




PUBLIC SCHOOLS of
BROOKLINE 

Superintendent's Update

May 16, 2024



Updates – Office of Student Services

- **Family Culture and Climate Survey** to better understand parent and guardian perceptions of the schools their children attend. We are encouraging all parents, guardians and caregivers to take the survey.
- **Spring universal social and emotional screening** for students in grades 3 to 12. The results of this survey, and the fall and winter surveys, will be shared during the June 6th school committee meeting.
- As a reminder, the Public Schools of Brookline has partnered with **Care Solace** to support the well-being of students, staff, and their family members. Care Solace is a confidential care coordination service that can help you quickly find mental health or substance use treatment options matched to your needs regardless of circumstance. You can access Care Solace by visiting caresolace.com/site/brookline.

care/solace

We're on a mission to make accessing
mental health care easier than ever before.

Updates – Office of Student Services

Parents and guardians may be aware that the Public Schools of Brookline has participated in a robust transportation bidding process.

At this time, PSB extends a warm welcome to RSC Transportation, a company dedicated to providing specialized student transportation solutions. RSC puts an emphasis on training and recertifying drivers on a continuous basis, expertly maintaining vehicles, and providing a sophisticated technology platform that will provide for the highest levels of responsiveness.

The Office of Student Services will be working closely with RSC to address the specific needs of our students, attending both in district and out of district schools.



Updates – Office of Student Services

The PSB welcomes new leadership for our Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) Co-Chairs **Emily Jaffe** and **Margo Jones**.

Emily is a lawyer turned stay at home parent, and has one son at FRR. She feels passionately about advocating for SEPAC families and building connections within the community. Her own journey through the IEP process has inspired Emily to get involved and share her knowledge with others.

Margo has been the SEPAC Secretary for this past year, and looks forward to continuing and growing the work of SEPAC as a critical partner with district leadership and the School Committee. She has three children who are current and future Lawrence students.



Updates – Office of Teaching & Learning

Literacy

We have been active in literacy. Our district leadership team is wrapping up our engagement with the **HILL for Literacy** this month.

We are focusing on Multi-Tiered Systems of Support in Literacy and completing our literacy action plan to guide our literacy work for the 24-25 school year.

Parallel to this, our team of literacy specialists is narrowing down curriculum choices to bring forward for review and selection by an inclusive group of stakeholders.



Updates – Office of Teaching & Learning



Civics Field Test

This year, all 8th-grade students participated in the Civics Field Test. As per the DESE Website, “The MCAS Grade 8 Civics assessment allows students to use their civics content knowledge and skills to explain and describe civics concepts, support claims with evidence, and analyze sources and graphics.”

Students had to complete a performance task related to one of the seven topics in the 8th-grade civics frameworks. The state assigned those topics, which were different for each Brookline school.

Lincoln, Runkle	The philosophical foundations of the United States political system
Driscoll, Pierce	The development of the United States government
Lawrence	The institutions of United States government
Baker	Rights and responsibilities of citizens
FRR, Hayes	The Constitution, Amendments, and Supreme Court decisions



Updates – Office of Teaching & Learning



Assessment

Next year, we will add the STAR Assessments in literacy and math to our portfolio of assessments for students in grades 4-6. These are computer-adaptive assessments designed to identify early any students at risk of missing academic standards.

These data can then be used to inform instructional decisions that will improve student performance and reduce gaps in achievement.

Staff Appreciation

May 6 to 10 was National Teacher Appreciation Week and National Nurses Week. Throughout the week, our schools engaged in different ways to express gratitude to their teachers and nurses.

We would like to thank all the school PTOs for taking various initiatives to make the week special for our staff.



Photographs from William H Lincoln PTO on Instagram.

‘The Cattle Car Exhibit’ at BHS

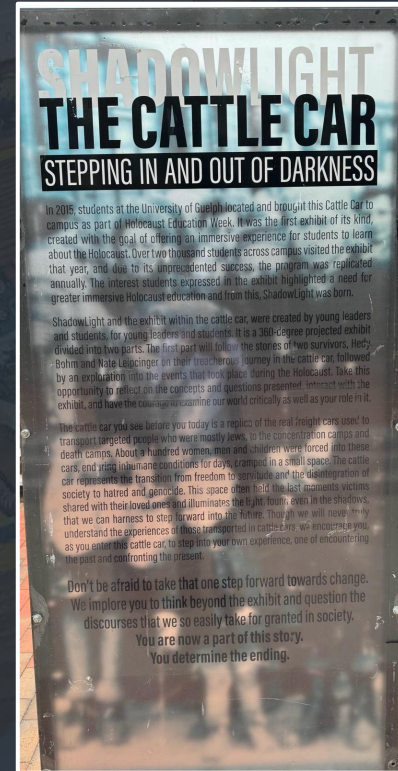
Brookline High School is hosting ***Hate Ends Now: The Cattle Car Exhibit*** for the second year in a row. This exhibit is designed to help participants understand the consequences of racial and religious hatred, as was experienced by millions of Jewish people and other minority groups during World War II. BHS' goal is to curate an educational experience that will make the history of the Holocaust real and meaningful for students.

