

BURLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

52 Institute Road
Burlington, VT 05408
www.bhs.bsdt.org

Tracy Racicot, Principal
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Upcoming Dates at BHS
Thursday 3/22 Fine Arts & Choral Night
5:30PM & 7PM
Friday 3/23 Student Early Release at noon
Thursday 4/5 Graduation Info Night
6:00PM
Tuesday 4/3 SBAC Testing (ELA)
Thursday 4/5 SBAC Testing (ELA)
Tuesday 4/10 SBAC Testing (Math)
Thursday 4/12 SBAC Testing (Math)

BHS TALENT SHOW

Student Planning Committee, the same folks who bring you the awesome dances and pep rallies, is hosting 198th Annual BHS Talent Show TODAY, March 21st in the BHS auditorium from 6:30-8:30. All are welcome.



FINE ARTS & CHORAL NIGHT

BHS will be hosting a Fine Arts & Choral Night tomorrow, March 22. Fine Arts Night begins at 5:30pm, and Choral Night Starts at 7:00pm. Student work and performances of all our fine art offerings will be represented on this evening.



HELP THE SCHOLARS BOWL TEAM

The Burlington High School Scholars' Bowl team has qualified for the national tournament in Atlanta in May and is hoping to be able to represent Vermont against the best teams in the country.

We're working hard to raise money, but bake sales will only get us so far, so we hope you will consider chipping in to help these excellent students reach their goal. Donations of any size would be greatly appreciated.

Scholars' Bowl is a question-and-answer academic competition for teams of students. BHS has one of the top teams in Northern New England and has finished in the top four of every competition it has entered this season. Here is a link to our GoFundMe page

<https://www.gofundme.com/bhs-scholars-bowl-trip-to-nationals>

A MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL RACICOT

Dear BHS Community,

Students in grade 9 will participate in the state administered Smarter Balanced Assessments in English Language Arts and Mathematics this spring. Students in grade nine will attend a full day of school with modified schedule and students in grade 10,11 and 12 will attend school starting at 11AM on testing days with a modified schedule. Our school schedule is as follows:

9th Grade SBAC Testing 2018 April 3 & 5 (ELA) April 10 &12 (Math)

7:30-8:00 AM Breakfast available in cafeteria

7:55 AM All 9th grade students report to school

8:05-10:45 AM 9th grade SBAC Testing

11:00 AM Grades 10,11 and 12 report to school

All grades report for 11AM with revised schedule:

11:05-11:55 AM Block 2

12:00-1:15 PM Block 3 & Lunches

1:20-2:10 PM Block 4

2:15-3:05 PM Block 1

Vermont requires that all districts administer the statewide assessment to all students in the designated grades. The Smarter Balanced Assessments are intended to provide an academic checkup by measuring real-world skills like critical thinking and problem solving along with a students' proficiency of the grade level standards. The assessment is web-based and adaptive. Based on student responses, the question difficulty is adjusted throughout the assessment. Students needing designated supports and accommodations will have these embedded into their testing experience. More information about the assessment is available on the Vermont Smarter Balanced Portal at: <http://vt.portal.airast.org/>

Again this year, the test is broken into two distinct parts. One part is a computer adaptive test (multiple choice) and the other part is a performance task. The performance task requires students to bring multiple pieces of information together to demonstrate a variety of skills based on the content. The performance tasks may ask them to solve a problem, describe a solution, write an analysis, or offer an opinion with support from multiple texts. These are just some of the essential skills necessary for college and career readiness. It is extremely important that students bring in fully charged Chromebooks and their own headphones. Their k-8 education in our schools has prepared them for the content. The best preparation for the assessments is a solid night's sleep and a quality breakfast. Please encourage students to put forth their best effort!

