

**Ciani Espada**  
Principal

**Marjorie Greene**  
Assistant Principal

**School Leadership Team (SLT) Minutes**  
**2023-2024 School Year**

Date: 11/28/2023	Attendance: <a href="#">SLT Attendance Google Form</a>
Time: 3:30-5:00	
<a href="#">Meeting Slides</a>	

**Notes:**

**SLT ByLaws Review & Update:**

found ourselves in a situation during covid where we had to have virtual slt MEETINGS. numbers were great. Now we are back in person. SLT is governed by bYLAWS. Updates need to be made to bylaws. How do we want to do this? In-person? Hybrid? Remote? We have the opportunity to personalize our slt meetings for or school to make sure it is conducive to all families. Survey will be sent out to get feedback based on meeting dates, times, and

like the in-person, old school vibe. better in person. later time beneficial for parents who work. possibility of alternating meeting preferences. Meetings must have buckmon, ebony, ciani, slt chair, secretary.

we don't just want one persons voice, we want to collaborate for our babies.

**Attendance Report**

YTD Attendance: 89% dropped 2% from last month, took a hit for thanksgiving break, vacations and such. booking trips prior to school being closed. It is vital for children to come to school everyday, as much as they can. Days do count toward absenteeism.

YTD City Average: 89% (us) 92% (city)

Chronic Absenteeism last meeting 33%, this meeting 41% we want this number to be as low as possible!!

letters going out in the mail, if your child has been deemed chronically absent, you will be receiving a letter with contact numbers in case there are any concerns regarding attendance. we want to ensure that we are supporting you the best that we absolutely can.

beginning this month, we are working with ms. z for afterschool, audit to see who is under 90% fort attendance. issues warnings. have to improve attendance by the end of december. they will be removed from afterschool and replaced with a student who has better attendance rates. PLEASE make it important to you to make sure your kids are coming to school. Afterschool is based on funding. low attendance leads to less funding. numbers reduce for next year, less seats, they plan to cook dinner for 80-120 kids,

Parents ( donate food instead of throwing it out )



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### S-CEP Update

Map Growth: whole city is administering to all students. Reading and math K-5. REACH OUT TO TEACHER FOR STUDENT DATA. weekly meetings with staff developers and grade lead to focus in on skills and standards in connection to curricula.

### ELA

K: 19% last year increased to 24% proficiency by 5% a better understanding of k standards, stronger skills when beginning K.

- 1: 10% to 13%: 3% increase
- 2: 13% to 11%: 2% decrease
- 3: 9% to 11%
- 4: 15% to 15%
- 5: 11% to 10%

### Math

K: 14% last year increased to 18% proficiency by 4% a better understanding of k standards, stronger skills when beginning K.

- 1: 14% to 5%:
- 2: 3% to 4%
- 3: 6% to 5%
- 4: 4% to 8%
- 5: 5% to 6%

shows that teachers teaching to standards are working and closing the gap. we will be able to make progress. looking forward to seeing trimester 2 scores and compare to the beginning of year results. content with motivation and how teachers are coming together.

### Acadence K-2

Screeners that supports in assessing foundation skills phonemic awareness, phonics, beginning sounds, blending segmenting, letter sounds, etc. identify students current level

2022-2023 to this year we see more students exceeding. less red! decrease in red means students are more prepared.

Priority 1: All students will learn to read (ELA)

What re the celebrations: positive key strategies

record glimpses of small group to show next month, same with teacher team

Challenges: about 9-10 of us. 1 person from each grade. what do we need? hey do not have enough books in their hands, not reading enough, recently changed over to Close Reading (grades 1-5) learning to manipulate through a text. do they know how to navigate and make sense of the text. will be done through articles to get the idea of practicing to read.



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what do we need to adjust?

12 to 45 ELLs this year all newcomers

tier 1: teaching to everyone (whole group)

tier 2: small group teach the specific skills

tier 3: pull-out services done by specialists (instruction is targeted)

Priority 3: All students have a high-quality academic experience (math)

strengths:

barriers:

adjustments:

School Data Report

Upcoming Events

saturday: pre k had a separate program (9-12)

dance art basketball step and robotics

max 55 so far

benefits parents so they are able to get things done while children are safe at school and get core instruction

Activate all accounts! Reach out to Mr. Keith for help. Start reaching out to all families and see if they have access. it takes a village!!

NY student account: access grades!

Winter Wishes: wonderful partners with NY Cares. They ask every student what they want for the holidays. They literally provide gifts for every child before the holidays.

What if parents have donations? Like a toys for tots. They were allowed to ask for 3 gifts

modified dates for november 30 ATTENDANCE MATTERS LUNCH

December 1, 2023: NO NYE as they will be attending a training based on SEL and its importance and ensuring they are implementing within the program.

free classes from Optical Academy Glasses2Classes. everyone was tested if they were here. OPT out for these activities.

DEC. 4-6 SPELLING BEE!!!

Picture day: pictures have been confirmed, should be in within a week or so.

Scholastic book fair: decided to try and do it twice per year, good turnout. not just about buying a book to



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build a library. we get money back. use scholastic dollars to buy more than 10 carpets for our classrooms. school gets a percentage back from what is sold so its almost like a school fundraiser. will be in the main lobby.

