



Superintendent Monthly Report

General Updates: October 8, 2021

Water Testing at BMS

Public water systems are required to test for lead and copper levels in its drinking water. As a school, BMS is considered to be a public water system. On September 13, five samples were collected from Baldwin Middle School. On September 29, I received notice that one of those samples exceeded the Action Level Notice for lead. This particular sample was collected from a custodial closet that was no longer in use. In the report this location is identified as "MEN'S WASHROOM." The employee collecting the sample was instructed to collect the sample from the "Men's Washroom" near the science lab. The science lab has two doors. One door is adjacent to the custodial closet (which has been unused for years) and the other is adjacent to two single stall bathrooms. The sample should have been collected from the men's single stall bathroom. The district has taken additional water samples, which includes the correct location for the "Men's Washroom" and additional samples from water fountains. These results, pictures of the locations, and an explanation of these events will be included in a report to be filed with the State Department of Health requesting that the district be removed from the list of Public Water Systems currently not in compliance with the lead action levels.

Proper notifications have been sent to families, posted on the website, and posted on the front of the school. It will take a couple of weeks to get the results back from our most recent sampling. Once received, I will inform the Board and the school community of the results.

Transportation

The transportation department continues to have bus driver vacancies and van driver vacancies. Currently all employees in the transportation department are compliant with all state mandates and requirements. We continue to experience disruptions. On two recent occasions we were unable to fully staff the necessary number of drivers to complete all of our bus runs. As a solution we identified one bus run and requested families to pick up their child from school. Any student that did not have a ride was assigned to another bus run, which resulted in a delayed ride

home. In each case only one family was unable to pick up their child. We have a deep appreciation for the support of our families.

Music Program at BMS

The music teaching position at BMS has been restored to full time this school year! Mr. Summerer is off and running and restoring the BMS band program. There are 34 students participating in band this year. That means nearly 19% of the students at school are eager to become musicians. That is an impressive restart of our band program. Students are separated into a grade 5/6 band and a grade 7/8 band. Small group instrumental lessons started in October. Mr. Summerer is also enthusiastic to get a chorus program started. This is great news for our middle school students.

Library Program

As a recap of past announcements, the Canterbury Elementary School Library received a major overhaul this summer. Through the Town's Capital Improvement Program and the school budget we replaced the flooring in the library and repaired the air conditioner. This \$40,000 investment was also supported by a \$9,000 purchase of new books for the library. Mrs. Sweeney's foresight and passion has helped the CES library become a current and relevant resource for our students.

On Wednesday, October 6, the Canterbury Education Foundation donated \$5,000 for the purchase of new books for the Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School Library. This donation would not be possible without the efforts of Ms. Betty Lema and the Hyde District School Fund. The Canterbury Education Foundation continues to be one of our great supporters for a quality education in Canterbury.

BMS Sports

On October 18, I have a scheduled meeting with the athletic director to discuss winter sports.

It is also worth noting that Baldwin Booster Club teamed up with the Canterbury Athletic Association to hold a joint golf tournament at the Foster Country Club, in Foster, Rhode Island on July 30, 2021. The tournament raised about \$10,000. We continue to appreciate the generosity of our local families and businesses.