



EA Report
Mr. Simonsen
BCCHS
December, 2021

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College Applications

All eligible BCCHS students who qualified for admission to UC or CSU institutions have completed the application process. Application to the CA Community College System as well as private universities through the Common App will begin in January.

Homecoming

BCCHS held its first Homecoming Dance in 2 years on Friday, November 19th. Students and staff joined their efforts to produce a fun and artistically rich evening. There were beautiful decorations, great food, and photography that will provide memories for a lifetime. Special thanks to Mr. Dueñas for stepping in to support me with supervision and cover while I was involved in the medical transport of one of my parents.

Sports

BCCHS just completed its first girls volleyball season since the fall of 2019. Their record was 5-2. Boys basketball and soccer are about to begin game schedules this week, December 6, 2021. The boys basketball coach is a community member with ties to the local San Fernando youth sports scene, and has eagerly awaited an opportunity to coach varsity boys basketball. He has worked tirelessly to recruit a team, coach them to the point where they can say they are a true unit, and get them to believe in themselves as a new squad. Our athletic director, Mr. Cowie, is our boys soccer coach. He has extensive experience playing and coaching the sport.

Service Learning Projects

One of the hallmarks of YPICS schools is project-based service learning. BCCHS has never implemented this hallmark consistently and universally as an expected schoolwide learner result, until now. We have taken staff and students through a process of exploration and training so as to prepare them for a semester of service-learning PBL projects that should result in students making a difference in their community on many fronts. All students will be programmed into a course called "projects" for the second semester. It will have a bearing on their cumulative GPA, it will be team taught, and it will be student-driven.

Reading Intervention

10% of our student body has had the opportunity to work in small groups with a K-12 literacy specialist for 3 full months of the first semester. This week we will administer the MAPS academic progress exams, and hopefully gain some insight into how exactly these students have grown in their capacity to tackle grade-level reading tasks, both fiction and expository text. It should be an encouraging report card!

In Progress

Vaccination Verifications

As of today, December 6th, a little over two-thirds of our students have shown us proof of vaccination. The operations team continues to call and encourage families to provide us with this information.

Independent Studies

Closely related to the vaccination status recording effort, BCCHS has enlisted the support of two staff members to monitor the operations and communication of Independent Study programming, Max Garcia and Maria Castañeda. We currently have 7 students enrolled for second semester, and 12 students enrolled as of the beginning of the 21-22 school year. We anticipate additional families having to enroll given the number of students not yet vaccinated or not yet having offered proof of vaccination. The decision to vaccinate or not seems to continue to be a difficult discussion for many of our students and their families.

Special Education DVR

BCCHS will be undergoing a District Validation Review by the LAUSD office of Charter Operated Programs for its special education program. Mr. Nutt, the Director of Special Education, is leading this effort. The review takes place in January and is designed to discover any areas in which the program is out of compliance. Given the veteran experience of Ms. Castañeda, our Special Education lead at BCCHS, I anticipate no findings.

College Qualification and Matriculation

While all of the BCCHS seniors who qualified for 4-year college admission were successfully guided to apply by the deadlines by UC/CSU systems, this number comprised only 36% of this year's graduating class. This is consistent, although slightly lower, with previous data from previous graduating classes, which hovers near 40%. This lack of qualification via GPA for the entire class (meaning 100% of the class does not yet have a GPA of 2.5 or better) is now of amplified concern as both public university systems in California have recently done away with the sliding scale of GPA-to-SAT calibration that was in place to reconsider applicants with GPAs below the admissions threshold. In addition to the consistently low qualification percentage, many of our graduates who qualify and gain admission do not matriculate to college. An Executive Team intervention, including Ms. King Berg, Mr. Dueñas, and Ms. Favela-Barreras, has been underway since early November to consider program augmentations and changes that will help all of our graduates be prepared for, access, and actually go to college.

Staffing

One of our new staff members has not completed the basic skills requirements for maintaining "hireable" status on a preliminary credential. Her deadline was December 7. We are waiting on a last minute evaluation of her out-of-country transcripts to see if this basic skills requirement has been met, but are preparing to hire her replacement for the second semester.