Holiday Spirit Week!!:  
Dec. 18 Pajama Day

Dismissal: what happens when snow comes? how will we dismiss? 2-5 in gymnasium, K in cafeteria, 3k pk (by kindergarten) 1st in auditorium.

figuring out how to get devices to students who do not have and how to get internet access in case of inclement weather. purchase a hotspot for families. part of priority 5: reimagining how this works

families taking and selling devices from pandemic.  
opened the laundry for free services. my washing machine broke, schedule an appointment with zakiyyah free of charge and we give detergent. for staff as well.

families coming in with 4 bags 2x per week. taking laundry from other people. parents being paid to wash others clothes and making money off of a free service. you take food or services from the school, you take it from students.

we can help with employment services, but not knocking the hustle.

be mindful of what you are sending your scholars into school wearing (\$800 coat vs \$30)  
32 degrees or warmer students can go outside. below 32 we will keep them inside.  
misconception: we do not get sick from the cold, we get sick from germs. cold kills the germs.  
because colder months are upon us, families like to use as an excuse not to come to school because it's too cold. may not have proper clothing, we are working to support you. we'd rather you take your time to come to school then not show up at all. pack extra dry bag of clothes in case.

Next meeting Dec. 19

closing

Next Steps:

Task	Member Assigned	Due Date	Status



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Date: 10/17/2023	Attendance: <a href="#">SLT Attendance Google Form</a>
Time: 6:00-7:14 pm	
<a href="#">Meeting Slides</a>	

Notes:

- Icebreaker:



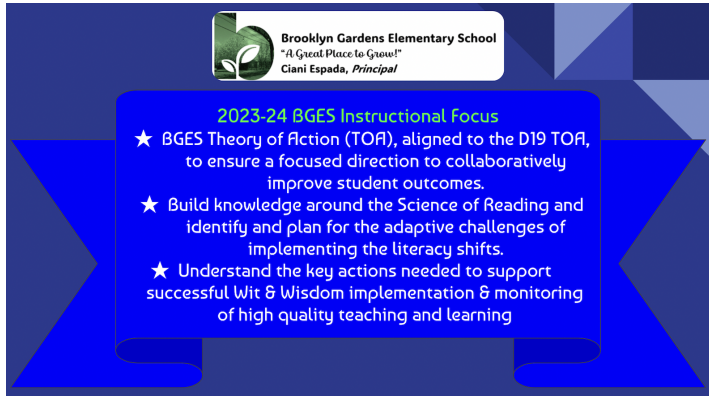
Fall Traditions listed in the chat:

- Jamarivette Quintana: pumpkin picking and pumpkin spice EVERYTHING <3
- Eugenia Buckmon: Apple picking and apple pie making... Fall Festivals
- Ms. Ciani: Eating a lot of GREAT food! lol
- Ms. Rosado: Spending time with family, eating, pumpkin picking, Football
- Ms. Ebony: Family gatherings and creating memories
- Mr. Daniel: Breaking out all of my favorite hoodies from storage. Might be my favorite time of the year!
- Anjolie Furse: Warm drinks and soup... and the best time of the year SWEATER WEATHER!
- Junita Wilson: Visiting a pumpkin patch w/ a hay ride...celebrating the Holidays...cozy clothing
- Donna Marshall: Apple cider from the farmers market
- Flow Wilson: Roller skating in the park, leaf picking
- Frances: Going to farm with family.

Instructional Focus:

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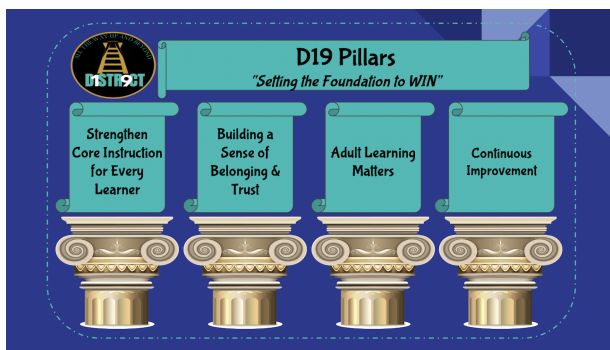
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Our BGES Theory of Action is directly aligned to District 19's Theory of Action, which is to ensure a focused direction to collaboratively improve student outcomes. This school year, we are working to have strong instructional practices in place. For example, we have asked ourselves, how can the principal support our teachers in their instruction?, and what do our teachers need to successfully teach their students? We are putting an equally strong focus on our student learning outcomes as a whole.

Our staff is currently engaged in high-quality professional development around the Science of Reading, successful implementation of Wit & Wisdom (our English Language Arts curriculum), and monitoring of high quality teaching and learning. Teachers are engaged in literacy blocks during their teacher teams. They have been exploring data and gaining knowledge of what their students need in order to expose them to new skills and content.

D19 Pillars:



There are currently 36 schools in District 19. All 36 schools are currently aligned with the same, shared curricula. We use Eureka Math, Wit & Wisdom, Amplify Science, and Passport Social Studies.

**Pillar One:** Both BGES and District 19 have put a focus on strengthening core instruction. With teachers engaged in professional learning, it will allow them to expand their knowledge of how to teach. We have also

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shifted from the Common Core State Standards to the New York State Next Generation Standards.