Sincerely,
Tracy Racicot
Principal



9th Grade SBAC Testing 2018

April 3 and 5 (ELA), 10 and 12 (Math)

7:30-8:00 AM	Breakfast available in cafeteria
7:55 AM	All 9th Grade students report to school
8:05-10:45 AM	9th grade SBAC Testing
11:00 AM	Grades 10,11 and 12 report to school

All grades revised schedule:

11:05-11:55 AM	Block 2
12:00-1:15 PM	Block 3 & Lunches
1:20-2:10 PM	Block 4
2:15-3:05 PM	Block 1

Block 3 -20 minute lunches

3-1 12:00-12:20 (L1)

3-2 12:21-12:25

3-3 12:27- 12:47 (L2)

3-4: 12:50- 12:54

3-5 12:55- 1:15 (L3)

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES AND EQUITY IN SCHOOLS BENEFIT SHOW

On April 7th from 6:30 - 8:30 there will be a Restorative Practices and Equity in Schools Benefit Show presented by the Burlington Community Justice Center! It will be held at 440 Pearl Street and all ages are welcome. There is a suggested donation of \$10-\$30 and is free for Burlington School District students.

It will be a night of music and student performances celebrating restoration and transformation within our Burlington school community. For students who sign up to perform, they will receive 2 hours of community service. Any students that interested in signing up, please contact:

Ash Hoyt at ahoyt@bsdvt.org or Joe Fuller at jfuller@burlingtonvt.gov

BHS AFTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Hello BHS! Are you interested in a career in the Health Industry? Nurse? Doctor? LPN? Contact us for information about a Career Exploratory Event happening next month. We are in partnership with UVM and the Medical Center, and food will be provided. Also, on April 7th there is the 31st Annual Vermont Scholastic Chess Championships. This event takes place in Berlin, VT. If there is enough interest we will send a bus load down! If you are interested please contact: FSalese@bsdvt.org



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of parent volunteers during our busy lunches. Are you free 10:45—12:45pm any day of the week?

Come join us as we offer students support, positive engagement and a friendly smile. No experience needed! A helping hand to guide student through their fast paced lunch.

Positions in the Cafeteria & Library

Come Join Us One Day A Week!
Email: seahorsepride@gmail.com



PARENT COFFEE REMINDER

Please join us on the following mornings for coffee and conversation with Principal Racicot. These meetings will take place from 7:30—8:30am in the BTC Aviation Room and are open to all.

March 23

April 20

May 25

At this week's parent coffee we'll be discussing Proficiency-Based Learning and its potential impact on reporting. Jocelyn Fletcher Scheuch, PBL Coordinator, will be asking parents for their help in thinking about how to best solicit feedback from parents and communicate potential changes to a reporting system.



CONGRATULATIONS RICHARD MEYER

Congratulations go out to BHS Science teacher Richard Meyer. On March 19th he was awarded a Co-Op Patronage Seedling Grant for his Food Science class. The grant is to purchase grow lights in order to grow micro-greens (and other magical herbs...like basil and thyme) and compare their growth to those planted in the greenhouse. These plants will be used by students in the Culinary class at Burlington Technical Center as part of the meals they serve AND be sold to staff of Burlington High School AND if quantities exist, will be used in the cafeteria for all to enjoy during lunch!

To view the article and learn more please see the link below:

<https://www.citymarket.coop/burlington-high-school-richard-Meyers-food-science-class>



CONGRATULATIONS TATUM VACHEREAU, ALEX DRINKLAGE AND BIENFAIT BADIBANGA

BHS Students Tatum Vachereau, Alex Drinklage and Bienfait Badibanga have been chosen to represent Vermont in the 44th annual Lions Twin State Soccer game on July 21. They will join other boys and girls from Vermont to play against seniors representing New Hampshire. Tatum, Alex and Bienfait will have the opportunity to experience a mini-soccer camp with top-notch coaches. They will also be making friendships and connections that can last a Lifetime.

The Lions Twin State Soccer Association is a non-profit organization devoted to the celebration of athletic achievement while promoting fellowship through combined charitable acts and interpersonal relations. The Association has sponsored matches between graduating seniors from New Hampshire and Vermont, both girls and boys, in July for the past forty-three years. The net proceeds from the games benefit the Green Mountain Lions Camp for hearing impaired children and the Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation of New Hampshire that provides assistance for those needing hearing aids and eye surgeries.

