



BUNKER

HILL

**Community Unit
School District**

8

Bunker Hill #8 Newsletter Spring 2019

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Superintendent's Notebook



1 - Superintendent Todd Dugan

Hopefully everyone is enjoying the warmer weather as Spring arrives. While this year has flown by, this past winter truly was a long, cold one. As we near Spring Break and the final grading quarter of the year, great things continue to happen at our two schools on a daily basis. Those of us fortunate enough to be inside the schools witness these things everyday, but for those who reside or pay taxes to Bunker Hill CUSD #8, I love taking this opportunity to brag about our schools!

School finances continue to improve across downstate Illinois thanks to this 2nd year of the Evidence-Based Funding model of providing state aid to schools. Bunker Hill's is no different, as we have been very fortunate this year to receive state payments on time. At this point, approximately 75% of the way through the school year, we have expended only approximately 68% of what was proposed in our balanced budget last fall which projects our district to finish my first year at the helm of the district under budget, and a balanced budget at that.

We have also been hard at work improving the curriculum and offerings for our students. In addition to being awarded a \$50,000 grant to expand AP offerings at the high school, Mr. Brian Young at BHHS has also been awarded nearly \$8,000 from the **Improving Ag Education** grant. We have also been partnering with SIHF to seek a competitive grant from the US Department of Education for providing full-service community health access within our two schools. Also, our District is about to embark on the task of creating a "Portrait of a Graduate" with community feedback, in which we collectively compile our hopes, dreams and aspirations for our students prior to 12th grade graduation. Needless to say, the future of Bunker Hill #8 is looking increasingly bright and the entire community should be very proud! Nobody knows exactly what the future holds, but based on what I have seen in the past 9 months, we are well on our way to providing the very best 21st century educational experience in a rural setting, and am so honored to be a part of this. As always, thank you for your continued support of our schools, and I look forward to continue sharing the exciting news with you!

Respectfully yours,

Todd Dugan

Superintendent

BH Students Continue to Give Back



Beginning this year, a new practice was started at Bunker Hill CUSD #8 for students in extra curricular activities. One practice per season is devoted to community service, with the volleyball teams cutting weeds at Mae Whitaker Park in the fall. This spring, Coach Jeremiah Goltz and the High School Boys' Basketball team headed out to Royal Lakes to help clean up a mess for a family. Not pictured, Coach Marshall and the High School Track team recently spruced up the butterfly garden at Wolf Ridge. Throughout this year, other events such as the charity basketball games for ALS and Breast Cancer research have also taken place. Not only does the community benefit from some extra volunteerism, our students learn how good it feels to serve others.

Interested in Subbing at BH?



Have you wanted to substitute or volunteer at Bunker Hill CUSD #8 schools but didn't know if you were qualified, or what the process was? A lot of changes have occurred in regards to substitute teacher certification, and Bunker Hill CUSD #8 would love to have you on our list! If not interested in substitute teaching, perhaps volunteering? Or substitute bus driver? Mark your calendars for the evening **(4:30 pm to 7:00 pm) of Thursday, April 11**. Bunker Hill is hosting a substitute recruiting drive at the Superintendent's office at 504 East Warren Street. No need to drive to Carlinville or Jerseyville, as we will even be scanning fingerprints onsite. Current cost is \$55.00 and substitute teachers make \$90.00 per day. If you're not sure if you have the qualifications to substitute teach, stop by anyway as recent legislative changes have allowed for short-term substitute certifications with less requirements (such as possessing an Associate's degree and completing an approved training course.)

BHHS Hosts Community Unveiling



Thanks to the overwhelming community support of Bunker Hill's essay in the AASA Leaders Matter contest, our district was awarded a \$5,000 grand prize. This prize money has been earmarked for two improvements: to assist with a swing set at the Wolf Ridge playground purchased with contributions from **WR PFK and the WR Student Council**, and also some cosmetic improvements in the High School gym. In order to thank the community whose support (by voting and sharing during the online voting of the essay contest), an Open House unveiling ceremony open to the public will be held at Bunker Hill High School on **Thursday, May 16 at 6:00 pm**. There will be an exciting charity event pitting the BHHS staff against our Wolf Ridge staff...stay tuned for more details!

Wolf Ridge Color Run April 27



On April 27, the Wolf Ridge Student Council will again be hosting its 2nd Annual Color Fun Run.

