
Current Practices Promoting a Safe School Climate

Responsive Classroom is the foundation of the Beecher Road School approach to academic and social learning. The social curriculum is as important as the academic curriculum. Coaching and embedded professional development is available weekly at teacher request and provided by a national RC trainer.

Beecher Road School School-Wide Behavioral Supports: Guidelines for Positive Behavioral Supports for all Students – Faculty/Staff handbook that is frequently updated and provided to support adults with consistent approaches related to school-wide behavioral expectations.

Bully-Proofing the Classroom: Grace Halsey, national trainer for Responsive Classroom, collaborates with teachers to provide classroom lessons, across primary and intermediate grades, using literature focused on realistic situations that help students develop strategies to “Bully-proof the Classroom”. Mrs. Halsey also provides support to the faculty through coaching and model lessons.

Faculty and staff, as individuals and as teams, foster positive interactions, recognize that appropriate behavior often requires explicit instruction, and provide differentiated opportunities for student success.

School Resource Officer - full time uniformed presence of SRO provides security community building and educational opportunities.

The **Mission** and **Vision** of the Woodbridge School District are prominently displayed to bring the learning community together with common goals.

Communication – a district commitment to reaching all constituents through the *Bridge*, a comprehensive report to citizens of Woodbridge, Parent Updates, faculty/Staff updates, all provided by the Superintendent. A new and comprehensive website continues to be enhanced and updated to reach out to parents, the community and beyond.

Superintendent’s Parents Academy – opportunities for parents to learn explore, share and discuss important school topics related to curriculum, social/emotional development, assessment and other current topics.

Primary Mental Health Project – for almost 20 years, BRS has provided parent activities, community collaboration and student services through the PMHP grant funding and in-kind supports.

Yoga sessions in the primary grades (K-3) begin the process of teaching self- control through body-mind awareness.

Play sessions, lunch groups, and counseling sessions support individuals and small groups of students in developing strategies for positive interactions with peers and adults.

Board Certified Behavior Analyst – contracted through ACES, the BCBA provides program support, assessment, behavior plan development and consultation as appropriate.

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Sixth Grade Health: Students in sixth grade health classes study the concepts of teasing and bullying in depth. The unit of study concludes with an assignment for students to design a poster to educate the student population at Beecher Road School about bullying. These posters are prominently displayed outside the North Gymnasium and the Cafeteria and have been used to spark conversations about the topic throughout the entire school.

Student Council: Fifth and sixth grade students acquire leadership skills while representing their peers in matters that impact their school life. Student Council members promote whole school activities and volunteer their time, participating in school and community events.

Professional Learning Communities – Grade level teams meet weekly to plan, collaborate and make data driven decisions, for classes, groups and individual students.

Differentiated Instruction – with a school-wide focus on differentiated instruction, the faculty at BRS strives to challenge each student appropriately. Differentiated instruction means tailoring instruction and assessment to meet individual needs. Teachers consider students’ modes of learning, interests and readiness. They adjust the content, presentation, and learning environment. They provide varied opportunities for students to demonstrate their learning.

Successful Outcomes for Students – SRBI Team meets once per cycle to review data, collaborate to plan intervention, and determine next steps for students with academic and or social/emotional/behavioral needs.

Student artwork and academic work are displayed to maintain a vibrant and creative learning environment.

Arts Week – Organized by the Arts Week Committee, with the BRS Visual Arts and Music faculty, the week-long event focuses on the Arts, culminating with an evening of sharing with families and friends. Arts Week demonstrates that the Arts remain a focus of our learning community. Through instrumental music, choral singing, dancing, drama, murals, art studios and other aspects of the visual arts, a valuable learning experience is created for our children and our school community.

WBRS News – Sixth graders present the WBRS News weekly to inform all classes in the building of upcoming news, events, menus and special interest stories. This is news “for kids, by kids”.

Safety Patrol – Students demonstrate leadership and self-control as they open doors, greet adults and students, facilitate pedestrian crossings and encourage a safe ingress and egress for all. Safety Patrol is overseen by faculty/staff at both the North and South entrances.

Sixth Grade Reading Mentors - A group of 6th graders helps to “grow a reader.” The older students mentor children in kindergarten by reading to them twice a week. They chose books, practiced early reading strategies, and have discussions.

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Environmental Stewards are sixth grade students who are interested in issues involving sustainability. They meet once a week either before or after school, and, depending upon the weather and their interests, they maintain the biofiltration swales by A-wing and the parking lot, they pick up litter on the school campus, and they prepare presentations and posters to educate students throughout the school about recycling in the cafeteria, in classrooms and in their lives outside of school.

Owls Pals - 5th and 6th Grade students are "tutoring" during the school day in both literacy and numeracy, strengthening relationships, and learning for younger students.

DARE - Drug Abuse Resistance Education is an international substance abuse prevention education program that seeks to prevent use of controlled drugs, membership in gangs, and violent behavior.

PTO Involvement/ Cultural Activities – in-school field trips, guest authors, musicians, artists and more expands student experiences intellectually and culturally.

Multicultural Mindset - Robust Spanish instruction across all grade levels based on a proficiency model, Sister School affiliations in China and Morocco, academic studies and cultural experiences, such as the partnership with the British Art Museum in New Haven, all serve to promote a multicultural understanding and appreciation.