Both the boys and girls games will be held at Castleton University in Castleton, Vermont. We hope to see you there!

spring is coming so save the date for.. **The Annual BHS Health and Wellness Fair**

The Health and Wellness Fair will take place on Thursday, April 19th, in the BHS Cafeteria from 11-1 for students and staff. We have been busy reaching out to local businesses and nonprofits with invitations to come and share health and wellness tips. There will be informative and interactive tables, freebies, and raffle prizes. The BTC culinary



students will be baking for the event and Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan to bring their smoothie bike! Raffle prizes that have been generously donated so far include movie tickets to the Roxy, Ben & Jerry's free pint coupons, passes to Shelburne Museum, and more!



This is a fun event to kick off spring and prepare for a healthy summer ahead. Look for posters closer to the date and we will see you there!

Your BHS Nurses

FROM THE GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

- ♦ Parents / Guardians of Seniors, If your student has not yet filled out the cap and gown request form please do so, it is due very shortly in April. Ms. Langevin has sent the bill for caps and gowns to your house along with your student's form to fill out how they want their name listed on the diploma as well as an invitation to the graduation information night. Please check your mail for this important information. Note the deadline for the diploma names is April 4th.
- ♦ Parents / Guardians of Students Graduating in the Class of 2018- Wow! Graduation is right around the corner and with the 2017-2018 school year coming to an end I am sure you have lots of questions about what is going on. Please come join us on April 5, 2018 at 6:00pm for an informational meeting and a chance to ask us all the questions you need to know. Jostens, who will be our cap and gown vendor this year will also be at the meeting to answer any questions you might have for them. We have created the form below for parents to fill out with questions before the event so that we can use our time efficiently and effectively at the meeting. Thank you so much and we look forward to seeing you there! <https://goo.gl/forms/VV5EwPEIzMrw4V883>
- ♦ Senior Seminar is no longer a graduation requirement. It has been removed from schedules. If students would like to take this class they may add it to their schedule if not, they may also select a different elective. Juniors should meet with their school counselor to 1) Re-enroll in Senior Seminar, or 2) Enroll in an alternative elective course.
- ♦ Available for 9th-11th graders! Are you looking for something amazing for your son/daughter to do this summer? Have them consider being part of the Governor's Institutes of Vermont (GIV), an incredibly fun immersive learning experience just for Vermont high schoolers. They will choose their topic, meet students from all over the state who share that interest, gain skills and get to practice what college-level study on a college campus is like. Topics include arts, engineering, information technology & digital media, entrepreneurship, writing, science, astronomy, mathematical sciences, current issues and youth activism, and more. GIV promises to be financially accessible for all students. Visit www.giv.org to learn more and apply now.
- ♦ Don't miss College & Career Pathways at NVU - Johnson this Saturday, 3/24. It kicks off with a keynote from US Senator Bernie Sanders, and continues with over 15 workshops on topics about finding a college or training program that fits, how to write a good application essay, SAT & ACT test prep help and more! You pick the ones that are the most important to YOU.

Time: 8:30 - 12:30

Place: NVU - Johnson

Info at: www.vsac.org/CCP18

UNIFIED BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Northern Unified Basketball Schedule
Championship target date: 5/10/18
Practice can begin 2/19/18, games begin 3/19/18

Teams: Bellcate, Colchester, MMU, Montpelier, Milton, CVU, Burlington,
BFA St. Albans

