



Superintendent's Update

October 12, 2023

PUBLIC SCHOOLS of
BROOKLINE



Agenda

- Community Highlights
- Superintendent School Visits
- Staffing Updates
- Important Dates
- Spotlight on Excellence

Fall Screening Day

The Brookline Early Education Program will conduct preschool screenings **Tuesday, November 14, 2023**. This is a free and optional service for preschool aged Brookline residents (ages 2.6 to 5 years old) who are not currently attending BEEP.

The fall screening day is meant to help families better understand their child's development, and to determine if a special education evaluation is recommended.



National School Lunch Week

The week of **October 10-13** is National School Lunch Week at the PSB - a great way to introduce our students to all that the cafeterias have to offer.

Activities have been planned during lunches at all school cafeterias, including taste tests, a scavenger hunt, and more.



Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration

Brookline Schools Food Services and the Brookline Farm to School initiative planned a special community meal to honor Indigenous Peoples Day on **Tuesday, October 10**.

The menu was planned by an indigenous leader in our community, Felina Silver, who is the Chairperson for the Town of Brookline's Indigenous Peoples Celebration Committee and wears many other hats within the community. Felina graduated from BHS in 1981.



National School Lunch Week

Introducing Kelp at PSB

The PSB partnered with North Coast Seafoods to introduce kelp in our meals at Brookline High School during National School Lunch Week. Grown and hand-harvested by fishing families in New England, kelp is one of the most nutrient-dense foods on the planet. It's packed with minerals, vitamins and antioxidants, supporting heart, gut, thyroid health and more.

Additionally, kelp is a carbon-neutral, sustainable, zero-input crop. Kelp farms are regenerative, improving ocean health by removing excess carbon, and locally mitigating the effects of ocean acidification in the Gulf of Maine.



CREDIT: ATLANTIC SEA FARMS

KELP YOURSELF & THE OCEAN!

- ~ Zero-input, carbon-neutral, sustainable sea vegetable
- ~ Grown by family farmers in the clean, cold waters of Maine
- ~ Known as one of the most nutrient dense foods on the planet

The BHS Sustainability Corp



Our BHS indoor farm, soon to be transformed.

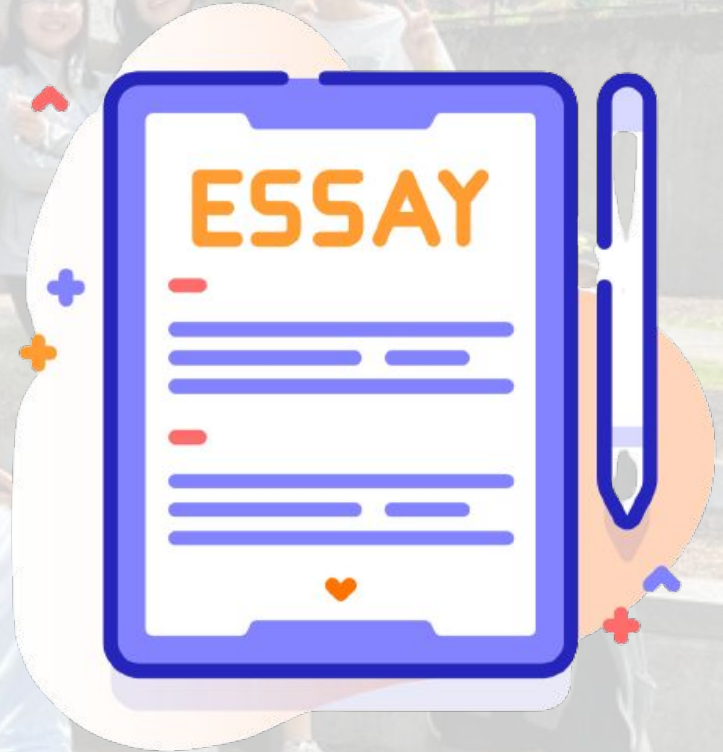
Brookline High School has created a new service opportunity for students, as well as community members, caregivers and parents, with the new BHS indoor farm.

With support from the BHS PTO, the National Education Association and PSB Food Services, there are now several new indoor grow racks located in the BHS cafeteria. The goal is to grow and produce a weekly harvest of local, nutrient dense, organic leafy greens and herbs for the BHS salad bar.