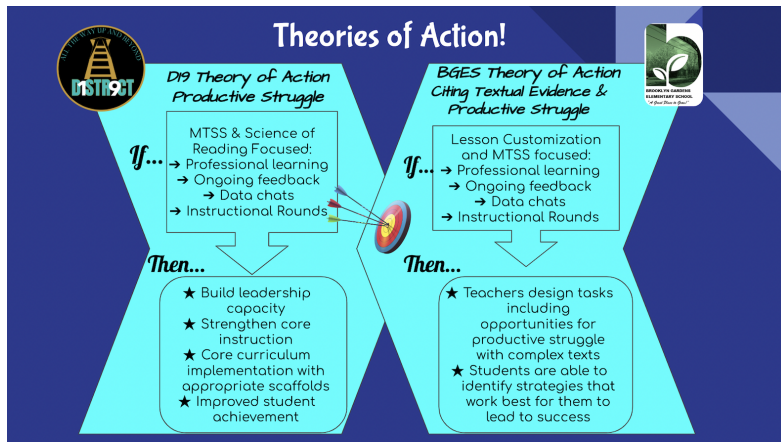
**Pillar Two:** Building a sense of belonging and trust allows scholars to take ownership of their learning in the classroom.

**Pillar Three:** Adult learning matters! We have planned, and are continuing to plan workshops for families that are founded around our core curricula. We **STRONGLY** encourage our BGES families to attend workshops. These opportunities to participate in workshops ensure that families are learning alongside students and teachers.

**Pillar Four:** Continuous improvement is being heavily tracked this year through progress monitoring. Parent Teacher Conferences are coming up in November! At this point in the school year, baseline data for students has been established. We encourage you to touch base with your child’s teachers to “check the pulse” of their academic updates.

This school year, WE ARE WINNING!!! We are setting the foundation to WIN! Win is an acronym that stands for **What ‘do’ I Need** in school to be prepared for learning. Students need motivation and ownership to feel successful in their learning daily.

Theories of Action:



Currently, District 19’s Instructional Focus is around Productive Struggle. Our BGES Instructional Focus for the 2023-2024 school year is closely aligned to the District’s. **Productive Struggle is a method in how we engage students in opportunities of academic discourse and self-efficacy.** There is a big difference between struggle and productive struggle. We do not want our scholars to reach the point of frustration, however, we do want them to learn how to use strategies and skills to work through challenges.

**MTSS: Multi-Tiered Student Support**

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This school year, we are focused on citing textual evidence and evidence of productive struggle. Our teachers are engaged in professional development focused on improving their practice, building leadership capacity, strengthening core instruction, planning core curricula implementations with appropriate scaffolds, and improving student outcomes. We want to ensure that our scholars are receiving support, especially in the areas of literacy and written responses. Our scholars in grades 3, 4, and 5 will be taking state tests this year, so we are really focusing on these skills!

***If teachers design tasks that include opportunities for productive struggle with complex texts, then students are able to identify strategies that work best for them to lead to success.***

We are working towards MASTERY with our Next Generation Standards! Our teachers are deeply engaging in this practice and we see evidence in our classrooms every single day. We want to continue to see evidence of productive struggle and students citing contextual evidence and working towards mastery with their literacy goals.

**Attendance Update:**



**Attendance Update**

YTD attendance as of today: **91%** | Comparison to city average: **91%** (City average: 93%)

Chronic absenteeism from our last meeting: **37%** | Chronic absenteeism as of today: **33%**

**ATTENDANCE CATEGORIES**

The key below is a quick breakdown of attendance percentages and what each percentage can indicate for your scholar's future academic career. Please remember, all absences add up over the course of the entire school year, so every single day matters!

**Where does your scholar lie?**

- 96%-100% (Green)**: Your scholar is "That Old Pro" and has stellar attendance! The goal is to end the school year at this attendance range each year. Keep up the great work!
- 91-95% (Yellow)**: The scholar is "On the Edge" all year long. "Chronically Absent" is an educational requirement that your scholar does not meet. Monitor days of school for the remainder of the school year.
- 90% AND BELOW (Red)**: The scholar is "At Risk" for chronic absenteeism. The scholar is not meeting the educational requirement that your scholar does not meet. Monitor days of school for the remainder of the school year.

Please be on the look-out for a letter in the mail stating where your child stands in attendance. Letters will be mailed out by the end of this week. You will receive either a **Green**, **Yellow**, or **Red** notice. **Yellow** and **Red** notices will be priority mailed, as we must work together and figure out how to get your scholar in the building on a more frequent basis.

We are two months into our school year already! We just want to shout out to those who attended school on



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September 29, the day of the really bad rainstorm!! Thank you families for getting our scholars to school! We had rallies and scholars were given incentives. We truly express our gratitude.

Current Year to Date Attendance Rate: 91%

- Our attendance rate did not change from last month, which is great! Our rate DID NOT drop!

Current Citywide Attendance Rate: 93%

- We are still in GOOD STANDING!!

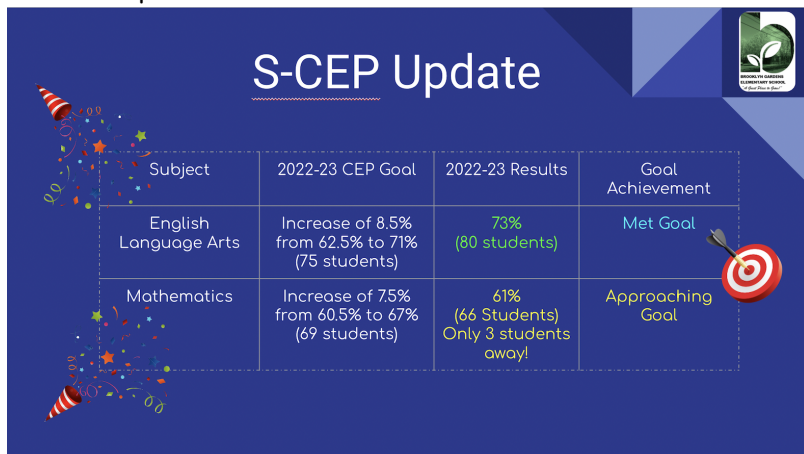
We want our Chronic Absenteeism to be as low as possible. I am happy to say that our chronic absenteeism rate **dropped from 37% (last gathering) to 33%!!** Remember that without coming to school, your scholars cannot learn!