Game time will be 3:30, except for Burlington and MMU which will start at
3:45

Tuesday, March 20th

Bellcate @ Colchester
CVU @ Burlington

Wednesday, March 21st

BFA @ MMU

Thursday, March 22nd

CVU @ BFA
Montpelier @ Colchester

Tuesday, March 27th

Burlington @ BFA
Milton @ MMU
Bellcate @ Montpelier

Thursday, March 29th

Bellcate @ Milton
Montpelier @ Burlington
Colchester @ CVU

Monday, April 2nd

MMU @ Montpelier

Tuesday, April 3rd

BFA @ Montpelier
Colchester @ Burlington

Wednesday, April 4th

Burlington @ MMU

Thursday, April 5th

Colchester @ Milton

Friday, April 6th

Bellcate @ BFA

Monday, April 9th

MMU @ Bellcate
Montpelier @ Milton

Tuesday, April 10th

Milton @ CVU

Thursday, April 12th

BFA @ Colchester
Burlington @ Milton
CVU @ Montpelier

Tuesday, April 17th

Burlington @ Bellcate
Milton @ BFA
MMU @ CVU

Thursday, April 19th

MMU @ Colchester

GET
YOUR
ACT
TOGETHER




BHS
Talent
SHOW



MARCH 21ST / WED
6:30-8:30

BHS AUDITORIUM



peace  justice center

research • policy • action

SOCIAL JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM

Are you concerned with the
direction that our country is headed?
Are you looking for a way
to get involved in social justice work but
unsure of where to start?
Come learn about groups working in Vermont
that need more people power!

New this year: Conversations on the
Ethnic History of Burlington,
Understanding Privilege, the Value of
Senior Volunteers, and more!

Saturday, April 14, 8:30-3:00 at
Burlington High School

\$20 general public

\$10 under 25

Free for High School Students

No one will be turned away for lack of funds

Lunch is included!

Visit pjcv.org/events to register
or email program@pjcv.org

Sponsored by Burlington High School, Chittenden County RPC, UVM Medical Center UVM Dept of Human Resources,
Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, City Market, Myers Bagels, Love Local Catering, and City of Burlington CEDO office



Immigration Rights Information Night
Wednesday, March 28th
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Burlington High School Cafeteria

Representatives from:
ACLU, AALV, Senator Leahy, Senator Sanders,
Representative Welch, and Vermont Attorney General's
Offices will answer your questions about immigration and
the law.

Know your RIGHTS!

Community Dinner

6:30 - 7:00

Following the Meeting

ALL ARE WELCOME!

TRANSLATION WILL BE PROVIDED:

MAAY MAAY, ARABIC, NEPALI, SOMALI, KAREN, FRENCH, AND SWAHILI

Sponsored by the Burlington High School
International Club

Vermont Legal aid

Burlington Schools English Language Department



Save the Date

Junior Night



For Post Secondary Planning



For current juniors and/or parent/guardians

Tuesday, April 17, 6:30 - 8pm, BHS Auditorium

College and Career Admission Processes
College Affordability
College and Career Exploration and Selection
Enrichment Opportunities

Q & A with a panel of seniors/recent alumni
Presentations from BHS School Counselors,
VSAC Counselor, & Dual Enrollment Counselor

Please join us!



BHS BOOSTERS is now BHS SEAHORSEPRIDE

SEAHORSEPRIDE: BHS Parent Volunteer Organization
Supporting BHS Students in Arts, Academics and Athletics

All Are Welcome To Volunteer in Any Way!

Email us, let us know how you would like to help out BHS:
seahorsepride@gmail.com

Help with School Support: Arts & Academics

Cnt: Clare Wool

email: clarewool@me.com

Help with Music and Choral Dept.

Cnt: Suzanne Garrity

email: suzannemgarrity@gmail.com

Help with Sponsorship/Advertising

Cnt: Chris Hood

email: chood@cssu.org

Help with Winter Sports Concessions

Cnt: Jennifer Woods

email: jenniferwoods173@gmail.com

Help with Athletic Team Yard Signs

Tammy Kuypers

contact: kuypers5@yahoo.com

BUY YOUR BASKETBALL AND HOCKEY
SPORTS SIGN TODAY!!

Have you seen the signs, like the one below, popping up all over town?



In an attempt to get more people to join in the great events that take place at BHS, we have created a Seahorse sign for different sports/activities that are taking place at the high school.

When you see a sign up you know that one of the BHS teams is playing that day.

- Go to the BHS website at www.bhs.bsdvt.org,
- Click on the top bar that says athletics,
- and you'll know who, where and when they are playing.
- come see a great game and support our student/athletes!!

