

Curriculum & Instruction Department

To: Barry Edwards & the BISD Board of Trustees
From: Jennifer Eberly, Chief Academic Officer
Date: January 2025
Re: Board Report

Accountability & Compliance: Rachel Roepke

January 6th Professional Development Day:

BISD provided 60 learning opportunities for BISD Faculty and Staff on January 6th, 2025. This resulted in 1,094 session attendance confirmations with a combined 2,434.5 hours of learning for faculty and staff.

Middle and Intermediate School Science Training: School City Pilot

6-8th grade science teachers were trained on SchoolCity. The Science Team is piloting this testing platform to ascertain if we gain flexibility with testing, maintain or increase the level of data insights, and most importantly, provide an intuitive and easy testing experience for all students regardless of accommodations needed.

MOY (Winter) NWEA Map Test Window began January 8th

BISD is continuing to utilize the NWEA MAP Growth battery of assessments to gain insights on where our students are academically on a global scale. With the completion of Winter Testing, campuses will be able to monitor academic growth from year over year Winter 2024 to Winter 2025 as well as growth for this school year from Fall 2024 to Winter 2025.

December 2024 Campus Visits and Ongoing Training in CBPLs

We continue to provide Just in Time support centered around testing platform best practices and scoring of Constructed Response Items for individual grade levels and departments at various campuses.

College, Career, and Military Readiness: Raina Ellis

Course Selection for 25-26

Course registration for the 2025-2026 school year is now underway. The Middle School (MS) and High School (HS) Course Guides are complete and will be available on the website for students and families. Student and parent meetings for course selection will begin next week and continue through the end of February across all secondary campuses. P-TECH recruitment and 8th grade visits are also underway.

Curriculum & Instruction Department

8th Grade Invasion at BHS/CCHS

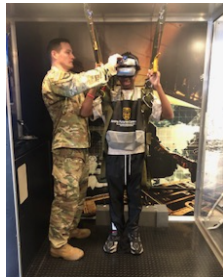
8th Grade Invasion is approaching at BHS and CCHS. During this event, 8th graders will visit the high school campuses to explore various programs and opportunities available to them. The day will feature a Career and Technical Education (CTE) and electives fair, a fine arts showcase, and a campus tour, followed by parent meetings in the evening.

Austin Community College Partnerships

Recently, the College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) Team met with ACC to review and discuss the various programs we offer. BISD's approach to dual credit, career academies, and P-TECH programs was highlighted as a model of success and used as a benchmark for other districts.

Army Futures Command Event- HMI Summit IV Academia Day

BHS and CCHS CTE students attended the HMI Academia Day at Texas A&M Rellis Campus during the fall semester. The event was hosted by the U.S. Army Futures Command and BISD students were one of *only* two districts invited to attend this prestigious event. Students were introduced to Army careers, technology and demonstrations from Army DEVCOM scientists, engineers, analysts and technicians. A student favorite was the USAREC VR Trailer where students could experience virtual scenarios and the robots as shown in the images below.



Digital Learning & Library Services: Chris Lairscey

Blended Learning Teacher Leader Cohort

The Blended Learning Teacher Leader cohort successfully completed its first semester of professional learning, which included an in-depth course on the studio rotation model of blended learning. Participants have demonstrated strong engagement and a commitment to enhancing instructional practices within their classrooms. As the cohort transitions into the current semester, participants will design and implement a blended learning unit of study tailored to their unique teaching contexts. This work will culminate in a cohort showcase in May, where teachers will share their innovations and impacts on student learning, highlighting their journey as leaders in blended learning implementation.

Curriculum & Instruction Department

January Professional Learning

On January 6, the Digital Learning Department facilitated professional learning, engaging educators in a variety of topics designed to enhance instructional practices and integrate technology effectively. Sessions covered digital tools and platforms, leveraging AI to support teaching and learning, video creation for instructional purposes, and more. This comprehensive professional learning opportunity empowered educators with innovative strategies to increase student engagement, personalize instruction, and maximize the impact of digital resources in the classroom. Throughout the course of the day, over 450 hours of learning credit were earned in these sessions.

Multilingual Department: Trish Flores

Exceptions and Waiver Application

TEA has approved the BISD Bilingual Exception and ESL Waiver Application for the 2024-2025 school year. The application was filed to address the shortage of bilingual and ESL teachers needed to implement the district bilingual and ESL programs. In addition, the application included the district's required comprehensive PD plan.

Dual Language

2nd grade teachers received training on the Math oracy units that will now be integrated into the Eureka lessons. The PD provided an overview of the oracy strategies and how they support the internalization of content at very deep levels. With these math oracy units, students in dual language classrooms in 2nd grade will be bridging from English to Spanish!

The ML team continues to write curriculum for the oracy units for 2nd grade and revise the existing units for Prek-1st grade.

Planning for the language allocation plan for 3rd grade is underway!

Professional Development

District coaches and CBPL leads will receive PD on CBLI instructional strategies and biliteracy on Jan 16th and 17th.

Bilingual Program Progress Monitoring

Beginning on Jan 29th elementary campuses will share artifacts and data that demonstrate their level of bilingual program implementation (dual and early exit). Campuses have been given an agenda of topics to help them prepare for the visits.

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ESL Framework Progress Monitor Walks

On Jan 29th, ML team members and Seidlitz Education will visit 3 elementary campuses to support their level of the ESL Framework. The team will attend CBPLs, visit classrooms, model strategies and meet with the campus leadership teams on this day,

Parent Outreach

Happy Kitchen will begin a six week cooking course for families on Jan 14th. Parents will meet at Bluebonnet Elementary and will learn how to make healthy meals for their families. As an added bonus families will receive the ingredients to make the meals at home.

State Assessment Family Meetings will be held on Jan 22, 23, 28, and 30th. Families will receive information about the upcoming state assessments such as TELPAS and STAAR and tips for helping their students be successful.

SummitK12

Virtual training sessions will be held afterschool on Jan 14th and 16th for staff who are using this platform. Guidance on supporting students on the TELPAS tested items will be shared.

Spring Campus Check-ins

Individual campus check-in meetings will be held throughout the month of Jan to review fall instructional/program goals and to set new goals for the spring.

Special Programs & Services: Derek Eberly

Brief for School Board - Special Programs Department

- **Inclusive Schools Week (Dec 2nd - Dec 6th) Celebration**
 - Event was a great success, highlighting inclusivity across the district.
 - The Communications Department, specifically Chris White, produced outstanding inclusive, well-received videos.
- **Focus on Future Planning**
 - The department is shifting focus to next year's planning, including:
 - Budgeting considerations
 - Staffing projections for the upcoming school year
- **Professional Development for Educators**
 - Continuing to train Curriculum & Instruction (C&I) Specialists and District Coaches on High Yield Strategies for co-taught classes.
- **Training Series for School Leadership**
 - Launching a training series for Principals and Assistant Principals focused on collaboration with Advocates and Attorneys during Special Education ARD meetings.



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