

PUBLIC SCHOOLS of  
**BROOKLINE**



# Superintendent Report

September 23, 2021

## Agenda

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- School Resource Officers (SRO) Feedback
- Spotlight on Excellence
- School Visits
- Health and Safety
- School Council Update
- MCAS Update



# School Resource Officer Program (October 2019 - June 2021)

Photo credit: Brookline PD

## Overview

SROs were officers from the Brookline Police Department (BPD) who collaborated with PSB to support students and ensure positive outcomes for our youth.

In June 2021, the SRO program, as it was formerly operating, was ended.

## Feedback from School Leadership

### Former SRO duties that have been successfully redesignated to PSB staff:

- **Physical and Mental Health Education and Awareness** (e.g. Social Media, Drugs, Alcohol, Digital Citizenship)
- **Crisis Preparedness, Intervention, and Response**

### Outstanding Responsibilities and Services:

- **Providing additional guidance and support over legal issues with families and parent/guardians**
- **Sharing information and context from outside the school that can support students' success**
- **BPD resources for student support** (e.g. Bear the Service Dog)

*Given how early we are in the 2021-22 school year, we will continue to monitor changes and their effects on our students and staff.*

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# Spotlight on Excellence

**PSB Food Service Employees**



## Superintendent School Visits

### Completed thus far

- Baker (Friday, 9/17)
- Driscoll (Monday, 9/20)
- Heath (Wednesday, 9/22)
- BHS (Today, 9/23)

### Upcoming visits

- Lawrence (Tomorrow, 9/24)
- Lincoln (Monday, 9/27)
- BHS - *cont.* (9/27 & 9/28)
- Pierce (Friday, 10/1)
- Ruffin Ridley (Monday, 10/4)
- Runkle (Thursday, 10/7)

# Elements of our Theme in Action

## Building Relationships

*Mr. Hintz, Pierce*

Our guidance counselors visit K-8 classrooms to teach *Second Step*, an SEL program that helps students identify emotions - in themselves and in others - and develop strategies to express and process them safely.

## Creating a Culture of Care

*Ms. O'Connell, Heath*

First grade students discuss and brainstorm with each other on the importance of being good role models, following established routines, and various ways to support a new classmate prior to their first day of school.

## Eliminating Barriers

*Ms. Swenson, Ruffin Ridley*

Eighth grade students come together to create an "identity box," utilizing various objects and elements to represent their personalities, backgrounds, and aspects of themselves - and how they imagine others perceive them to be.

*Photo credit: R. Watts*

## Health and Safety

### Test-and-Stay Protocol

PSB students and staff may participate in test-and-stay as an alternative to quarantining at home, should they be identified as a close contact of a COVID-19 positive case.

#### You may be tested **ONLY** if you:

- Are asymptomatic
- Are not fully vaccinated
- Have consented to testing and
- Were exposed to COVID-19 inside a PSB School

**Unvaccinated individuals who do not fulfill the conditions above are exempt from test-and-stay and may be required to quarantine before returning to school.**

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**SYMPTOMS OF  
COVID-19**



Fever (100.0° Fahrenheit or higher), chills or shaking chills



Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath



New loss of taste or smell



Muscle aches or body aches



Cough, not due to other known causes such as chronic cough

**FOR SYMPTOMS BELOW, ONLY APPLICABLE IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER SYMPTOMS AND/OR NOT DUE TO KNOWN CAUSES:**



Nausea, vomiting\*, or diarrhea\*

\*REGARDLESS OF COVID-19, VOMITING OR DIARRHEA ALWAYS REQUIRE AN INDIVIDUAL TO STAY HOME UNTIL WITHOUT SYMPTOMS FOR 24 HOURS



Sore throat



Fatigue



Headache



Nasal congestion or runny nose

**DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL IF SYMPTOMATIC**

If you or your student(s) feel ill, **STAY HOME.** Please do your part to keep our community safe!

**IF YOU OR YOUR CHILD EXHIBIT ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS, PLEASE STAY HOME.**

*Symptoms as defined by MA DPH and DESE Guidance.*

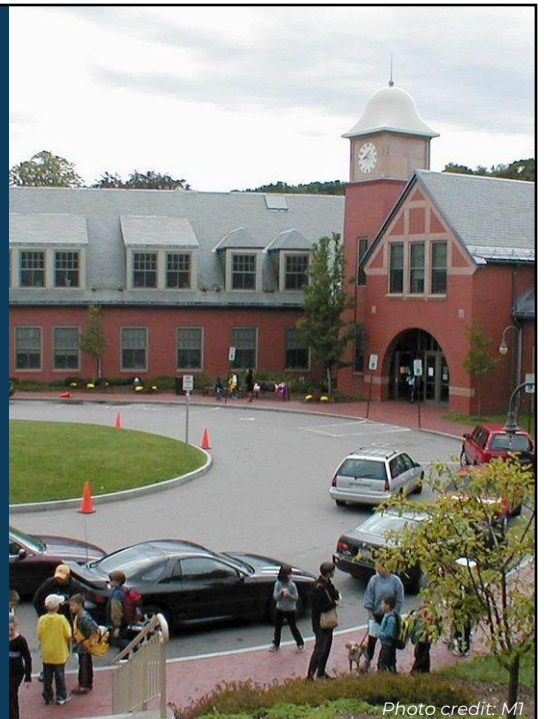
**COVID-19  
Vaccine Clinic**

**Thursday, September 30  
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

**Lincoln School  
19 Kennard Road  
Brookline, MA 02445**

Free for anyone 12 years or older.  
Register at

[www.brookline.k12.ma.us/covidclinic](http://www.brookline.k12.ma.us/covidclinic)



*Photo credit: M1*



## School Councils

### What is it?

Committee composed of school leaders and elected parents, educators, and community members. Students may also be represented in some school councils.

### Responsibilities

Identify educational needs and goals for students and create a school improvement plan (SIP).

## Where We Are Now

**60% of School Councils have meeting information publicized and published online.**

First meetings for SY21-22 are scheduled to take place over the next few weeks.

**50% of School Councils have membership vacancies.**

Members are elected to 1-year or 2-year terms either in the Fall or Spring.

**40% of School Councils are currently utilizing a SIP.**

Some SIPs expired after SY20-21. These schools are currently developing a new plan for this year and beyond.

A student wearing safety goggles and a mask, working in a science lab. The student is focused on a task on a table, possibly a science experiment. The background shows a typical classroom or lab setting with shelves and equipment.

# MCAS Update

*Photo credit: M. Goldner*

## Overview

MCAS was administered during the spring of the 2020-21 school year.

Results made public on Tuesday, 9/21 through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) website.

DESE will not issue updated district and school accountability determinations for fall 2021.

Parent/guardian reports will be delivered to schools September 30th.

Analyzing this data will help PSB determine where focus more deeply:

- Recognize circumstances from pandemic year
- Can be used as a diagnostic tool
- Will share district results and action plans at a later meeting