



THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF BROOKLINE
BROOKLINE, MASSACHUSETTS 02445

LINUS J. GUILLORY JR., PhD
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

SUSAN K. GIVENS, Ed.D.
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Request for Grant Acceptance

July 17, 2024

Motion: School Committee Accepts the grant award as determined by the awarding authority for the grant listed below:

Source	Grant/Point Person/Purpose	Award	Account#/Name
Local	<p>FY25 Innovation Fund</p> <p>Point Person: Anthony Meyer/Gabe McCormick</p> <p>The BHS Innovation Fund supports innovative curriculum development at Brookline High School. By funding faculty-led initiatives to create courses, lead programs, and conduct research, we provide leadership opportunities for teachers, and we energize students with new ways to learn. To support the Innovation Fund and learn how to be part of what we do, please visit www.bhsinnovationfund.org.</p> <p>Please see the attached FY25 Award Letter</p>	\$313,754.00	3225SE94/FY25 Innovation Fund



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June 30, 2024

Dr. Linus Guillory, BPS Superintendent
333 Washington Street, 5th Floor
Brookline, MA 02445

Dear Linus,

On behalf of the leadership of the Brookline High School Innovation Fund, I am delighted to present our FY25 program awards. They are as follows:

Innovation Fellow – Public Memory	<i>To create curriculum that engages students in observing how the past is marked and memorialized in public spaces, fostering critical thinking and a deeper historical understanding</i> Mark Wheeler (.2 FTE)
Heritage Spanish-Speaker Pathway	<i>To create a 2-year sequence of courses to foster skill and pride in the Spanish language, heritage, and Hispanic/Latinx identity</i> Eric Colburn (.25 FTE)
Queer Student Program	<i>To create a comprehensive, sustainable model focused on supporting LGBTQ+ well-being, inclusivity, and representation across Brookline High School and PSB</i> Kate Leslie (.2 FTE) Julia Mangan (.2 FTE)
Data Science for Social Justice	<i>To launch a new course that teaches how data science can be used to understand inequities and the effectiveness of interventions to disrupt them</i> Danielle Rabina (.2 FTE) Danielle Theissen (.2 FTE) Christopher Monschauer (.2 FTE)
Social Emotional Learning Tutorial	<i>To expand academic support of our tutorial program to develop students' coping and self-regulation strategies for academic and social success at school</i> Laura Gurry (.2 FTE) Jennifer Hanaghan (.2 FTE)
Program Liaison	<i>To oversee the grant process, guide the execution and promotion of pilot programs, and serve as ambassador of the Fund for faculty, administration, and the district</i> Erica O'Mahony (.4 FTE)

The total salary reimbursement to be paid to Brookline Public Schools during the 2024-25 school year amounts to \$227,882. The breakdown of the commitment by program is as follows:

	Innovation Fellow – Public Memory	Heritage Spanish-Speaker Pathway	QSP	Data Science & Social Justice	SELT	Program Liaison	Total
FTE (@ \$101,281)	0.2	0.25	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.4	2.25
Staffing - school year (salary replacement)	20,256	25,320	40,512	60,769	40,512	40,512	\$227,882

In addition, we will reimburse PSB up to \$42,936 for faculty out-of-school activities: Innovation Fellow (\$2,423), Heritage Speaker Spanish (\$2,366), QSP (\$4,151), Data Science (\$4,109), SELT (\$5,479), Program Liaison (\$4,151) and Flexible In-Year Programming (\$20,257).

Thank you for partnering with us to maximize new investments to keep BHS's academics constantly evolving. We greatly appreciate all you do to shape a culture of innovation.

Sincerely,
Stacey
Stacey Zelbow
Fund Director and Proud BHS Parent

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Current Grants, School Year 2023-24

Climate Science and Social Change
Data Science and Social Justice
Innovation Fund Program Liaisons
Queer Student Program
Social Emotional Learning Tutorial
Social Justice Leadership Program

Active Programs, School Year 2023-24

Advisory/Hub
African-American & Latino Scholars
Arts Infusion Lab
BHS Tutorial
Brookline Lens
Coding@BHS
Drawing for Understanding in
Field Science
Engineering by Design
Engineering Innovation & Design
EPIC for Seniors: Experiential,
Project-based, Innovative Capstone
Experiential Physics (9th Grade)
Finding Yourself in the Curriculum
Global Leadership
The Mindfulness Initiative
Perspective of a Mathematical Mind
Racial Awareness Seminar
Rethinking the Restaurant
Social Justice Leadership
Teachers Mentoring Teachers

Innovation Fund Planning Process

- Within the Innovation Fund grant pitch and planning process, the Fund's Faculty Liaison, Program Committee, and Head of School make clear that programs or courses that include multiple teachers will need to plan for a single teacher.
- As we plan for Innovation Fund support and engage also in longer-term planning, we use course selection data to manage our Brookline High School budget, plan for staffing, and build a master schedule of course and programmatic offerings.
- Whether an Innovation Fund course continues to run is largely determined by student interest as measured by course selection tallies. For instance, next year we will not run either Global Leadership or Racial Awareness due to lack of expressed interest. These are terrific courses that have been a part of our BHS offerings for many years, and courses have a shelf life. Particularly in the case of Racial Awareness, the high school has developed much more anti-racist and anti-bias curriculum and learning experiences for students than when the Fund course began.