The 20th Annual BHS College Essay Workshop

On September 30, over 170 students participated in the 20th Annual BHS College Essay Workshop, a partnership between the Brookline High School PTO and the Brookline English Dept. Students worked with teachers from across the school and parent/community volunteers, as well as with each other, to start, refine or finalize their college essays.

This exciting project has helped over 3,000 students navigate an important part of the college application process.



The BHS Outdoor Adventure Club



The BHS Outdoor Adventure Club was created during the height of COVID, when in-person interaction and activities were hard to come by. Being outside offered teens a safe way to gather and have fun. The club is still going strong - putting on adventures every couple of weeks that any BHS student can join.

Last week, twenty intrepid BHS adventurers took to the Charles River on kayakers and paddleboards on a perfect fall afternoon.

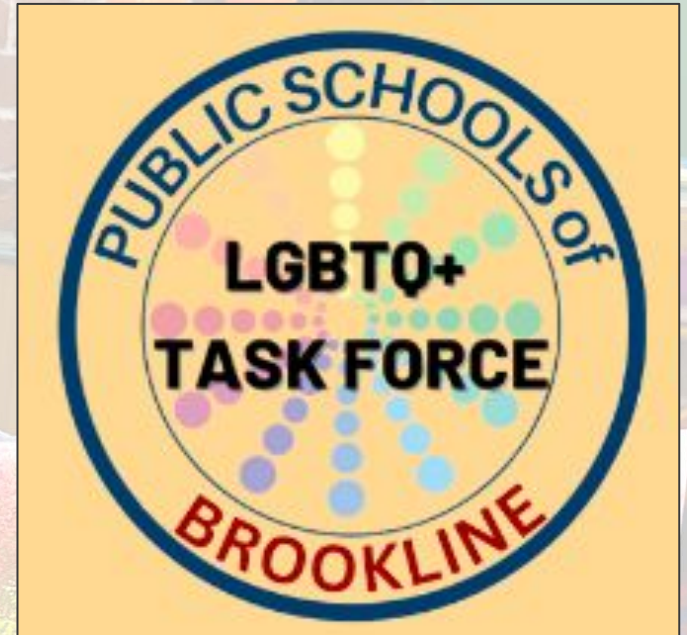


The LGBTQ Task Force

The Brookline LGBTQ Task Force is a group of committed students, family members, teachers, staff and community members, working together to identify the most prominent issues facing LGBTQ kids in our district, and to work to find new solutions.

The group meets once-a-month on Monday nights over Zoom. All members join a sub-committee and work with their sub-committee to enact change.

The Task Force is having their first meeting of the school year this **Saturday, October 14** from 10am to 12pm, in the MLK Room at BHS (115 Greenough St.)



Unified Sports at Brookline High School



Unified Basketball
First ever game
Buzzer beater win!
October 10, 2023

Unified Sports in 2023-24



Actual Quotes About the Game:

"That was the greatest shot of my life!" - John Carroll, Unified Partner

"This is everything I love about sports with none of the stuff I hate about competitive sports." - Gabi Hunter, Unified Partner and Team Captain

"The spirit of unified basketball made that shot go in." - Emily McGinnis, Team Mom

"This is the best basketball game I have ever seen!" - Brookline Fan

"That was the best hour I have ever had at BHS!" - Lexi Bader, Coach

"I can't stop smiling and my face hurts!" - Everyone at the game

In Remembrance



Peter Charles Rowe 1948-2023

Peter Rowe, former Deputy Superintendent at the Public Schools of Brookline, passed away on Sunday, October 8, aged 75. Peter served first as a middle school science teacher, and ultimately as Deputy Superintendent at the PSB. He is survived by his wife, Betty; his siblings, Virginia Starkis, Bruce Rowe and Donald Rowe; his children, Benjamin, Zachary, Andrew and Alison; his grandchildren, Quinton and Alex, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Staffing Update

We are happy to share that **Leonard Belli** has joined The Public Schools of Brookline as the new **Director of Operations**.

Len brings a strong background in residential and commercial development leadership. He comes to PSB from Universal Property Management/ Transcendent Brands, where he served as Vice President of Construction & Planning. Prior to this role, he was the Director of Facilities & Capital Planning for the Town of Hudson.

