

# PUBLIC SCHOOLS of BROOKLINE

## Superintendent's Update - September 15, 2022



# Agenda



- Introduction of New Educational Leaders
- Highlights from the First Week of School
- Summer Program Updates
- Updated Curriculum Overviews
- COVID-19 Updates
- National Hispanic Heritage Month
- Negotiations for a Successor Paraprofessional Contract
- Update on Strategic Planning Process

leader!

Someone who leads with kindness

Someone who changes laws to make  
things right

a listener

Someone who doesn't give up!

and takes a break  
When they  
need one!

a team player looks out for the team

Media Credit: K. Sontag

## Introduction of New Educational Leaders

PSB welcomes ten new Educational Leaders to our community in SY2022-23:

- **Malcolm Cawthorne**, METCO Director
- **Rachel Craigen**, Interim BEEP Coordinator
- **Margaret Eberhardt**, Interim BEEP Principal
- **Dominique Ferdinand**, Vice Principal at Lawrence
- **Alison Henry**, Vice Principal at Baker
- **Haeyoung Koh**, Assistant Director for Educational Equity
- **David Lindner**, Interim Vice Principal at Lawrence
- **Liza O'Connell**, Interim Deputy Superintendent for Student Services
- **Aida Ramos**, Director of Special Education at BHS
- **Kyle Williams**, Athletic Director at BHS

## Introduction of New Educational Leaders




Media Credit: S. Conroy, M. Goldner, M. Howes, B. Koocher, D. Lipton, C. Muldoon, B. O'Connell, Driscoll PTO, Ridley PTO, Heath Support Team, V. Ouellete

# Highlights from the First Week of SY 2022-23



Media Credit: Brookline PD

# Report on Summer Programming

Morning Programs	Afternoon Programs
Project Discovery (Grades 1-6)	BA&CE SmartSummers (Grades PreK-12)
STAR Academy (Grades K-8)	
	
Steps to Success Summer Connections (Grades 8 and 9)	
Calculus Project (Grades 8-12)	
BHS Summer School (Grades 9-12)	
Extended School Year (Grades BEEP-12)	

# Overview of Summer Programming



**Students Served:** 230 students entering grades 1-6

**Location:** Ruffin Ridley School

**Dates:** July 5 - July 29, 2022

**Director:** Kristin Gray

Supports students who would benefit from continued instruction in reading, writing, and word study over the summer months.

**Objectives:**

- Ensures students maintain current levels of literacy proficiency

Sample Schedule	
8:30-8:45	Morning Meeting
8:45-9:15	Word Study
9:15-10:00	Writing Workshop
10:00-10:30	Snack/Recess
10:30-11:30	Reading Workshop
11:30-11:50	Interactive Read Aloud
11:50-12:00	Closing Circle





**Students Served:** 320 students in ELE and/or METCO entering K-8

**Location:** Lincoln School

**Dates:** August 1 - August 19, 2022

**Director:** Mindy Paulo

STAR Academy is a summer program for Brookline's English Learners and METCO students. STAR provides opportunities for students to increase their reading, writing, communication, and comprehension skills across curriculum areas: math, science, social studies, and English language arts.

### Objectives:

- Students will focus on developing their skills through a study of content area vocabulary and concepts.
- Teachers will introduce and reinforce the instructional language used in classroom settings throughout the school year.
- Students will have opportunities to enhance their social and academic knowledge.



**Students Served:** 37 students entering grades 8 and 9

**Location:** Brookline High School

**Dates:** July 5 - July 29, 2022

**Directors:** Sophya Williams-Louis and Sarah Fowler

Summer Connections takes place over the month of July and is a first-work experience for rising 8th and 9th graders in the Steps to Success program.

- 22 BHS students were placed at summer internships
- 66 STS students enrolled in various camps throughout Brookline (88 total camp sessions)