FY24-25 Grant Details

Innovation Fellow: Public Memory

- Mark Wheeler, as a fellow, will design a civics project that will focus on local history and local historical memory in order to comply with the state civics law. Mark will partner with other social studies teachers in 11th grade to collaboratively teach and facilitate this project in the initial year.
- **Strategic Plan Alignment** – Aligns with strategic goal 1: Increase achievement for all students by establishing, implementing, and regularly assessing a consistent, high-quality, and challenging curriculum delivered using evidence-based practices.
- **Budget Impact** – Mark Wheeler's Innovation Fellow is a one-year .2 FTE course release. It will end in June 2025 with the curriculum to be ready for independent teacher use in FY26.

Heritage Spanish Speaking Pathway

- This two-year sequence of courses will be aligned with the best practices in teaching world language for heritage speakers and is also in line with one of the recommendations from our just completed secondary world language review to differentiate based on the different needs of our students. The school committee approved the addition of this course to the course catalog. Heritage speakers will feel more connected as this course sequence aims to foster pride in their heritage and Hispanic/Latinx identity.
- **Strategic Plan Alignment** – Aligns with strategic goals 1 (Increase achievement for all students by establishing, implementing, and regularly assessing a consistent, high-quality, and challenging curriculum delivered using evidence-based practices) and 3 (Partner with families and the community to create safe environments that promote belonging.)
- **Budget Impact** - The courses, including multiple educators, will likely have a single teacher in each of the two courses the team will plan and implement over the next three years. The idea for the first course is that Eric Colburn (supported by innovation fund at .25FTE) will support Marta Fuertes in practicing literacy strategies that will support the population of students in the Heritage Spanish program. **Our World Language Curriculum Coordinator is aware of the need to plan and build toward teacher reduction over the course of the grant.**

Queer Student Program

- BHS's Queer Student Program (QSP) creates a comprehensive, sustainable model focused on supporting LGBTQ+ well-being, inclusivity, and representation across Brookline High School and PSB. QSP originally had three interwoven strands planned across the three years of grant funding: Curricular, Student Programming, and Family Programming.

- **Strategic Plan Alignment** - Aligns with strategic goals 1 (Increase achievement for all students by establishing, implementing, and regularly assessing a consistent, high-quality, and challenging curriculum delivered using evidence-based practices) and 3 (Partner with families and the community to create safe environments that promote belonging.)
- **Budget Impact** - For the 2024-25 school year, the Innovation Fund supports .2FTE for Kate Leslie to serve as director of the QSP, particularly the various programming elements. The Fund also supports Julia Mangan at .2FTE to be embedded in the planning and instruction of an Integrated Wellness class available to all students and focused on LGBTQ+ students. Julia Mangan will fade from the Integrated Wellness class in 2025-26, having co-designed and implemented the course with a Wellness teacher. **The lingering question for 2025-26 and beyond is how to support leadership of the QSP with Innovation Fund ending. More specifically, we need to determine whether we have budgetary capacity for .2FTE to support Kate's leadership.**

Data Science for Social Justice

- This course will allow our junior and senior students an additional option to take a fourth year of math.
- **Strategic Plan Alignment** – Aligns with strategic goal 1: Increase achievement for all students by establishing, implementing, and regularly assessing a consistent, high-quality, and challenging curriculum delivered using evidence-based practices.
- **Budget Impact** - Data Science for Social Justice is in its third and final year of Innovation Fund fiscal support. For 2024-25 we will run two sections of Data Science supported by two math teachers. One of the sections is co-taught by a dual certified special education and math educator. All 3 educators receive .2FTE. **Beginning in 2025-26, Data Science will evolve into either a co-taught class or taught by a single educator.**

Social Emotional Learning Tutorial

- This tutorial will work with small groups of students to develop their coping skills and self-regulation strategies in a safe environment.
- **Strategic Plan Alignment** – This program aligns with strategic goal 3: Partner with families and the community to create safe environments that promote belonging.
- **Budget Impact** - The two teachers who are funded at 0.2FTE each are teaching SELT and continuing to refine the model, including piloting different structures for Tutorial that can impact more significant groups of students. We will use the SELT program and curriculum blended with Tutorial over time, using available fifth-course assignments..

Program Liaison

- The position will serve as a liaison between the Innovation Fund and BHS to maintain the connection with the greater community.
- **Strategic Plan Alignment** – This position aligns with strategic goal 2: Develop and implement a culturally responsive community engagement plan that fosters connections among caregivers, schools, the district, and the greater community.
- **Budget Impact** – This is a "permanent" position in the Fund's budget. The FTE has ranged from .75 to .3 over the course of the Innovation Fund/21st Century Fund's history. For 2024-25, .4 of Erica O'Mahony's 1.0 FTE will be covered by the Fund. This meant Rachel Eio had .4 FTE to deploy in staffing.