We warmly welcome Len to the PSB community.



School Visits

Recently Completed

BEEP-Lynch	Friday, 9/29
BHS	Friday, 9/29

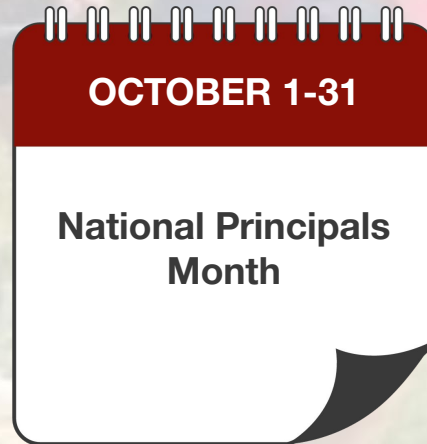
Upcoming

BEEP	Friday, 10/13
Driscoll	Tuesday, 10/17
Baker/Heath	Friday, 10/20
BHS	Wednesday, 10/25
FRR/Lincoln	Thursday, 10/26



Mark your Calendars

Important Dates



Cultural Observances

OCTOBER 15-24

Sharad Navratri

Navaratri is one of the most revered Hindu festivals, observed in the honor of goddess Mahadevi. Celebrated for nine days, Navratri is widely observed in India, with different communities participating in the celebration through fasting, dancing, religious reflection, and other actions.





**Spotlight on
Excellence**

The Brookline Exhibition



THE BROOKLINE
EXHIBITION

Sophia & Isabel



Magazine Thing

Names:

aficionado - a person who is very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about an activity

enthusiast - very interested in an activity

ardor - enthusiasm or passion

esteem - passion (esteem magazine)

idyllic - extremely happy, peaceful or picturesque

creo - latin word for create

esthete - a person who appreciates art and beauty

The Brookline Exhibition

Poetry Creative writing Visual arts Sculptures Comics



The Brookline Exhibition

Literary and arts magazine

Are you an artist?

WIN \$100

When we are looking for it:

- We are accepting submissions **January 17th - April 15th**

OR

Email us:
thebrooklineexhibition@gmail.com

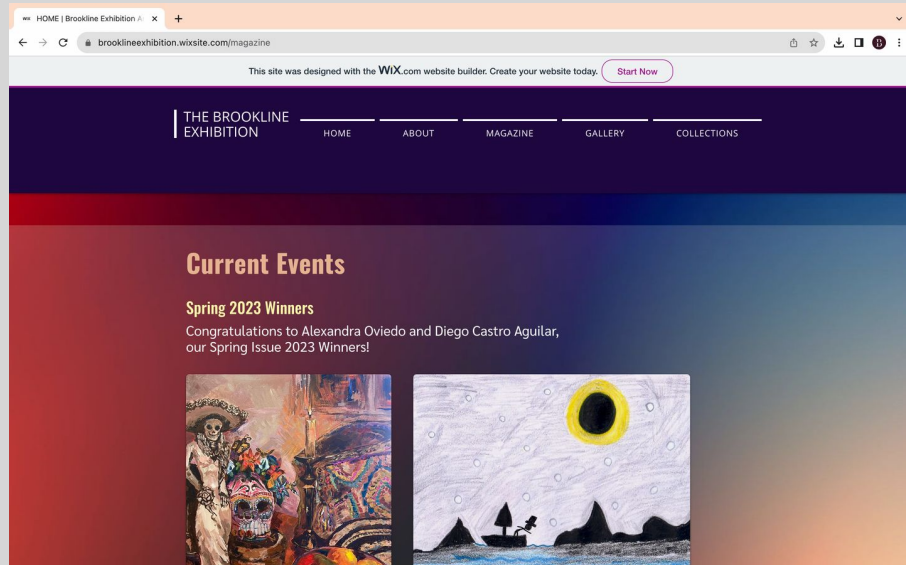
What we are looking for:

- We are looking for art submissions from kids in grades **k-12**

Just take a picture and submit using this QR code!

