

To: Bridgman Public Schools Board of Education Members  
From: Gerald Heath, BHS Principal, and Shane M. Peters, Superintendent  
Date: August 25, 2025  
Re: BHS English Teacher Recommendation

On Thursday, August 14, an interview team consisting of the BHS Principal and two high school English teachers conducted interviews for the BHS English teaching position. Following the initial interview, Mr. Peters conducted a final interview with the candidate at the recommendation of the hiring committee on Tuesday, August 19. The second interview included the BPS Superintendent and the BHS Principal.

Following the final interview, the committee unanimously agreed that Mr. Eli Southorn is an excellent candidate to serve as an English Teacher at Bridgman High School.

Mr. Southorn received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Youth Ministry from Cornerstone University. He returned to the classroom, earning his teaching certificate in English and Social Studies at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. After earning his certificate, he accepted a teaching job at the Clark County School District in Las Vegas, Nevada. During this time, he earned his Master's in Education in Literacy and Learning in the Content Areas from Walden University. In 2023, Eli returned to Michigan, accepting a position teaching middle school English at Dearborn Public Schools.

**Recommendation:** We recommend the hiring of Mr. Eli Southorn for the position of Bridgman High School English Teacher (Level 14).