The exhibit is intended for the 500+ BHS students in Modern World History and Global Studies classes, who are touring the exhibit as a part of their Holocaust education.

While the focus of the exhibit is for our students, there was a small window for community members to visit the exhibit. 30-minute docent-guided tours were available to the community on Wednesday, May 15.



'The Cattle Car Exhibit' at BHS



BHS Progressions 2024



Brookline High School held its annual end-of-year dance showcase, Progressions, from May 1 to 4.

The showcase featured work by faculty, students, and student-led dance groups. The dancers lit up the stage, and had the audience clapping from start to finish in each of the four shows.

Hayes Renaming Ceremony

The recently renamed Roland Hayes school will celebrate its new moniker with a community party on **Monday, June 3**, which is the late tenor's birthday and observed as Roland Hayes Day in Brookline.

The ceremony, which will take place on school grounds from 1-2pm, will be attended by members of Mr. Hayes' family and include performances of his music, sung by students in grades 3 to 5, as well as musical performer **Jackson Caesar**. Students in the K-8 school will end the renaming by singing "Happy Birthday" to the school's new namesake.

Save the Date



ROLAND HAYES SCHOOL
RENAMING CEREMONY

100 ELIOT STREET,
CHESTNUT HILL 02467

JUNE 3RD, 2024
1-2:30PM

Upcoming Performing Arts Shows at BHS

The Performing Arts department at BHS is looking to end the school year on a high, with a string of exciting shows.

Spring Music Festival

The final concert of this academic year includes thrilling performances by all BHS orchestras, bands and choruses with student concerto soloists.



Upcoming Performing Arts Shows at BHS

RISK IT ALL IN THE IMPROV BATTLE

Robert/Dubbs
Auditorium
Fri. May 17 @
7:00 p.m.
Student: \$5
Adult: \$10
PSB Staff and 8th
graders FREE



Needs 'Improv'ment: Old School vs. New School Battle

The Battle is the final improv show of the year, where alums come back to compete against the current class for Improv supremacy!

Student Directed Theater Festival

The Student Directed Festival is the PA Department's 'Jewel in the Crown', with almost 100 student performers, directors and tech crew, representing all four grades! There are 9 plays total, running 20 minutes each.

	THE BHS DRAMA SOCIETY PRESENTS
	STUDENT DIRECTED FESTIVAL
	May 18th 115 Greenough Auditorium
	9:45 am - 5:00pm
	Half day tickets
	Students: \$5 Adults: \$10 PSB Staff and 8th graders: free
	Full day tickets
	Students: \$7 Adults: \$15 PSB Staff and 8th graders: free

End-of-Year Carnivals

Hayes Mayfair 2024

The Roland Hayes School's annual family carnival was held on Saturday, May 11. The event featured bounce houses, slides, obstacle courses, carnival games, a cake walk, face painting, hair coloring, and more.



Family Fun International Night at Lawrence

The Lawrence School PTO is holding a Family Fun International Night on Thursday, May 16. The event will feature various nation tables, games, activities and food.



End-of-Year Carnivals



Driscoll Spring Fair

The Driscoll School's Spring Fair will be held at Winthrop Rose Garden on Sunday, May 26. There will be rides, games, food trucks and much more to enjoy.

Ridley Carnival

The Ruffin Ridley School Spring Carnival will be held on Friday, June 7, and will feature water slides, carnival rides, DJ, games and more.



Superintendent's School Visits

Recently Completed	
Lincoln	Friday, May 3
Runkle	Friday, May 3
Lawrence	Tuesday, May 7
Hayes	Thursday, May 9
BHS	Friday, May 10

Upcoming	
Lincoln	Monday, May 20
Pierce	Tuesday, May 21
BEEP	Friday, May 24
Driscoll	Friday, May 24
Lawrence	Thursday, May 30

Spotlight on Excellence – 2024 Caverly Awards



Congratulations to Driscoll School art teacher **Olivia Reyelt** and BHS English/SWS teacher **Keira Flynn-Carson**, for receiving the Brookline Education Foundation's 2024 Caverly Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Since 1984, the Ernest R. Caverly Award has been presented to Brookline educators in recognition of professional achievements and contributions to the Public Schools of Brookline. Two awards are given annually – one to a high school educator and one to an elementary school educator. The educators receiving the awards are designated as Ernest R. Caverly Associates in recognition of their dedication to the ideals of Dr. Ernest R. Caverly, a distinguished public school leader, educator, and Brookline Schools Superintendent (1931-1964).