

# BERGENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT DISTRICT NEWS



## SUMMER EDITION - AUGUST 2019



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### FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

By Dr. Christopher M. Tully, Superintendent of Schools



As we kick off the 2019-20 school year, I'm pleased to announce that, once again, we are starting the year with a strong headwind of student and staff success capable of pushing us towards even higher goals.

You may have read online that the *2019 Jay Mathews Challenge Index* ranked BHS at 937th in the nation, landing the school in the top 4% in the U.S. and top 1% of high schools in New Jersey.

Since then, BHS was also selected as one of the best high schools in the nation when the *U.S. News & World Report* released its "2019 Best High Schools" rankings. BHS's College Readiness Index Rank this year is 637, up from 707 in 2018. The high school was also honored again as a National Association of Music Merchants "Best Communities for Music Education."

The announcement of such accomplishments may seem almost routine for readers and doesn't capture attention as it did when we first starting receiving acclaim years ago; however, what makes these recognitions truly remarkable is that they were accomplished within our budget. I don't need to tell anyone of the rising cost of healthcare, insurances, technology, utilities, and supplies because you experience it daily. We all know these burdens, and the Bergenfield Board of Education and administration was steadfast in its commitment to not adding to the heavy load already being carried by our families.

The district will continue to deliver a world-class education with a 0% tax increase for 2019-20, and that's a major accomplishment! Please join me in expressing our gratitude to our board members, who continue to work tirelessly to hone their skills, streamline the budget, perfect a facilities plan, enrich the curriculum, upgrade technology, expand educational options, provide access to professional development, and respond to parent feedback. For us, a budget is not made up of numbers and dollar signs, but a commitment to our shared values that place a better tomorrow for the next generation at the top of our list.

On behalf of the administrative team, I also want to thank our community for your ongoing partnership. Your commitment to excellence has inspired our board to model, for our state, the notion that fiscal responsibility and the drive for educational excellence can coexist. The unique public trust shared between our community and its schools must never be broken. Together, we will not just sail towards success as we know it, but we will speed, full steam ahead, towards even higher aspirations.

### BHS RECOGNIZED AS A BEST HIGH SCHOOL



For the fourth year in a row, Bergenfield High School has been ranked among the top 4% of high schools in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*. BHS's College Readiness Index Rank this year is 637, up from 707 in 2018! Bergenfield High School ranked as 1054th in the nation, 45th in the state, and 10th in Bergen County.

This year's rankings include data on more than 23,000 public high schools nationwide. Schools were ranked on six factors based on their performance on state assessments and how well they prepare students for college.

The new criteria introduced this year for ranking schools included college readiness, math and reading proficiency, math and reading performance, scores on state assessments of student subgroups, the proportions of 12th graders who took and passed AP and IB exams, and high school graduation rate.



# DISTRICT NEWS

## CONTRAST OF THE 2018-19 AND 2019-20 SCHOOL BUDGETS

INSTRUCTION	Budgeted for 2018-19	Budgeted for 2019-20
Regular Programs	20,892,232	21,237,405
Special Education	7,621,904	7,987,374
Basic Skills	343,251	348,205
Bilingual Education	710,100	730,236
School Sponsored Co-Curricular Activities	355,269	373,784
School Sponsored Athletics	612,000	630,300
Community Services Programs/Operations	6,155	6,155
Summer School	-	125,638
<b>Total General Current Expense</b>	<b>\$ 30,540,911</b>	<b>\$ 31,439,097</b>
<b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b>		
Tuition	3,951,735	4,278,032
Health Services	764,373	776,641
Speech, OT, PT, Related & Extra Services	576,189	535,175
Other Support Services	991,110	997,761
Guidance	1,087,085	1,091,101
Child Study Teams	1,496,527	1,509,860
Improvement of Instructional Services	9,248	9,443
Educational Media Services/School Libraries	852,253	716,137
Instructional Staff Training Services	13,189	13,189
General Administration	1,519,775	1,515,054
School Administration	3,194,068	3,157,389
Central Svcs	650,550	732,072
Admin Info Technology	38,412	163,002
Operation & Maintenance of Plant Services	5,350,032	6,103,640
Security	755,218	604,830
Student Transportation Services	2,092,627	2,061,715
Employee Benefits	11,289,897	11,045,081
<b>Total Support Services Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 34,632,288</b>	<b>\$ 34,705,292</b>
<b>TOTAL CURRENT GENERAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 65,173,199</b>	<b>\$ 66,144,391</b>
<b>CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>		
Equipment	315,523	484,777
Facilities Acquisition/Construction	975,487	410,486
<b>Total Capital Outlay</b>	<b>\$ 1,291,010</b>	<b>\$ 1,562,619</b>
<b>SPECIAL SCHOOLS</b>		
Special Schools	57,573	38,283
Transfer of Funds to Charter Schools	174,346	119,260
<b>OPERATING BUDGET GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 66,696,128</b>	<b>\$ 67,864,553</b>