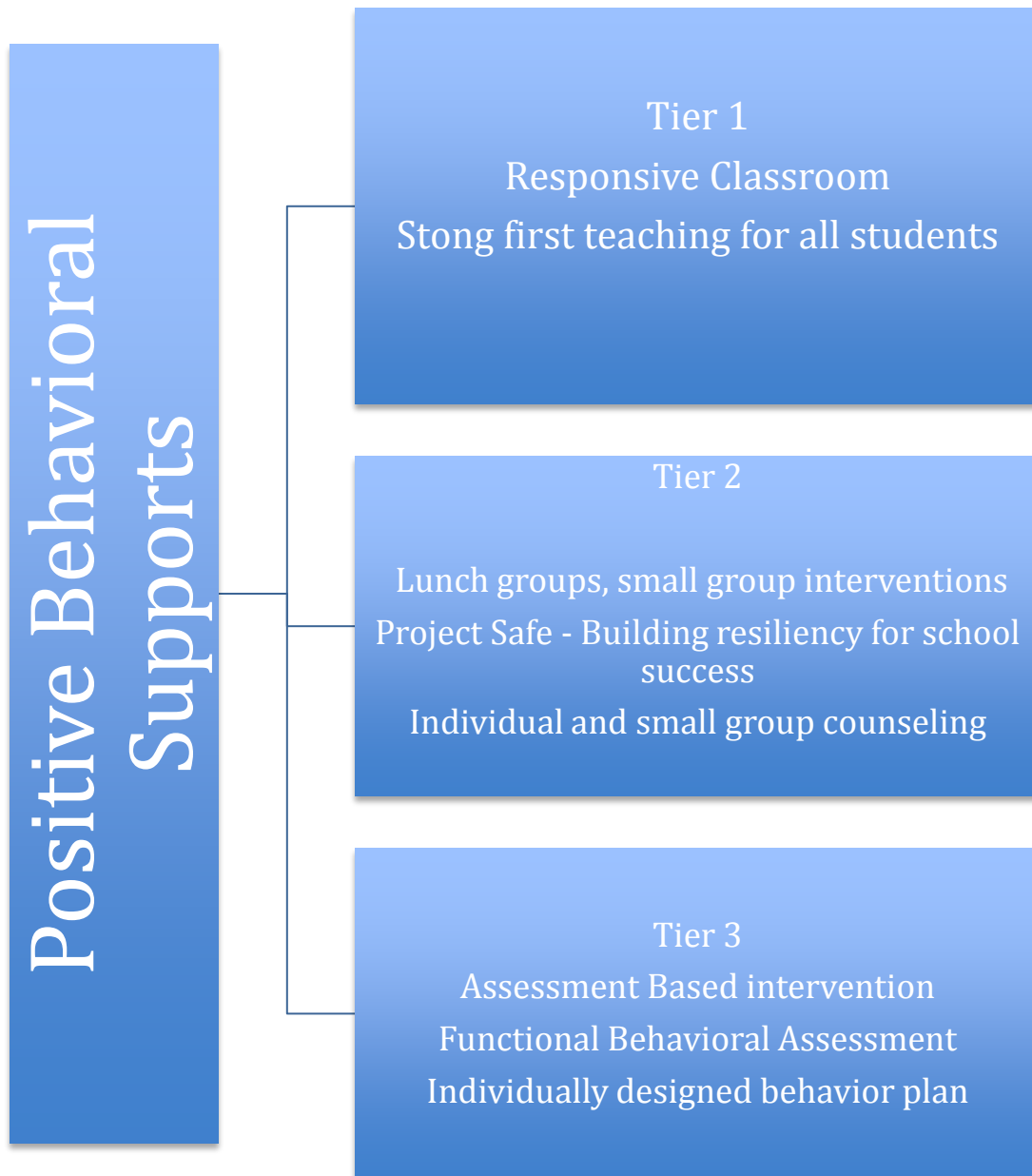
Social Action Committee - Faculty and staff at Beecher Road School participate in fund raising activities. Funds raised are used to support BRS families in need as appropriate and possible.

BRS Extended Day Program – Provides families with a safe and productive after-school program. Mainly BRS faculty and teacher assistants staff Extended Day. The staff provides a relaxing environment where children from kindergarten to sixth grade may play with friends in both structured and unstructured activities.

Guided Study - BRS and Woodbridge Youth Services collaborate to support an afterschool program that provides intervention and homework/study skills support for recommended students

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**Positive Behavioral Supports
A Tiered Approach**



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New Initiatives

Cafeteria Experience – Continue to improve the lunchtime experience for all grade levels through increased adult supervision, common rules and expectations, acoustic and environmental improvements and healthy food choices.

Peaceful Bus Initiative – Implement a Responsive Classroom approach to improve the travel experiences of students, engaging students and faculty/staff in the responsibility for safe, calm and appropriate travel on school transportation.

Safe School Climate Committee/Student Council Collaboration – Engage students in the process of continued work to provide the school community with a warm, safe and nurturing environment by having representatives at each meeting and by expanding on school wide collaborative efforts begun in 2014-2015.

Professional Development – Continue to support the BRS Educator Evaluation and Professional Learning Committee in the provision of appropriate and differentiated professional learning for faculty related the social/emotional/behavioral development of students.

Ongoing Review – Safe School Climate Committee meets monthly to meet the requirements for Safe School Climate Plan, including the review of bullying data, to review survey data and act as advisory group to the administrative team, to consider and address school needs as they arise,