### Attendance Categories Update:

Attendance letters are being mailed to families to show where your child stands in regard to attendance. As stated before, we are two months into our school year and we want to ensure that everyone knows where their child's attendance rate falls in regards to attendance categories. If your scholar falls in a yellow or red attendance category, we are prioritizing mailing your student letters. We want to try and improve their attendance rates! All families will be receiving a letter, regardless of attendance category. The letter will include a graphic and detailed report about where your child stands. We are hoping to send these letters home monthly. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your scholars attendance, you can contact Mr. Daniel.

*Principal Ciani: "Congratulations parents and families!!! Mr. Daniel works tirelessly to ensure our scholars are in school everyday ready to learn."*

### S-CEP Update:



Subject	2022-23 CEP Goal	2022-23 Results	Goal Achievement
English Language Arts	Increase of 8.5% from 62.5% to 71% (75 students)	73% (80 students)	Met Goal
Mathematics	Increase of 7.5% from 60.5% to 67% (69 students)	61% (66 Students) Only 3 students away!	Approaching Goal

We are finally putting a close on last school year's S-CEP. There are so many great things that we would like to highlight with our results! First, it is very rare for a school to meet state defined CEP goals because the numbers are based on algorithms that are challenging to achieve. We are happy to say that we MET and

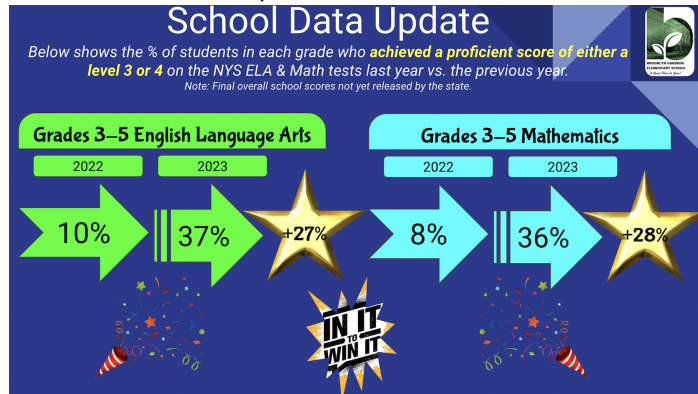
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SURPASSED our English Language Arts goal by 2%!!! Our math goal is still approaching, however, we want to point out that we only missed this goal by 3 STUDENTS!!

WE ARE IN IT TO WIN IT!! KEEP GOING BGES!

School Data Report:



Our School Data Report finally was released to the public today! BGES, we are WINNING all the way up and beyond! The data above shows students who received a level 3 or 4 on their state exams. A level 3 signifies a student performing on grade level and a level 4 is a student exceeding grade level expectations.

**English Language Arts:** We had a 27% increase from the 2022 school year to the 2023 school year! Our scholars jumped from 10% to 37% proficiency!

**Mathematics:** We had a 28% increase from the 2022 school year to the 2023 school year! Our scholars jumped from 8% to 36% proficiency!

Out of 36 schools in our district, 10 schools made the Top Ten Schools with the most gains. Not only did BGES make the top 10 list, we are #1 IN BOTH ELA AND MATH!!!

Parents have access to their scholar's individual reports on NYCSA.

We have made AMAZING gains!! I can see us growing again with our instructional focus! We are #1 in the district for improvements. We have almost **tripled** gains in both ELA and Math in one year. That is rare citywide and a major accomplishment! We applaud everyone and the efforts we have put in together. Let's keep pushing with momentum! We are expecting 100% participation on the state tests this year! Opting out of the exams is doing harm to your scholars' academic gains and it makes it challenging for schools to show gains.

We also wanted to highlight that this year we had incredible gains with our students with disabilities. One 4th grade student from last year in particular went from a 1.36 to a 4.08!

BGES News & Upcoming Events:

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**BGES NEWS & UPCOMING DATES**

- New York City School Account Activations
- Google Classroom Account Activations
- NYS ELA & MATH State Scores
- Middle School Applications
- ECE After-school begins 10/24 (Tues, Wed, Thurs)
- Grades 3, 4 & 5-BGES Academic After-school begins 10/24 (Tues, Wed, Thurs)

**October**

- Oct 8 - Middle School Applications - Now Open
- Oct 14 - Saturday Program
- Oct 20 - Hispanic Heritage Showcase
- Oct 25 - Parent Engagement: Attendance Matters- Breakfast
- Oct 27 - Breast Cancer Walk
- Oct 31 - Character Parade

**November**

- Nov. 2 - Afternoon & Evening PTO: Early Dismissal
- Nov. 6 - Optical Academy - Eye Screening
- Nov. 7 - Election Day **Students Do Not Attend School**
- Nov. 17 - Parent Engagement: Attendance Matters Lunch
- Nov. 20-22 - Spelling Bee
- Nov 23-24 - Thanksgiving Recess, schools closed
- Nov. 30 - EPIC Fridays -SEL/Academic Assembly