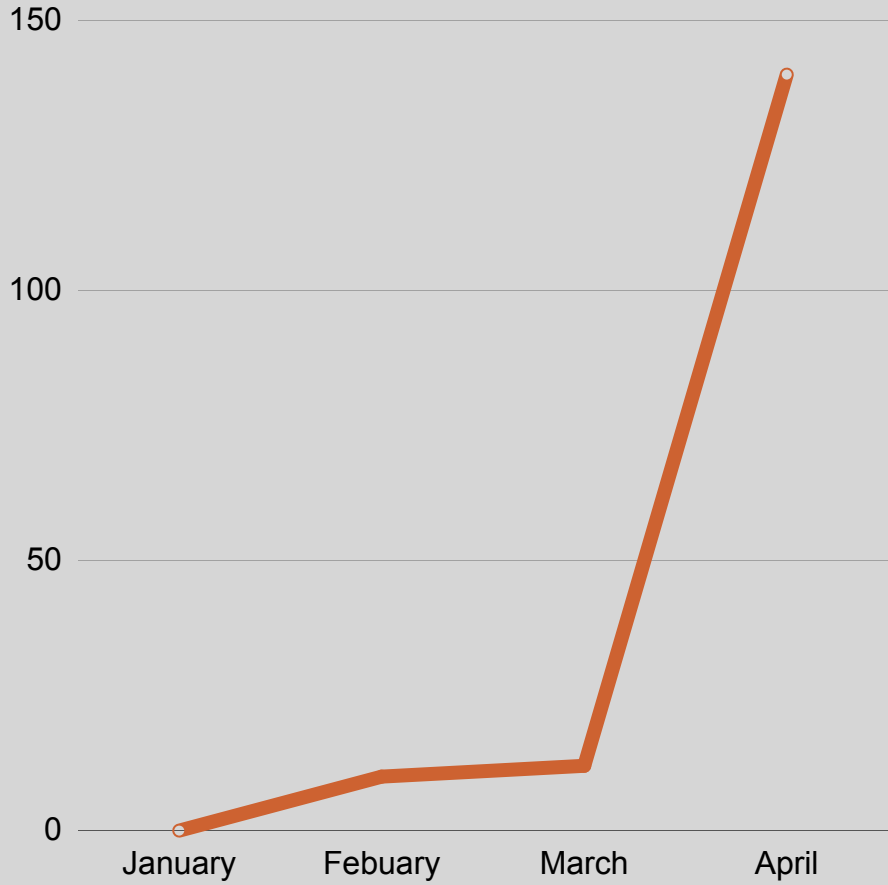


www.thebrooklineexhibition.com



FY23 Funding List

Name	Project Title	Amount
Artbarn Community Theater, Inc.	Kiviug's Journey, An Inuit Folktale	\$1,250
Block, Debra	"Script in Hand" Theatre for Older Adults	\$1,000
Boston Comic Arts Foundation, Limited	The Massachusetts Independent Comics Expo (MICE)	\$1,500
Brookline Community Band	Brookline Community Band Concert Series	\$1,000
Brookline Music School	Music Theater	\$1,000
Coolidge Corner Community Chorus, Inc.	Coolidge Corner Community Chorus Spring 2023 Concert	\$1,500
Heinrich, Sophia	The Brookline Exhibition	\$966
Huggins, Brenda	"Mr. Twister" Opera & Climate Action Event	\$700
Lyracelle	Lyracelle's 2023-2024 Concert Series - "The Temple"	\$1,500
Maichack, Gregory	Pastel Paint Georgia O'Keeffe's Famous Lily	\$587
McKenney Lydick, Lynne	Yours for Humanity - Abby	\$700
Means, Pamela	Pamela Means presents The Power of The Protest Song: Our Shared History and Present Day	\$950
Non-Event, Inc.	Non-Event in the Park	\$700
Polatin, David	"The Fifties - The Golden Age of Music"	\$500
Puppet Showplace, Inc.	Puppetry Performances for Public Schools of Brookline Steps to Success and METCO students and their families	\$2,200
Ramos, August	ReVitalize: A Runway Experience	\$1,150
Ritornello Music	Stories of Resilience: Women Composers of the Baroque	\$1,000
Sacks, Marcy	Cultural Festival Mural	\$1,500
Winsor Music, Inc.	INNOVATION: David Sanford and Natacha Diels	\$1,000
York, Matt	The Highwaymen - Songs and Stories	\$500