# Steps to Success Summer Connections

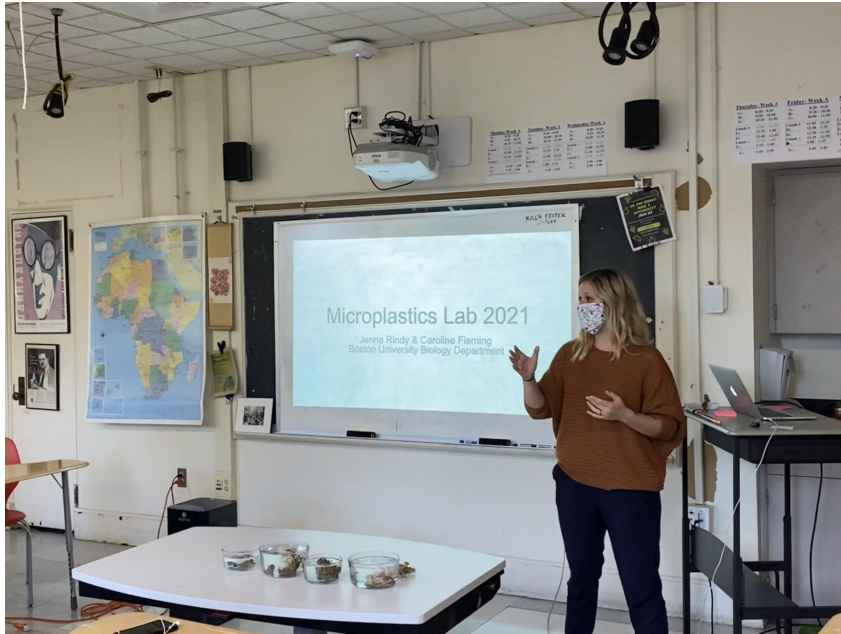


**Students Served:** 78 students entering grades 8-12  
**Location:** Brookline High School  
**Dates:** July 5 - July 29, 2022  
**Directors:** Meghan Kennedy-Justice and Lisa Rodriguez

The Calculus Project is unlike any initiative in public education that aims to close the achievement gap in mathematics. In particular, the project is designed to increase the number of African American, Latinx and Hispanic students who enroll and succeed in high-level mathematics courses at Brookline High School, culminating with the study of Calculus in their senior year.

One important objective of the Calculus Project is to development of “cohorts” that serve to create a less stigmatized academic culture, enhance the aim of striving toward Calculus, and provide peer-to-peer support among the target population.

# Calculus Project



**Students Served:** 109 students entering grades 9-12  
**Location:** Brookline High School  
**Dates:** June 27 - July 29, 2022  
**Director:** Jen Martin

- The BHS Summer School Program is an enriching educational experience that affords numerous opportunities for academic growth and creative expression.
- This programs offer standard-level core academic courses to allow students to make up or to review work that was difficult and/or not successfully completed.
- Summer School also offers elective courses in areas like photography and digital drawing, or other enrichment courses. Courses taken at this time count towards their graduation requirement.

# BHS Summer School Program



**Students Served:** 587 seats for students entering grades K-9

**Location:** Lincoln and Ruffin Ridley Schools

**Dates:** July 5 - August 19, 2022

**Director:** Michelle McGlone

- Brookline Adult & Community Education (BA&CE) and its Smart Programs offer enriching learning opportunities for adults all year long and for children during school vacations.
- BA&CE is also involved in providing musical instrument lessons for children enrolled in the daytime band or orchestra program. Brookline Smart Summers are enrichment programs for children ages 5-14. Students can choose from a wide variety of half-and full-day fun and educational adventures that meet from one week to eight weeks in July and August.
- **Other programs include:** Robots, Theater Arts, Bringing Books to Life, Rocket Science, World Wide Safari Adventures, Wicked Cool Science, Dig Big, Arts & Crafts, and more.

# BA&CE Smart Summers



**Students Served:** 45 BEEP students, 212 K-8 students, 45 BHS/Young Adult Students

**Location:** BEEP, Runkle, and Ruffin Ridley Schools

**Dates:** July 11 - August 4, 2022 and July 11 - August 11, 2022

**Directors:** Erin Hurney (BEEP), Liza Casal (K-8), Steve Simolaris (BHS/Young Adult)

To ensure that children with disabilities receive a free and appropriate public education (FAPE), all IEP teams consider, as appropriate, whether a child needs extended school year (ESY) services.

With the purpose of minimizing substantial regression and reduce recoupment time, services provided during the summer are designed to help each child maintain skills and not lose progress made towards IEP goals.

## Extended School Year (ESY)

- Over the summer, OTL worked with curriculum coordinators to update K-8 content areas in our curricula to meet the **recently revised** Massachusetts state standards and frameworks.
- In the 2022-23 school year, OTL will oversee several planned curriculum changes, revisions, and adjustments. We are also excited to **pilot several programs** for various subject areas.
- **These overviews are living documents.** They will be updated throughout the school year to reflect the evolving developments, research, and pedagogy that drives our belief to provide high-quality education for our students.



Media Credit: S. Conroy

## Updated Curriculum Overviews

## Old (2018)

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Brookline's Learning Expectations in ELA meet or exceed the standards outlined in the Massachusetts Frameworks. To reach these demanding standards, Brookline educators use the *Continuum of Literacy Learning PreK-8* (Heinemann, 2011) as their day-to-day guide when teaching specific behaviors in reading and writing. The description of the successful Kindergarten reader and writer below comes primarily from the *Continuum*.

#### Reading

Kindergarteners will be exposed to both fiction and informational books throughout the year. They will hear stories read aloud by their teacher daily, and by the end of the year most Kindergarteners will read emergent or beginning level texts with one or more lines per page.

