
MEMO

To: Blue Ridge Board of Education
Dr. Hillary Stanifer, Superintendent

From: Burton Huddleston, Principal, Blue Ridge Intermediate and Junior High School

Date: 11/10/2023

RE: Principal Report

UPCOMING EVENTS

November

- 10 Veterans Day Celebration and Breakfast @ 7:30am
- 11 Girls basketball 7th Grade Regional -TBA
- 13 Boys basketball at St. Malachy School -Rantoul @ 5:30pm
- 15 Honor Roll Field Trip
- 16 Boys Basketball vs. Epiphany @ 5:30pm
- 17 Thanksgiving Dinner @ 11:00am
- 20 Boys basketball vs Champaign St. Matthews @ 5:30pm
- 22-24 No School-Thanksgiving Break
- 27 Boys basketball vs. Champaign Holy Cross
- 30 Boys basketball vs. Lexington @ 5:30pm

December

- 4 Boys basketball at Fisher @ 5:30pm
- 11 Boys basketball at Argenta @ 5:30pm
- 12 Boys basketball at Corpus Christi @ 5:30pm
- 14 Boys basketball vs. Ridgeview @ 5:30pm
- 18 Boys basketball at Tri-Valley @ 5:30pm
- 20 End of 2nd Quarter
- 20 Christmas Sing-a-long @ 1:00 pm

SCHOOL NEWS

Behavior

There were 163 referrals written for the month of October. One of those referrals resulted in an out-of-school suspension. We are still working with behavior on the bus but have been scheduling meetings with families to address persistent behaviors. We continue to have a high number of referrals around overuse of passes and tardies. Mrs. Kollross and myself are working with our staff and students to find ways to reduce the referrals in this area. We expect to see a decrease in the months to come.

Parent Teacher Conferences

We held parent teacher conferences from 3:30 until 6:45 on Thursday November 2, and Tuesday, November 7. This year, our junior high staff tried something new. They created a document for families to sign up for a conference and then sent a link out to families. Additionally, they met as a team with most of the families that signed up for a conference. Our teachers had almost every slot filled up and some met with families outside of these days to accommodate families. On the intermediate side, teachers were able to have a conference in-person or on the phone with nearly every family. This is a great opportunity for teachers and families to connect about student learning and growth.

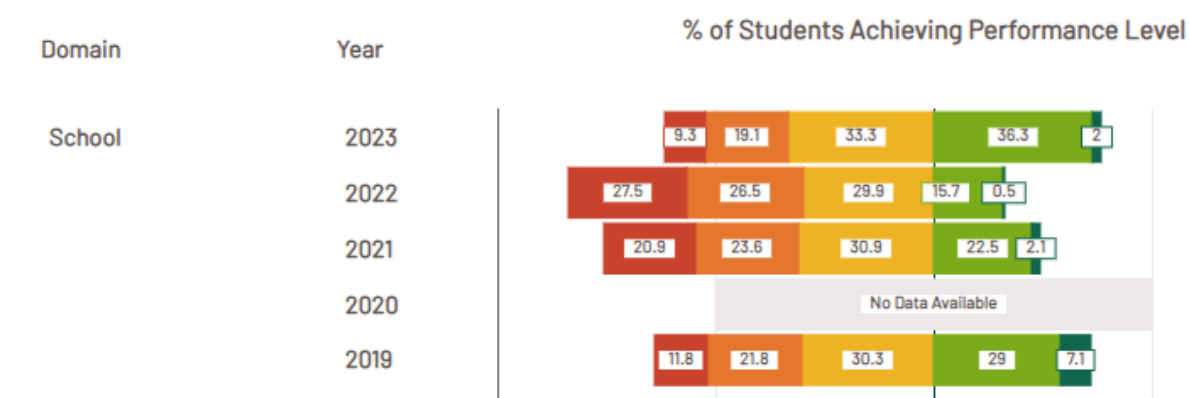
Book Fair/Fall Festival

In an effort to leverage the presence of many of our families coming to the school during parent-teacher conferences, Mrs. Beaman and her team of staff organized a Scholastic Book Fair and Fall Festival. Additionally, Mrs. Beaman and Ms. Wilcoxon opened it up for students during the week. The committee also planned activities for students and families, such as reading to a therapy dog, crafting projects, family fall photos, and games. Classes also decorated a pumpkin after their favorite book or character for a contest. In all, it was great to have so many families come together at the school.