A big thank you to the Seahorse Pride Committee (formerly Boosters) who support this effort.

Signs are on sale for only \$5.

If you're interested in owning one and taking part in Seahorse Pride,

please contact Tammy Kuypers at Kuypers5@yahoo.com

Get Your BASKETBALL and/or HOCKEY One Today!!!

Then You'll be Ready For The First Game!

***If you have a team in mind that you would like to create signs for,
please email me at the above email address! The more teams we can represent the better!! ***

GO SEAHORSES!!

You Don't Know Me Until You Know Me

Dr. Mykee Fowlin

Psychologist

Performer

Poet

**Coming
to BHS
April 16!**

The BHS Above the Influence group presents
Internationally Renowned Speaker
Dr. Mykee Fowlin

On April 16th, all BHS students and staff will attend Dr. Mykee Fowlin's one-man presentation, 'You Don't Know Me Until You Know Me.' The performance will center on the importance of celebrating differences as an inclusive process, not just a tolerable one. It will deal with issues of personal identity, race, discrimination, suicide, gender equality, homophobia, and ableism. His foundational message is that "we are capable of transforming the world, for the good, through the process of turning our hurt into self-reflection, healing, and then action."



"After Mykee's speech the only thing I could do was cry.. It showed me how much I had kept bottled up inside.. I was able to take some of the hardships, sadness and the words of all his characters and relate them back to my own life."

~ Shamura Awayle



ATI is a program of
Burlington Partnership for a
Healthy Community

To learn more about ATI follow
Facebook/atibtv or join our meetings
Wednesday mornings 7:45 am - 8:45 am
in the library balcony.

A NIGHT OF MUSIC AND STUDENT
PERFORMANCES CELEBRATING
RESTORATION & TRANSFORMATION IN OUR
BURLINGTON SCHOOL COMMUNITY



RESTORATIVE PRACTICES & EQUITY IN SCHOOLS BENEFIT SHOW

PRESENTED BY THE BURLINGTON COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER

APRIL 7TH• 6:30-8:30PM
DOORS OPEN 6PM, ALL AGES
440 PEARL ST, BURLINGTON
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

SUGGESTED DONATION \$10-30
CASH ONLY, TICKETS AT DOOR
**FREE FOR BURLINGTON SCHOOL
DISTRICT STUDENTS**



For more info visit www.facebook.com/BurlingtonCommunityJusticeCenter

Please join **ParentiN**
BURLINGTON
for an evening with
Michael Nerney

Risky Business

Why Adolescents Love Risk-Taking,
and How We Can Help Manage It

Wednesday, March 28th
from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

**All are welcome to attend this free
event at Hunt Middle School**

Childcare available (upon request): emily@Burlingtonpartnership.org

Research on the adolescent brain clearly demonstrates that teens perceive and process risk assessment in ways that are remarkably unlike adults. Mr. Nerney will offer new ways to think about and address adolescent risk reduction.

Visit: ParentINburlington.org or [Facebook/parentinburlington](https://Facebook.com/parentinburlington)

the unicorn alliance

with electra and alyx



all
queer
& questioning
youth welcome!

fridays at 1
at drop-in



SPECTRUM
YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

aherbert@spectrumvt.org | 802 864 7423 x315 | 177 Pearl Street, Burlington VT

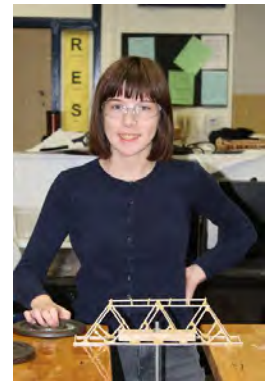


Proficiency-Based Learning at Burlington High School

What is Proficiency-Based Learning?

Proficiency-based learning is a system that provides more accurate, consistent, and meaningful information about student progress than traditional learning systems. Other names of this system include: standards-based, mastery-based, and competency-based learning. In a fully PBL system students are assessed on their understanding of the content and skills covered in a particular class. Most of the grade is based on demonstration of knowledge of specific learning targets or proficiencies, therefore a student's grade is a very accurate representation of what a student knows and can do.