Kindergarteners will respond to text in a variety of ways. With prompting and support, they will ask and answer questions about key details in a text. They will retell familiar stories and talk about the characters, setting, and major events. They will be encouraged to compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories. Kindergarteners will learn to recognize common types of text such as storybooks and poems. They will also be able to name the author and illustrator of stories.

Kindergarteners will learn print concepts such as the directionality of print on the page. They will learn that spoken words are represented by written words on the page, and that words are separated by spaces in print. They will learn all of the letters and letter sounds and learn to put sounds together to read words. They will also learn high frequency words such as the, you, she, etc. Other important concepts connected to both reading and writing are the ability to recognize and produce rhymes, count and segment syllables in words, and pronounce the initial, medial and final sounds in words.

All of these skills will be combined to enable the reader to read text at the emergent and beginning level. They also have a direct connection to Kindergarten writing.

## New (2022)

### English Language Arts - Kindergarten

**Key Practices:** Over the course of kindergarten, students engage in reading, writing and language study experiences aligned to the 2017 MA Learning Expectations in English Language Arts.

#### Students will:

- Read and interpret grade level texts across a variety of genres with increasing complexity across the year.
- Regularly engage in steps of the writing process and produce original pieces across 3 key strands of writing: narrative, opinion and argument as well do writing about reading.
- Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension and/or be read to for 20 minutes a day.
- Study and apply grade level phonics and phonological awareness principles for reading and writing.
- Engage in a variety of rich, varied conversations in different configurations to contribute ideas, respond to others, and synthesize information.

### Units and Big Ideas

#### Reading (1)

**Big Idea: In this unit, students use their story knowledge as they engage with familiar stories and build their concepts of print, phonics skills and phonemic awareness.**

*Key Learning Expectations (MA Frameworks):*

- With prompting and support:
  - Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
  - Retell familiar stories, including key details.
- Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print.
  - Follow words from left to right, top to bottom, and page by page.
  - Recognize that spoken words are represented in written language by specific sequences of letters.
  - Understand that words are separated by spaces in print.
  - Recognize and name all upper- and lowercase letters of the alphabet.
- Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print.
- Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds.
  - Recognize and produce rhyming words.
  - Count, pronounce, blend, and segment syllables in spoken words.
  - Blend and segment onsets and rimes of single-syllable spoken

#### Narrative Writing

**Big Idea: In this unit, young writers compose their first all-about books and stories. They draw and label their work as they work on letter formation.**

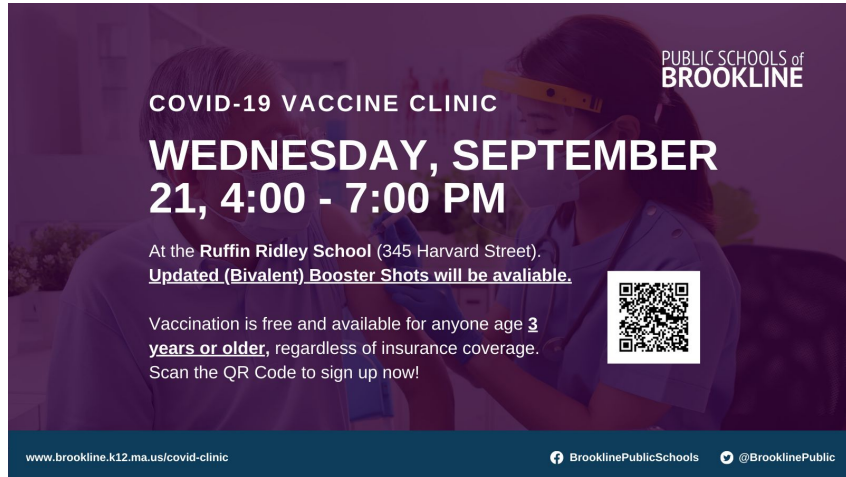
*Key Learning Expectations (MA Frameworks):*

- Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate a single event or experience, or several loosely linked events or experiences; sequence the narrative appropriately and provide a reaction to what it describes.

Overviews can be found at [www.brookline.k12.ma.us/curriculum](http://www.brookline.k12.ma.us/curriculum)

# Comparison






PUBLIC SCHOOLS of  
**BROOKLINE**



COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER  
21, 4:00 - 7:00 PM**

At the **Ruffin Ridley School** (345 Harvard Street).  
Updated (Bivalent) Booster Shots will be available.

Vaccination is free and available for anyone age **3 years or older**, regardless of insurance coverage.  
Scan the QR Code to sign up now!



[www.brookline.k12.ma.us/covid-clinic](http://www.brookline.k12.ma.us/covid-clinic)  BrooklinePublicSchools  @BrooklinePublic

- On September 1, the CDC/FDA formally recommended that individuals 12+ years old receive a **updated COVID-19 booster (bivalent)** to reinforce protection against the Omicron variant.
- The upcoming PSB COVID-19 vaccine clinic will provide the updated booster to eligible individuals.
  - The clinic will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. **next Wednesday, September 21** at the **Ruffin Ridley School**. All appointments are currently booked. We will provide more information soon on the next available clinic.