**NYCSA Activation:**

- **IMPORTANT:** If you do not have an activated account, it will be hard to see your scholar’s scores, report cards, request school verification letters, access middle school applications, access documents related to your scholar, etc.
- Currently there are 314 scholars enrolled at BGES, however only 50% of accounts have been activated.
- If a child has two parents listed on their registration card, **BOTH PARENTS** must have an account activated. The system is designed this way so that both parents have access to their child’s education.
- If you are unsure of your account status, call Ms. Nadine or Mr. Keith for support. Labs are open with Ms. Nadine between 9:00 and 11:00 am to activate accounts.
- Parent Teacher Conferences are **November 2, 2023**. Without an account, you cannot get a printed report card for your scholar.
- NYS ELA/Math State Exam scores can be accessed via the NYCSA portal.
- NYCSA Activation Link :<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/student-journey/nyc-schools-account>

**Google Classroom Usage:**

Google Classrooms have been created by your scholars’ teachers using their student NYC DOE email addresses. You can find your scholar’s email address on NYCSA. Please note they need to use their NYC DOE email address, not their BGES email address! If you are unsure of your child’s DOE email address, please contact the school so we can assist you. These emails will be used daily for internal students who use online learning platforms to assist in performance in school and will be used during remote learning days (or school closures), similar to pandemic and remote learning. Remote learning is not going away! We are not replacing traditional learning styles, but enhancing them. Schools will not be closed for snow days. We will have remote days! **ALL STUDENTS** must have their Google Classroom accounts activated.

**Early Childhood Education Afterschool Program:**

- Will be hosted from Tuesday to Thursday weekly.
- Selected families will begin on October 24, 2023.
- Only 10 slots in each cycle
- We do not want to exhaust or overwork scholars in afterschool, especially at such a young age!

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**BGES Afterschool (Grades 3, 4, & 5):**

- Begins October 24th and will be offered Tuesdays through Thursdays
- Support students in New York Edge to have time in academics to further support students and momentum.

New York Edge Afterschool Program is ASTOUNDING! Homework is always out! Please check your ClassDojo pages to see videos and videos of your scholars engaged. Ms. Robinson is actively surprising her staff and checking in on each classroom. Thank you NYE STAFF!

Middle School Applications:



The flyer features the Brooklyn Gardens Elementary logo on the left. The main heading is "Middle School Application" in blue, with a sub-heading "APPLICATIONS OPEN THIS WEEK" in white on a blue background. Below this, there are three bullet points with sub-points: "Letters Sent Out Last Week!" (with sub-points: Set up MySchools Account, Have Student OSIS # Available, Have Account Creation Code), "Deadline" (with sub-point: \*\*\*Tuesday December 8, 2023\*\*\*), and "Receive Offer" (with sub-point: Offer letters will be made in the SPRING). At the bottom, there is a note: "\*\*\*NYC families with children in fifth grade in a K-5 school, or in sixth grade in a K-6 school, can apply for admission to NYC's middle schools (grades 6-8) for the 2023-2024 school year." The flyer has a decorative pink and purple geometric shape at the bottom right.

Attention all 5th grade families! MIDDLE SCHOOL APPLICATIONS ARE OFFICIALLY OPEN!!! A middle school manual has been backpacked (programs, schools, information) with a letter in case it was not received in the mail. Mr. Keith will be hosting mini-town halls for workshops to support families every step of the way in completing this process and finding the right school to fit their families needs between now and December 8th. Four families have already applied to middle school! Your child will be accepted into their zone school (P.S. 292), however, you MUST complete an application! Be on the lookout for announcements from Mr. Keith!

UPCOMING DATES:

**October**

- Saturday Program:
  - We had a great turnout! 33 students (54 families signed up)
  - We offer dance, robotics, learning lab, music, and sports
  - Shoutout to the families who donate snacks in the morning out of the kindness of their hearts! You are amazing and consistent. Thank you! We are a family! We see it in the community!
- Hispanic Heritage Month Showcase this Friday! Flyers and messages will be coming out.
- October 25, 2023 is our District 19 Hispanic Heritage Month Showcase
- October 25, 2023: Picture Day!
- October 26, 2023: Attendance Matters breakfast! We will be highlighting 18 families. These events will be held monthly and at different times (breakfast, lunch, dinner) to ensure we are accommodating

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families. We are listening to concerns in regards to timing.

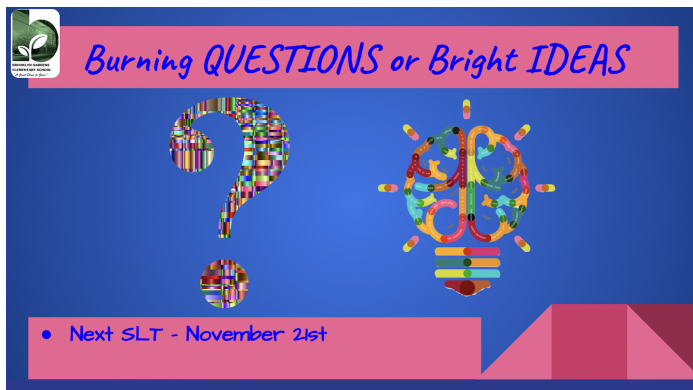
- Breast Cancer Walk permission slips went out today.
- Character Day costumes should be linked to a book character!