IAR Results for 2023-2024

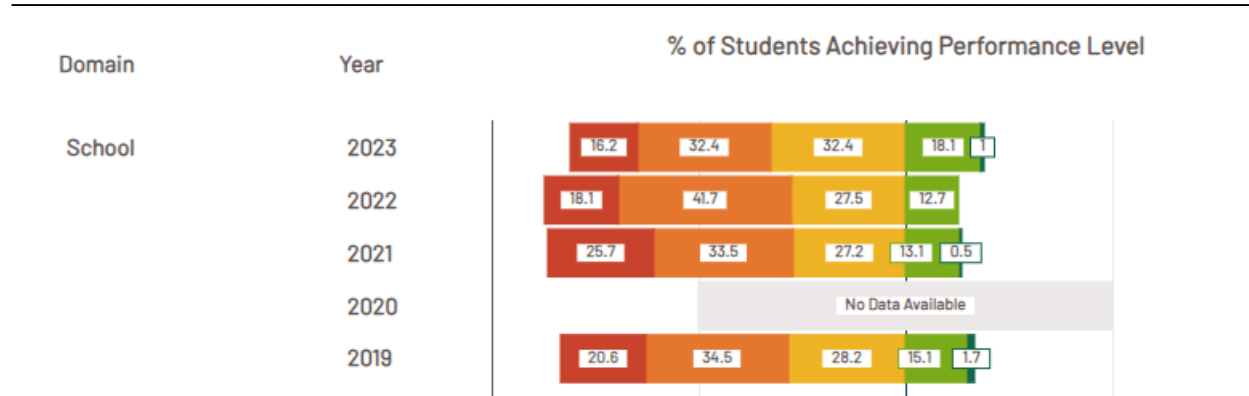
BRIJHS is proud to announce that our Summative Designation was elevated to Commendable from Targeted this year. We were able to achieve this growth through the hard work and dedication to all of our staff that come in contact with our students. This includes our bus drivers that provide a positive experience first thing in the morning to our kitchen staff that help feed our students two meals a day. Our custodial and maintenance staff keep our school a clean learning environment. Our office staff keep everything going, especially around helping increase our attendance. Our certified teachers and paraprofessionals work tirelessly to advance our student learning and growth each day. They make this a great place to come to school. There are some areas of growth that are important to share.