- **National Hispanic Heritage Month** officially began on Thursday, September 15 and will continue until Saturday, October 15. Originally started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week, this 30-day event **celebrates, commemorates, and honors the contributions made by Hispanic and Latinx people to the United States.**

- In PSB, nearly 12.5% of our student population uses Spanish or Portuguese at home; 2.3% shares a country of origin within a Hispanic or Latinx country.



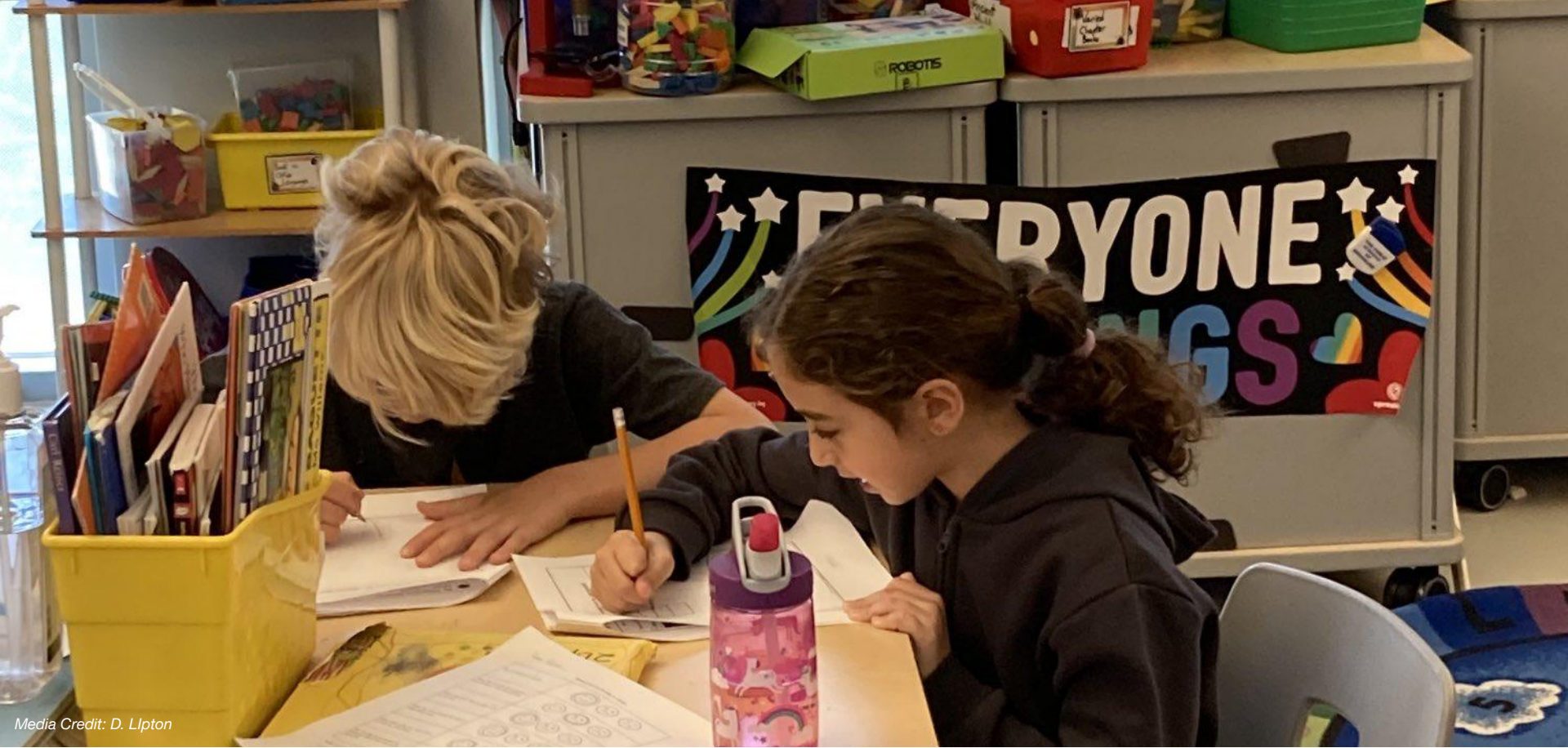
*More information can be found at [www.brookline.k12.ma.us/cultural-calendar](http://www.brookline.k12.ma.us/cultural-calendar)*

# National Hispanic Heritage Month



Media Credit: M. Brown, E. Redburn, C. Bates

# Preparation for Successor Paraprofessional Contract



Media Credit: D. Lipton

# Strategic Plan Update