**November:**

- 11/2/2023: Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Conferences. An early dismissal does not mean they don't come to school that day. It **will** affect their attendance!!
- 11/2/2023: **No** NYE Afterschool Program
- 11/6/2023: Optical Academy Visits. Your child can get a free eye screening and FREE GLASSES! This is a community partnership that takes funding and support. PLEASE ensure students attend school. The Optical Academy will not return until next year!
- 11/7/2023: NO SCHOOL!
- 11/17/2023: Parent Engagement: Attendance Matters Breakfast!
- 11/20/2023-11/22/2023: Spelling Bee (tentative)
- 11/23/2023-11/24/2023: Thanksgiving Recess, NO SCHOOL!
- 11/30/2023: EPIC Friday's SEL/Academic Assembly

*Note: We do try our best to upload dates ahead of time, which can be a challenge. We want to ensure our dates are solidified for each month. Dates will be given in advance. Slides will be posted.*

- Questions/Ideas:



Thank you Ms. Fredricks for all your work in this role for president! Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to our school. You are still a member. Thank you so much!

Please join us in welcoming our new Parent Association President, **Ms. Eugenia Buckman**. Congratulations! Ms. Buckman stated, *"I am honored and happy to be here. I am here to support with your goals and visions. I am here to help parents. I am happy for our families and the successes of our scholars and our community!"*

Congratulations to **Ms. Donna Marshall**, Parent Association Treasurer, and **Ms. Alana Golsby**, Parent Association Secretary!!!



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If you have a child at BGES, you are part of the Parent Association! A means of communication will be shared and backpacked ASAP.

**Questions:**

- Donna Marshall: How do we order some Brooklyn garden sweaters for parents?
  - There is a link for uniforms on our BGES website. However, we have heard of some mixed experiences with ordering through MILK. For fast delivery, place your order then email Nadine or Keith to have on file.
- Lasheem Hardy: I have two separate schools on my class dojo but I'm only with BGES.
  - Parents should use two separate email addresses, one for each child so that everyone has access. Different telephone numbers should be used as well.
- Jamarivette Quintana: Are parent teacher conferences virtual or in person?
  - They are virtual, but you may schedule with your scholar's teacher in advance for another time (outside of Parent Teacher Conference day)

We are excited for this year! Scholars are up and at it and we want to keep the MOMENTUM!! Please be on the lookout for more information on ClassDojo.

Our next SLT Meeting is Tuesday, November 21, 2023!

Closing

**Next Steps:**

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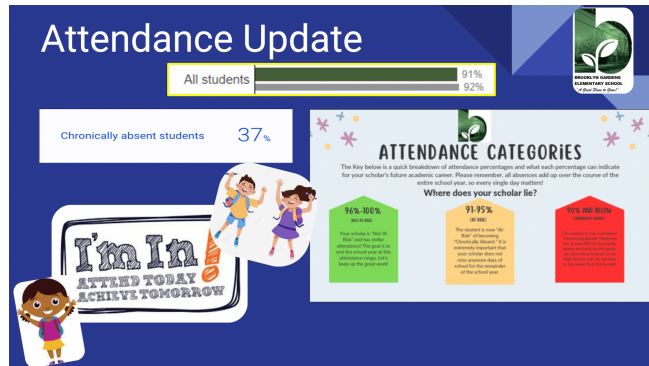
- Meeting Welcome:



Welcome families to our first SLT Town Hall Meeting for the 2023-2024 school year! We would like to proudly introduce our new leadership members, Mr. Keith Rogers (SLT ChairPerson), Ms. Amanda Rosado (SLT Secretary), and Mr. Daniel Mendez (Community Based Organization).

Our participant numbers are rising with each meeting, but we are aiming to increase our meeting attendance even more! Our hope is to have over 100 participants attending each SLT Town Hall Meeting, similarly to our Curriculum Night Town Hall.

- Attendance Updates:



- As many of our families are aware, attendance is a big deal this year! Currently, the overall attendance percentage for our BGES scholars from September 7, 2023 to today (September 19, 2023) is at 91%. The city's current overall attendance percentage is at 92%. We are almost tied with the city, which is big and amazing news!! However, 37% of our scholars are considered to be chronically absent already this school year. We want to ensure that students are attending school so our chronically absent student percentage decreases.

If families attended our Back to School Bash on August 30, 2023, the attendance category handout was provided. Families who attended the Back to School Bash should already be aware of what attendance category their child falls into.

We want all scholars' attendance to be in the green! We understand that things happen (i.e., emergencies, illness), but we want to continue to see improvements in attendance.

Important attendance percentages to remember:

- 96-100%: Scholars are **not at risk** for chronic absenteeism.
- 91-95%: Scholars are considered to be **at risk** of becoming chronically absent.
- 90% and Below: Scholars are considered to be **chronically absent**.

Remember Mr. Mendez's analogy: 85% on a test is great, but 85% attendance is not!