# DISTRICT NEWS



## WE ARE BERGENFIELD: A SNAPSHOT OF THE CLASS OF 2019



**Kristina Podwin**  
Tri-M Music Honor Society, bowling, marching band, AP Scholar, Marist College Honors Program



**Victoria Catala**  
AP Scholar, Rho Kappa Society, symphony orchestra, STEM graduate, Northeastern University



**James Albert Labayna**  
National AP Scholar, valedictorian, academic decathlon, Stevens Institute of Technology



**Arianne Lintag**  
Quiz bowl, debate, STEM graduate, jazz band, Seton Hall University Joint M.D. Program



**Ashiya Chaka**  
Thrive Women's Club, chamber orchestra, debate, Big Brother/Big Sister, Rutgers University



**Jenserik Calimag**  
AP Capstone graduate, debate, quiz bowl, peer leader, salutatorian, Princeton University



**Zenos Villondo**  
National Honor Society, model UN, AP Capstone graduate, Eagle Scout, Brigham Young University



**Francesca Severino**  
AP Scholar, Mu Alpha Theta Math Society, soccer, track, Stevens Institute of Technology



**Sebastian Castro**  
AP Scholar, marching band, winter track, peer leader, wind ensemble, Boston University



**Zyaire White**  
Football, wrestling, National Honor Society, consumer bowl, Louisiana State University



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**DISTRICT NEWS | AUGUST 2019**

**District Central Administration**

Dr. Christopher M. Tully, Superintendent of Schools  
Darlene Markman, Asst. Superintendent of Curriculum  
Dr. Frank V. Auriemma, Interim Director of Personnel  
David DiPisa, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**Board of Education**

Dr. Joseph Amara, President  
Eileen Ryder, Vice-President  
William Jaeger, Trustee  
Dr. Nelson Reynoso, Trustee  
Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee

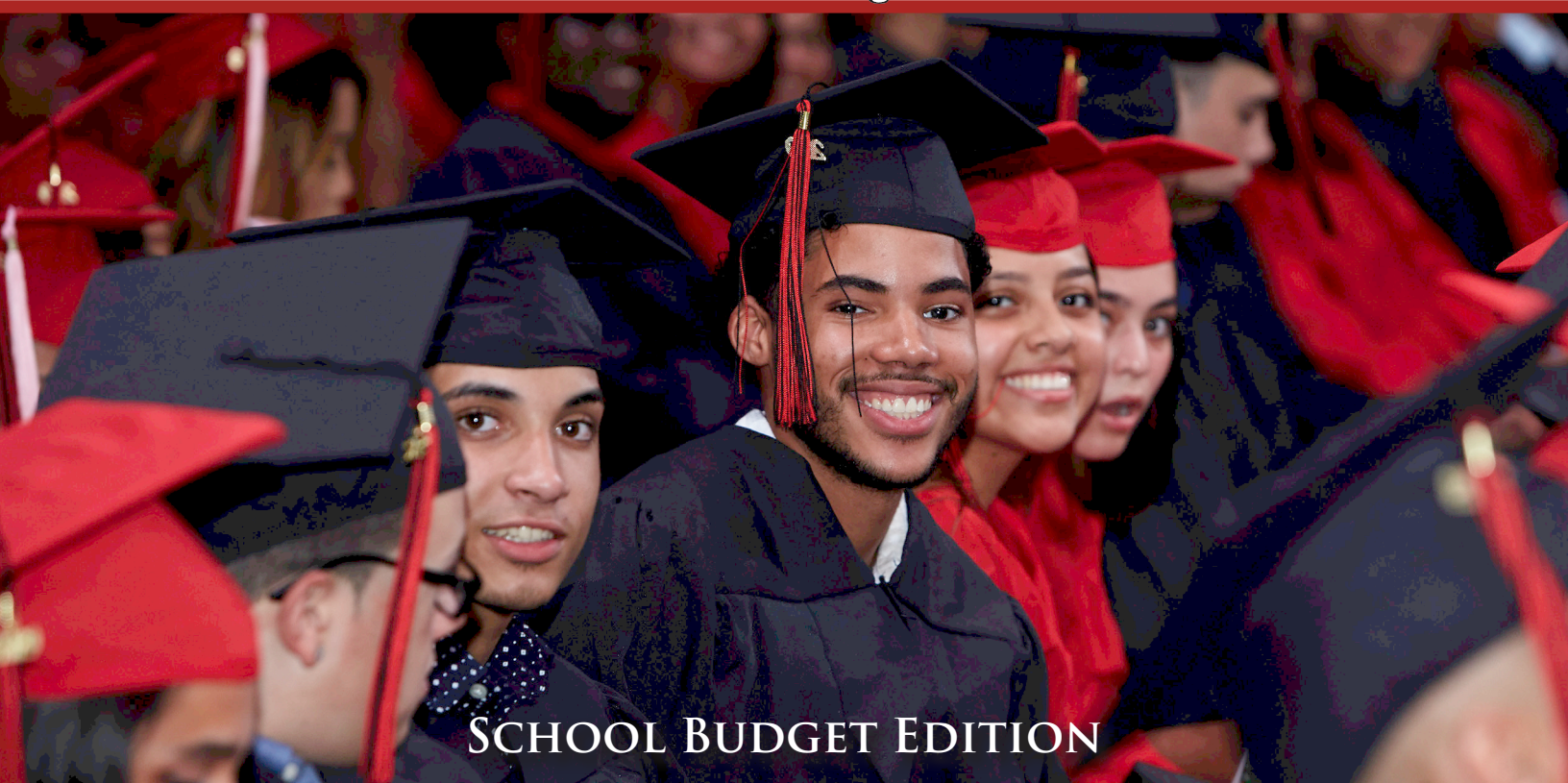


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**DISTRICT  NEWS**



**SCHOOL BUDGET EDITION**

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