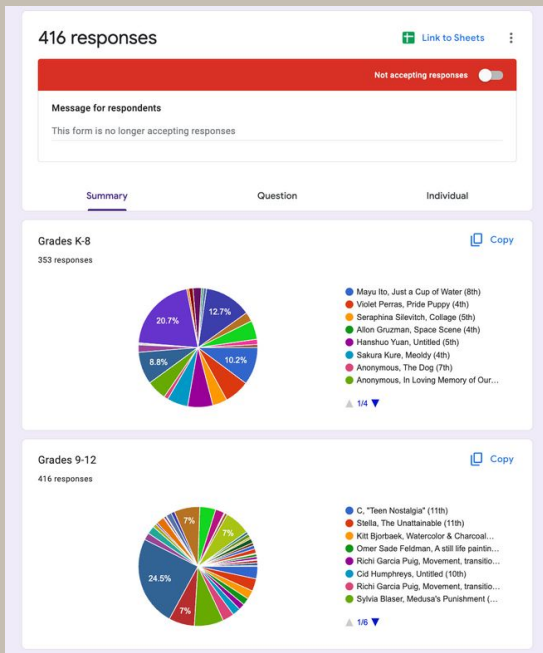
Questions **Responses** 141 Settings

141 responses [View in Sheets](#) ⋮

Accepting responses

Summary Question Individual

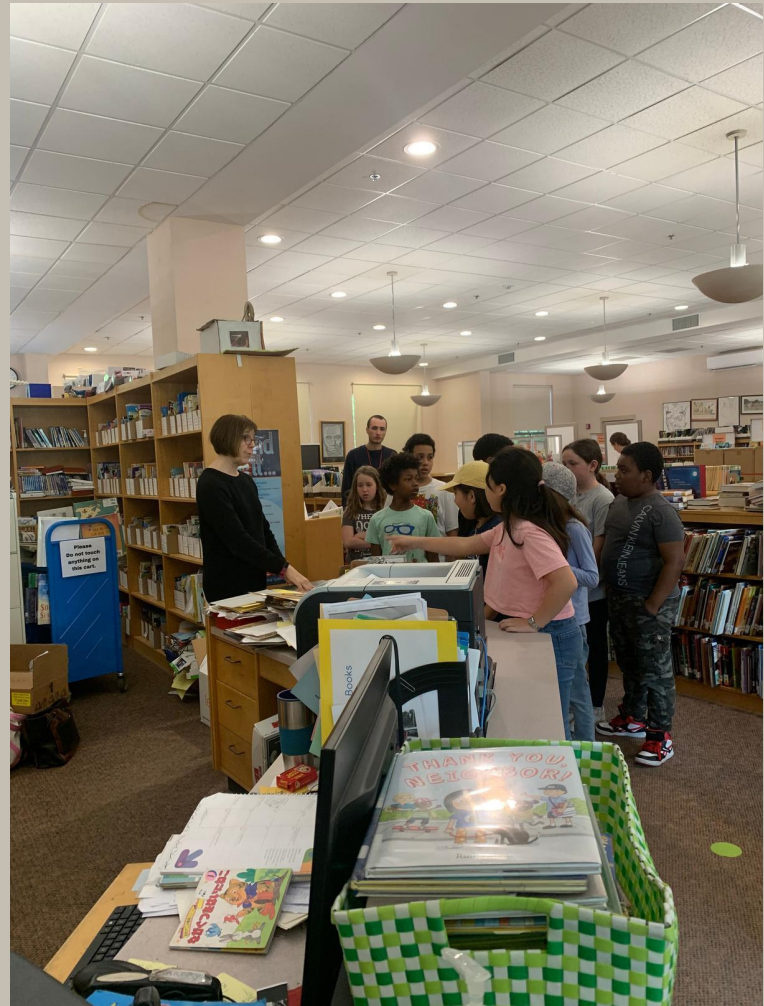




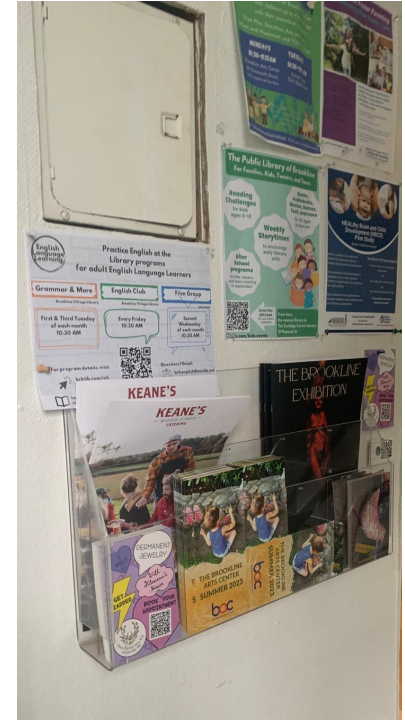
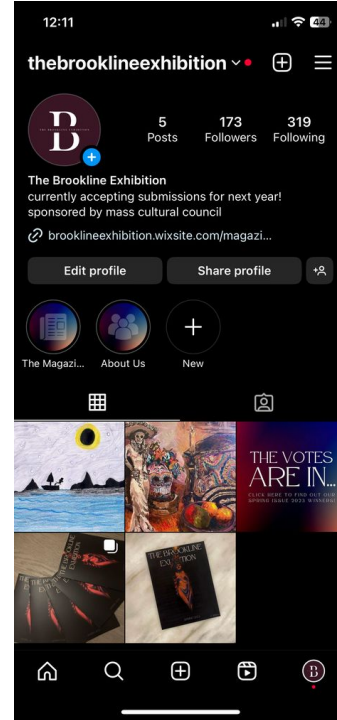
150 submissions

400 votes

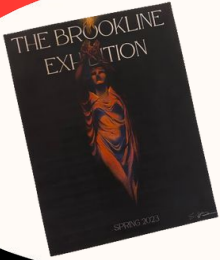
9 schools



Integrating into the community



Main Goals for This Year



Goal #1

Print more magazines and pages

Goal #2

Climate change exhibition at the Museum of Science



Goal #3

Sending school supplies abroad



Goal #4

Achieve non-profit status!





thebrooklineexhibition.wixsite.com/magazine

we need your donations and support



PSB Response

PUBLIC SCHOOLS of
BROOKLINE



Office of Student Services

Core Value: Celebration of Difference

Brookline is presently and historically diverse. We celebrate this diversity, and we commit to providing an education that authentically and deeply reflects the different perspectives, cultures, and experiences of our community. We strive to include the full range of Brookline voices, not just in our academic curriculum but in all school-based activities.

Actions Taken to Date

Clinical teams and clinicians have reached out to families to offer ongoing support and resources (prioritizing safety).

Clinicians are meeting with students to provide ongoing individual and small group support.

Clinical teams are working with administrators to monitor the needs of students (and to provide support/resources).

Clinical teams are meeting with teachers to provide adult support and coaching.

Office of Teaching and Learning

Core Value: Celebration of Difference