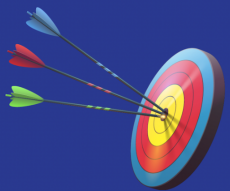
**Reminder: Keeping attendance up-to-date is important for scholars to engage in core instruction!!**

- S-CEP Update:





## S-CEP Update



2023-24 School Comprehensive Educational Plan (S-CEP) Goals	
<b>Priority 1:</b> All students will learn to read	By June 2024, there will be an 11 percentage point increase from 30% to 41% for all students in grades 3-5, as measured by levels 2 or above achievement on the NWEA MAP ELA Achievement Test
<b>Priority 2:</b> All students are physically and emotionally safe	By June 2024, students in grades K-5 will be willing to take intellectual risk through a variety of modalities as evidenced by a 10% decrease from 26% to 16% of students who fall into the category of "need for instruction" in the overall Composite Score on the DESSA.
<b>Priority 3:</b> All students have a high-quality academic experience	By June 2024 the percentage of students achieving levels 2 and above in grades 3-5 will increase by 11% from 21% to 32% as measured by the MAP Growth Assessment.
<b>Priority 4:</b> All students graduate college and career ready and have a strong plan and pathway to economic security	By June 2024, goal oriented behaviors from students in grades K-5 will strengthen as evidenced by a 15% increase from 23% to 38% of students rated in the "strength" category, as measured by the Goal Directed Behaviors competency in the DESSA assessment.
<b>Priority 5:</b> Redesign the system to be more inclusive and responsive for parents and families	By June 2024, Brooklyn Gardens will provide multiple means of access to families to participate in school community activities resulting in an increase of our average weekly parent/family engagement rate from 57 to 500 as measured by the Family Engagement Tracker.
<b>Chronic Absenteesim</b>	By June 2024 we will improve our Chronic Absenteesim rate for all students in grades K-5 by 10% from 53% to 43% as measured by the New Visions Portal Chronic Absenteesim Rate
<b>Quality IEPs</b>	By June 2024 there will be a 10% increase from 53% to 63% in the percentage of students with disabilities who are at or above the 41st conditional growth percentile in reading according to the MAP Growth assessment.

• School Assessment Updates:

## School Assessments Announcements

**Beginning of Year Assessment Window Opening Soon**

<b>Acadience</b> ★ Measures reading skills including phonics & phonemic awareness	<b>MAP Growth</b> ★ Measures reading & math skills including "in-the-moment" level adjustments to determine students' independent learning levels aligned to the Next Generation Learning Standards	<b>Running Records</b> ★ Measures a students understanding of Concepts of Print and reading fluency.
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*The Why...Provides individual student data to inform small group and individualized instructional planning and support.*

This school year, we will be using three main assessments to analyze your scholars' growth throughout the year. Each assessment will be administered to scholars **3 times per year** (fall, winter, spring). The three assessments we will use are as follows:

- **Acadience:** This assessment is used with scholars in grades K-2 and it measures reading skills, including phonics and phonemic awareness. It is administered by the classroom teacher and is completed with **one student at a time**. The Acadience testing window is currently open and closes the last week of October. Lastly, teachers receive immediate results. We **strongly encourage** families to contact their scholars' teachers and request their Acadience test results.
- **MAP Growth:** The MAP Growth Assessment is a computer based assessment that measures student skills in both reading and math and is used with scholars in grades K-5. This assessment

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Principal

**Marjorie Greene**  
Assistant Principal

includes “in-the-moment” level adjustments to determine scholars’ independent learning levels that are directly aligned to the Next Generation Learning Standards. The MAP Growth Assessment is not a timed assessment and it allows students the opportunity to take their time to work through each question or passage.

- **Changes with MAP Growth Assessment Administration from the 2022-2023 school year: In the past, the MAP Growth was administered to the whole class by the teacher. After reflecting, this school year, scholars will be administered their MAP Growth in a small group, allowing the teacher to proctor and monitor students.**
- **Running Records:** A running record is a measurement tool that measures scholars’ understanding of concepts of print and reading fluency. During a running record, teachers listen to scholars read and respond to comprehension based questions. Running Records are performed by the teacher with **one student at a time**. This allows teachers to identify reading fluency and reading comprehension skills for each scholar, as well as identify both their instructional and independent reading levels.

Why do we administer these assessments?

- The assessment information provides teachers with individual student data, which informs them of small group instruction groupings, planning, and support. Teachers can plan based on individual student needs.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE THESE ASSESSMENTS!**

- **BGES Upcoming Dates:**



**BGES UPCOMING DATES**

**September**

- Dunks With Dads- Thursday Sep. 21
- School Closed- Monday Sep. 25th ( Yom Kippur)
- After School Start Date- Tuesday Sep. 26th
- EPIC Friday's -SEL/Academic Assembly Friday Sep. 29

**October**

- Saturday Program
- Middle School Applications- Open Oct. 8
- Anti-Bullying Day/Wear Orange- Oct. 2
- Italian Heritage/Indigenous Peoples' Day, schools closed- Oct. 9
- Hispanic Heritage Showcase- Oct. 13
- EPIC Friday's SEL/Academic Assembly- Oct. 20
- Breast Cancer Walk- Oct. 22
- Parent Engagement: Attendance Matters- Breakfast Oct. 26
- Character Parade- Oct 31

Important BGES Upcoming Dates for September and October 2023. Please note that dates are subject to change. The monthly calendar will be posted on the BGES Website and ClassDojo monthly. Scholars will also receive a printed calendar to bring home. All calendars will be provided in multiple languages to ensure accessibility.