ELA Scores Schoolwide

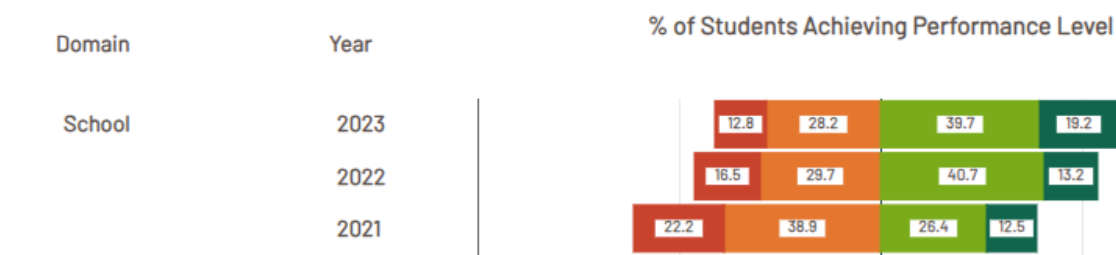


Math Scores Schoolwide

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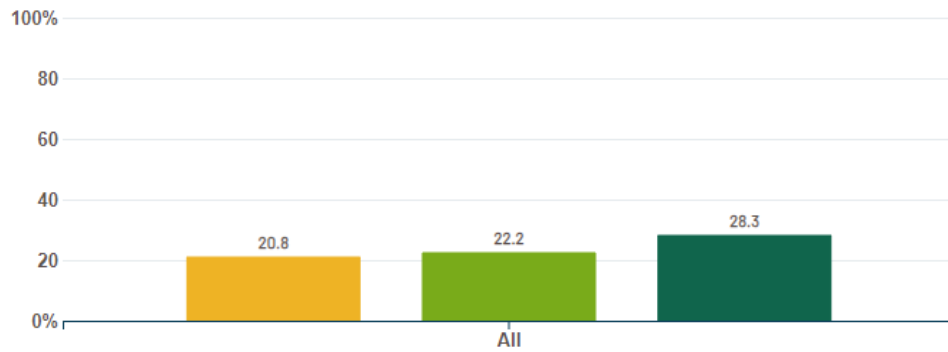


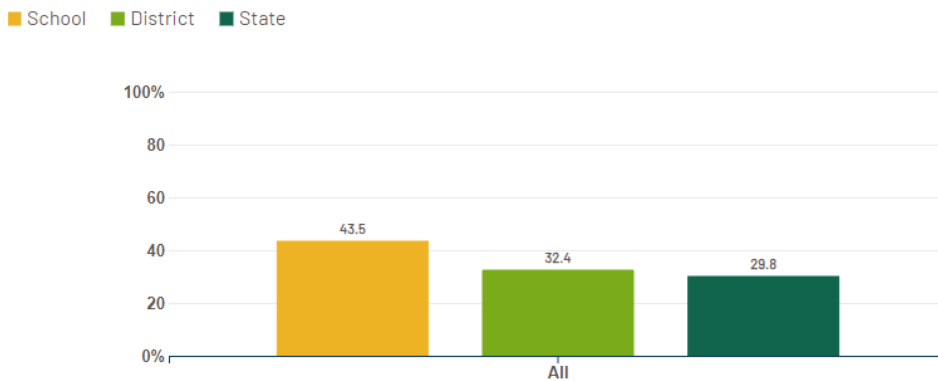
Science Assessment (5th and 8th Grades)