Brookline is presently and historically diverse. We celebrate this diversity, and we commit to providing an education that authentically and deeply reflects the different perspectives, cultures, and experiences of our community. We strive to include the full range of Brookline voices, not just in our academic curriculum but in all school-based activities.

Actions Taken to Date

Held a community circle with principals to discuss impact at individual building levels

Collaborated with principals, OEE and Curriculum Coordinators to evaluate new resources and messaging regarding those resources

Retracted original biased curriculum materials and replaced with resources focused on student support



Office of Educational Equity

The primary responsibility of the Office of Educational Equity (OEE) is to UPLIFT and ADVANCE the District's Core Values and Goals. Standing in our Core Values will require addressing delicate and complex political and social issues and events, including naming and denouncing horrific violence and attacks when they occur.

Goal: Celebration of Difference

Brookline is presently and historically diverse. We celebrate this diversity, and we commit to providing an education that authentically and deeply reflects the different perspectives, cultures, and experiences of our community. We strive to include the full range of Brookline voices, not just in our academic curriculum but in all school-based activities.

Next Steps:

- Ongoing review of resources in collaboration with the OTL for educators
- Ongoing partnership with the Senior Director of Clinical Services and Social and Emotional Learning
- Providing Affinity space for listening sessions
- Connecting with Community Organizations