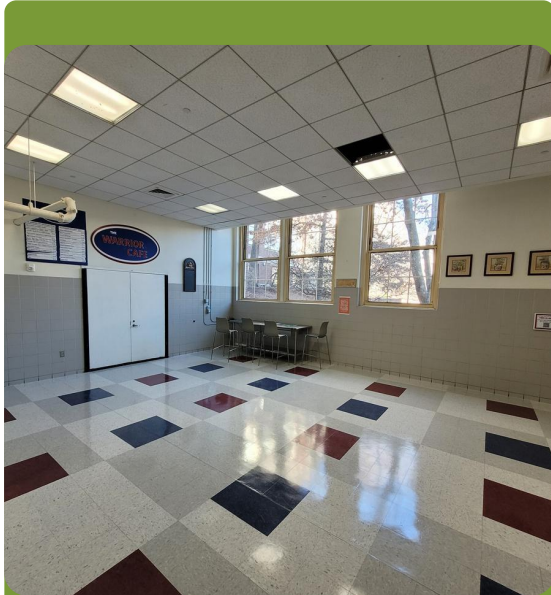


Parsley



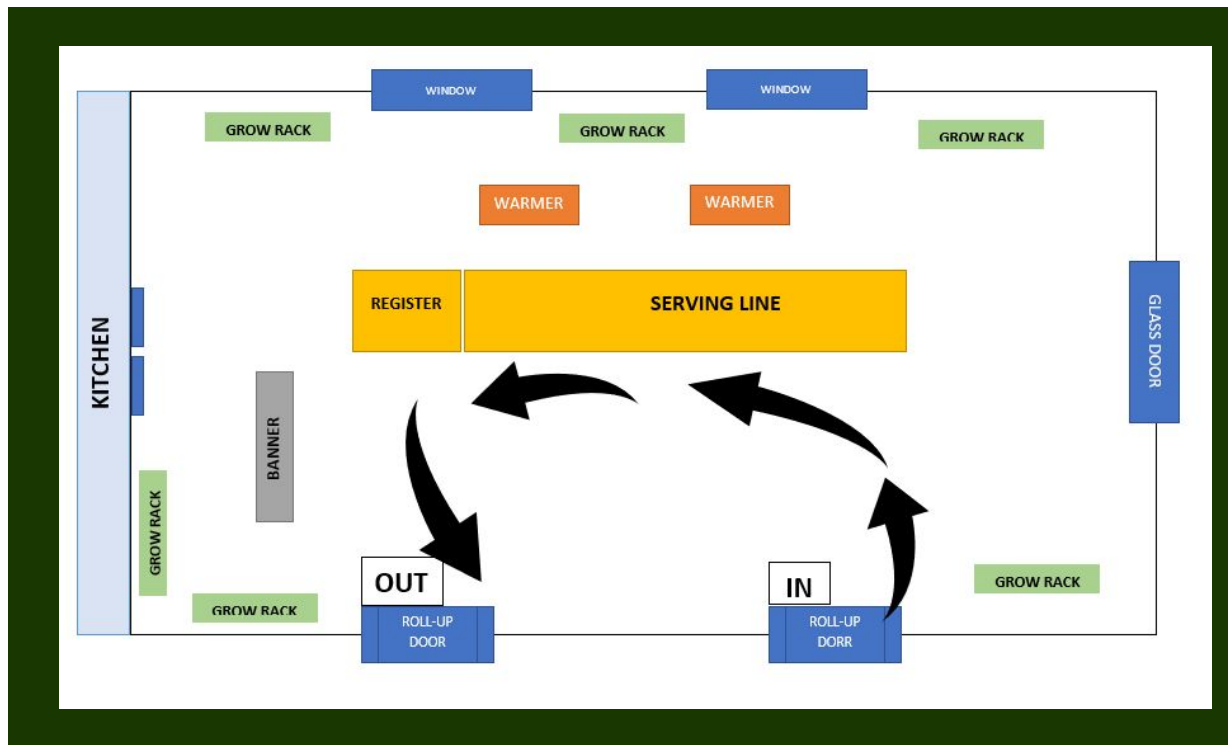
LOCATION

CAFETERIA OVERFLOW - ROOM 108



THE FARM/POP-UP RESTAURANTS

PROPOSED LAYOUT





COLLABORATORS



PSB Food Services

BHS Sustainability Corp

Roger Grande

Students

Brookline Farm to School Team

Community members, Teachers , Food

Service staff



THANK YOU



BHS INDOOR FARM
DECEMBER 2023



PSB Food Services