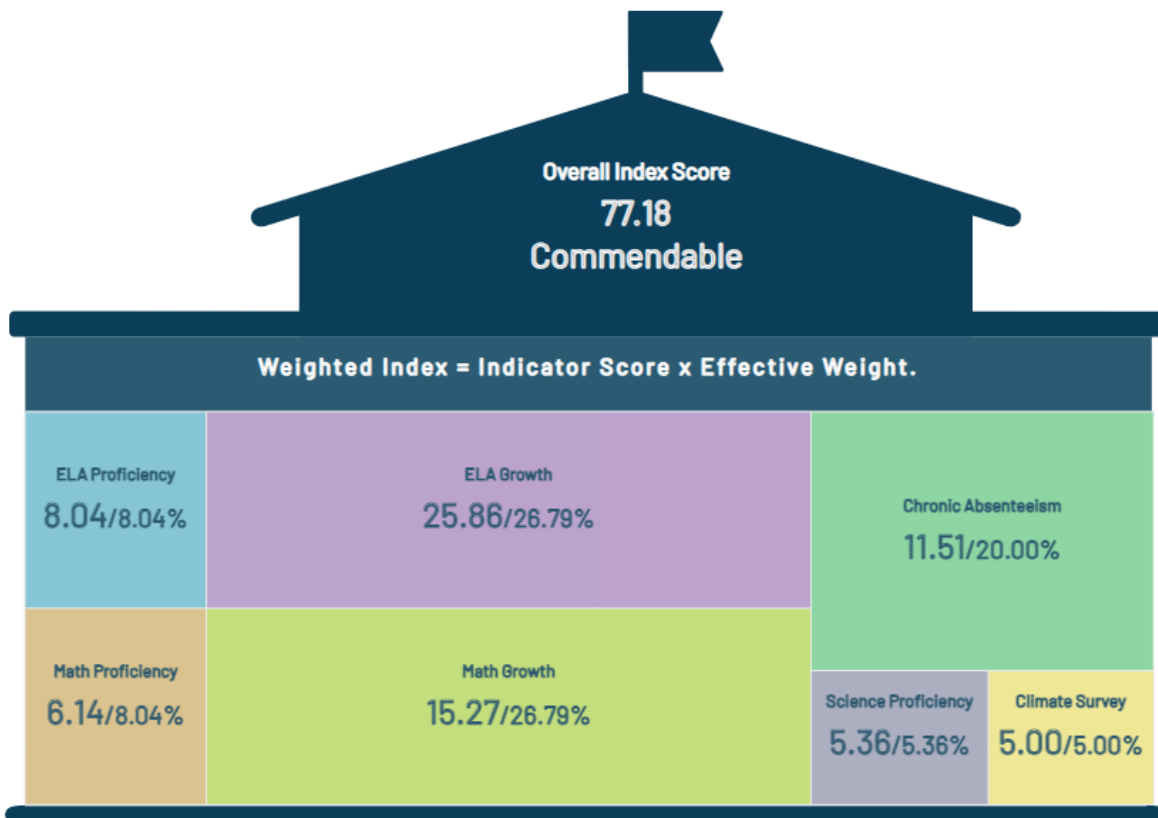
Chronic Absenteeism (2022/23 vs. 2021/22) Reduced from 43.5% to 20.8%

■ School
 ■ District
 ■ State





Breakdown of Overall Index Score of 77.18



September Exemplary Knights

Staff Recognition: **Anita Beaman**

Mrs. Beaman continues to be a strong force in promoting reading in our school. She works hard to teach students to effectively leverage the great resource of our library and also the needed skills to navigate it. She is instrumental in planning events at our school such as Family Reading Night. Recently, she coordinated the Scholastic Book Fair and Fall Festival during parent-teacher conferences. This helped bring in a great number of families over the two days. Her

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efforts are seen in many parts of our school but most importantly in our students' love of reading.

4th Grade: Oscar Teubel

Oscar is a joy to have in class! He exemplifies all of the good character traits for an exemplary knight. Oscar demonstrates responsibility by working hard on his lessons both in and out of school. He comes to school prepared and is also very helpful to both his teacher and classmates. Oscar is also very respectful to others.

5th Grade: Hayden Bryant

Hayden has grown so much this year already. In class, Hayden is always doing his best work and if there is something he doesn't know, he asks for help and accepts it graciously. He has a wonderful personality, is respectful, and I am very fortunate to have him in my class this year!

6th Grade: Braxden Soliday

Braxden works hard on any task in front of him. He always follows directions in and outside of class. His assignments are always completed on time and his effort goes above and beyond. He is thoughtful in class discussions and thinks not only of himself, but he tries to understand the other person's perspective as well. He is an exemplary student whom other students should model themselves after.

7th grade: Annabelle Severins

Annabelle is a student with a tremendous work ethic and a desire to do well at everything she does. She has adjusted to life at BRIJHS very well, and continues to work hard in all of her classes. She is a positive role model for her peers. Polite and kind, Annabelle has a positive attitude and does not complain when tasks become challenging. We admire her perseverance and tenacity! Annabelle is a thoughtful member of class discussions and a talented writer. She is well spoken, polite, and eager to learn!

8th grade: Cloey Massett

Cloey is a student who always gets her work completed and turned in on time. She adds depth to classroom discussions and gives 100% effort all of the time. Beyond the classroom, Cloey stands up for what is right and isn't afraid to go against the current if it means doing the right thing over the wrong thing. For these reasons and more, Cloey proves to be an Exemplary Knight time and time again!