**September Dates:**

- **Dunks with Dads: Thursday, September 21, 2023**
  - *Important Note: Your scholar does not need to come with Dad! They can come with any male role model of value in yours or your scholars’ lives. We are trying to increase our positive male*

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Principal

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Assistant Principal

*role model presence in our school.*

- **SCHOOL CLOSED:** Monday, September 25, 2023 in observance of Yom Kippur.
- After-School Start Date: Thursday, September 26, 2023
  - *Important Note: Families who attended the Back to School Bash and BGES Town Hall Meeting have already received the criteria for the first wave of after school applications. We have been working hard with families to ensure they are meeting all criteria. Please ensure that you have set-up your parent accounts! For assistance, please reach out to Nadine, our Parent Coordinator, for support with creating accounts.*
- EPIC Friday's SEL/Academic Assembly: Friday, September 29, 2023
  - *Important Note: This assembly will occur once per month to promote Social-Emotional Learning.*

**October Dates:**

- Saturday Program: (**Anticipated** start date of October 7, 2023).
- Anti-Bullying Day: Monday, October 2, 2023 - **WEAR ORANGE!!**
- Middle School Applications Open: Sunday, October 8, 2023
  - *Important Note: A Town Hall will be hosted to support 5th grade families. Applications close before January! Look out for an email or ClassDojo post from Mr. Keith.*
- **SCHOOL CLOSED:** Italian Heritage/Indigenous Peoples' Day: Monday, October 9, 2023
- BGES Hispanic Heritage Showcase: Friday, October 13, 2023
- EPIC Friday's SEL/Academic Assembly: Friday, October 20, 2023
- Breast Cancer Walk - Sunday, October 22, 2023
- Parent Engagement: Attendance Matters Breakfast!: Thursday, October 26, 2023
  - *Important Note: We want to highlight and award attendance percentage growth!*
- Character Parade: Tuesday, October 31, 2023
  - *Important Note: Our character parade is directly linked to academics. Typically scholars' costumes are directly connected to a favorite book, character, superhero, etc.*
- Questions/Ideas?:



Our next SLT meeting is on Tuesday, October 17, 2023. Each meeting participant has been tasked with bringing a friend to the next meeting. Our goal is to increase our number of participants from 42 to 82 for our



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next meeting.

Questions/Suggestions and Responses Received:

- Jeanine Williams: What time is dunks with dads on thursday?
  - Gate opens at 7:30 am
- Carmen Ortiz: Can you please share Nadine's number again?
  - Nadine's number was shared in the chat.
- Golsby Family: Do you have a date for the beginning of the Saturday program?
  - Principal Ciani is in the process of getting approval for permits to open on Saturdays, for agents, and working out calendar dates. Anticipated start date of October 7, 2023.
- Eugenia Buckmon: Can we try to host more evening activities so that parents who work in the day can participate with their child?
  - Good feedback, put into action. Consult with the team to plan two sessions.
  - *Important Note: Dunks with Dads event has been updated with two sessions to accommodate parent schedules.*
- Need Rockets: What's going to happen with the kids that have an IEP?
  - During the school day, services that are mandated in the IEP are received while your scholar is in school (i.e, ENL, Counseling, Speech, OT, PT).
- Miss B: Is BrainTrust being continued?
  - Yes, partnership is continuing and begins Monday, October 16, 2023 for scholars in grades K-1.
  - Sounds Sensible Reading Corp. is also happening during the school day. This program caters to scholars in grades K-1. Sound Sensible begins at the end of September/beginning of October. We are currently programming and rostering scholars into each program.
  - We also have a Reading interventionist who is supporting scholars in grades 2-5, during the school day. Students are currently being selected to begin services. Services will begin next week.
  - We have introduced a new Literacy Learning Lab led by Ms. Dyer. She will be providing scholars with targeted intervention support and preparing them to become readers! We want to ensure all of our scholars are learning to read so that they can read to learn!
  - ***Important Note: If your child was in a program last year and was removed due to attendance, please understand that scholars who attend school daily will benefit from the services. If your child has chronic absenteeism and holds a spot in a program, another student misses out on the benefits of that program.***

- Quick Afterschool Update:

The After School program will begin on Tuesday, September 26, 2023. The staff are excited to get to know your scholars, but ask that you please remain patient with them as they are still hiring staff members.

The After School program design will be different this year. We have many literacy activities planned as we want to ensure we are keeping with the continuity of the school day. We are actively hiring a literacy specialist to support your scholars in after school. Mr. Simeon is our Sports Specialist and your scholars



**BROOKLYN GARDENS  
ELEMENTARY**

A Great Place to Grow!

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Principal

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Assistant Principal

have been very excited seeing him in the school building already! We are also offering Dance/Step and Homework Help!!

Closing

Next Steps:

Task	Member Assigned	Due Date	Status
Ensure all phone numbers are up to date for parent messaging.	Nadine		
Create a Whatsapp just for families who only have international phone numbers. (Do not have access to classdojo)	Travieso, Susana, Nadine		
Must have translation for future meetings. Create another panel where someone is presenting in another language. (dry run with staff on each link)	Diana Delgado, Keith		
Update the SLT section on school website (for both last and this year)	Smart/Rosado	48 hrs for last yrs. tabs (archive) 1 week for 23-24 SLT	
Add district pillars to slides or next meeting and problems of practice for district/school	Keith, Marji		
Every event must be posted 2 weeks in advance on Classdojo	Nadine, Travieso		
Minutes Translation to Spanish	Rosado, Nadine, Susana		



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Assistant Principal

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Date:	Attendance: <a href="#">SLT Attendance Google Form</a> <a href="#">SLT Attendance Spreadsheet</a>		
Time:			
Meeting Slides			
Notes:			
•			
Next Steps:			
Task	Member Assigned	Due Date	Status