Get Active Fundraising Color Spalsh Run is an untimed fun run featuring a 5K course. Throughout the course participants will experience color splash zones where they will be doused in color. There will also be a final color toss celebration.

Check in starts at: 7:30-8:15am

Race Starts at: 8:30am

Register Early! Registration includes a race bib, color packet, and a t-shirt only if you sign up before 4/12/19. You can pick up your items at the registration table the day of your event or prior to the event

if needed. Share with your friends! #getactivefundraising You may register online at the following link: <https://bit.ly/2FOrofs>

For any questions please contact: lallen@bhcsd.org

Bunker Hill Mobile App is Now Live!

STAY CONNECTED



The Bunker Hill CUSD #8 mobile app is now live! The app can be downloaded from both Apple Store and Google Play by searching for "Bunker Hill CUSD 8." The app is being populated with more information and news each day, and even includes turn-by-turn GPS directions to away events. As updates are applied, users will receive push notifications of important information, such as calendar changes and cancellations. Let us know what your impressions are, as feedback is always welcome!

End-of-Year Calendar



Due to the utilization of 2 emergency days this year for winter weather closures, Bunker Hill CUSD #8 is amending the 2018-2019 school calendar to reflect these closures. As of the time of this writing, the calendar will need to be amended with the **last day of student attendance moved to Wednesday, May 29, 2019**. There will be an Early Dismissal (at 2:00 pm) with a Teachers' Institute the following day (May 30) concluding the 2018-2019 school year. Also, changes in regulations at the Illinois State Board of Education last year, followed by recent legislative changes, are delaying school districts' approval of 2019-2020 calendars. Regardless, Bunker Hill CUSD #8 is planning on beginning school with 2 days of Teachers' Institute on August 12 and 13, with the **students' first attendance day being Wednesday, August 14, 2019**. More details will come later, but hopefully communicating these dates early will allow families to make their late summer plans.

Coffee with the Superintendent



Have any compliments, concerns or comments about the Bunker Hill CUSD #8 school district? BH Superintendent Todd Dugan will again be hosting two opportunities for members of the public to engage in round table style forums at two convenient times and locations. No agenda will be prepared ahead of time, as this is an opportunity for school district residents to share comments or have questions answered about Bunker Hill schools. The two sessions are **7:00 am on Wednesday, April 10 at Sally's Café** and **again that same day at 5:00 pm at Village Drive In (VDI.)** Come join the Superintendent for Coffee & Conversation!

Free & Reduced Lunch Applications



Next school year, Bunker Hill CUSD #8 will allow for online registration for all returning students. While this will be a great convenience for families, we would also like to take this opportunity to remind everyone about the US Department of Agriculture's Free & Reduced Lunch applications. Next year, this application will be a part of the online registration process and we would like to have accurate numbers of families that qualify. This is 100% confidential, and while we do not wish for high-poverty families, we do want accurate percentages. Many of our reimbursements including E-Rate for technology access and even our Evidence-Based Funding amounts are calculated according to our Free & Reduced Lunch numbers. As for the meals themselves, a certain amount is allocated from the Federal government via the US Dept of Agriculture each year. If not designated to Bunker Hill, these funds are added to what is available nationwide in other districts. In order to ensure Bunker Hill #8 receives all the Federal reimbursements to which it is entitled, please consider filling one out even if you think you may not qualify.

Bus Drivers Needed



Bunker Hill CUSD #8 is in need of bus drivers! Some of the benefits of driving for Bunker Hill #8 include:

- Hourly pay \$17.34 per hour to start
- Paid Training
- Paid CDL testing, CDL license and annual physical

If you are interested in driving either as a substitute or on a regular route, please call (618) 585-4819 or stop by the Superintendent's Office. To get more information, please stop by the Administration Office next Thursday (4/11) evening from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

UCB Minutemen Debit Card



Now you can support your school just by using your debit card! Proudly display your school color wherever you shop and help raise money for your school at the same time. Use your Minutemen Visa Debit Card from UCB anywhere Visa is accepted. It works just like a regular debit card with your UCB checking account. Each time a signature based transaction is performed, a percentage of the purchase will be given to the school that is featured on your card. Just select "Credit" instead of "Debit" and Bunker Hill School District #8 will receive 0.25% of the total purchase! Minutemen debit cards are available from any UCB location or stop by either branch in Bunker Hill.

BOXHOLDER

BUNKER HILL, ILLINOIS 62014