The goal of a proficiency based system is to provide an accurate portrayal of student learning and to encourage mastery of content and skills through plenty of practice and ample feedback. There is an emphasis on growth, and thus students are provided remediation supports and opportunities for reassessment to show a higher level of understanding.



Grading / Reporting System



Teachers use Canvas and PowerSchool to communicate progress. Canvas is the learning management system and allows teachers and students to communicate in an online classroom. PowerSchool is used to communicate grades four times throughout the year. The District is working on creating the Proficiency-Based reporting system. Until then, teachers are reporting and calculating traditional grades. Calculation methods will continue to vary by course. **Expect to see an invitation for parent/guardian input in the coming weeks!**

What words are used to describe my child's progress toward a learning standard or course proficiency?

Exceeding: the student demonstrates deep understanding of the standard by applying and adapting to authentic, atypical, more complex, or unpredictable situations.

Proficient: the student independently demonstrates competence in the standard. They have sufficiently demonstrated their understanding.



Approaching: the student demonstrates basic understanding of the standard either inconsistently, only with supports, or incompletely. More targeted practice is required.

Beginning: the student does not yet demonstrate understanding or demonstrates a limited understanding of the standard. Serious remediation is necessary.

Insufficient evidence: the student has not provided enough evidence to accurately measure achievement of the standard.

Not Yet Assessed: Though students might be working on a skill, they may not be ready for assessment of that skill yet. This lets family and students know that they will be expected to learn the skill or content eventually.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Are grades going away? No. Grades will continue to be used at Burlington High School for the foreseeable future. How those grades are reported to students and families will change gradually.



Will the school still compute a grade point average (GPA)?

Yes. Proficiency-Based Learning is a change in how the school communicates about learning. It is still possible to compute a GPA and BHS will continue to do so.

Why isn't every teacher doing proficiency based learning exactly the same way?

Teachers have never computed grades in exactly the same way. Neither have they had similar policies in classroom routines or policies. Faculty are currently discussing ways in which they might standardize some aspects of their routines and practices in order to simplify the experience for parents and students.

Will competitive colleges accept a Proficiency-Based diploma? Yes. Colleges have been accepting proficiency-based diplomas for a long time. Many, including Harvard and MIT, have publicly stated their support for proficiency-based diplomas. For information on PBL and colleges, see these resources:

[Proficiency-Based Learning Beneficial for Students](#), Rebecca Holcombe, Vt. Secretary of Education

[How Do Colleges View Proficiency-Based Transcripts?](#), New England SEcondary School Consortium

How does a student earn credit in a Proficiency-Based course? Teachers are figuring out the school wide answer to this question right now. For 2017-2018, students must earn a 60% or higher.



Scan here for a
short video
PBL at BHS

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Formative Assessment: Refers to a wide variety of methods that teachers use to conduct evaluations of student comprehension, learning needs, and academic progress during a lesson, unit, or course. Generally these are small, short assessments done during the learning process to check for understanding, give feedback, and make adjustments to the learning process.

Course Proficiency: A skill or essential knowledge which students must consistently demonstrate by the end of the year in order to earn “credit” for the course. These are the course standards. Students have as many attempts as they need to meet the proficiency. Ideally, these should connect to the Content-Area Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements or the Graduate Expectations.

Learning Target: These are the “sub-skills” or “stepping stones” to achieving a course proficiency. Instruction is provided on each learning target. Learning targets are assessed in both formative and summative assessments.

Practice: Work that is key to student learning and the instructional process. This work allows for mistakes and encourages students to try new skills. It is generally not used in the overall evaluation of a student’s achievement.

Relearning: Extra practice and support are provided when students do not meet proficiency on a course proficiency assessment. This is sometimes provided in class, sometimes asks students to complete work on their own, and is often provided during callback (M-Th, 3:00-3:30) after school.

Summative Assessment: Used to evaluate student learning, skill acquisition, and academic achievement. Usually at the end of a defined instructional period and used to determine a student’s level of proficiency.