



# BLACKSTONE VALLEY PREP

*Preparing every scholar for success in college and the world beyond.*

---

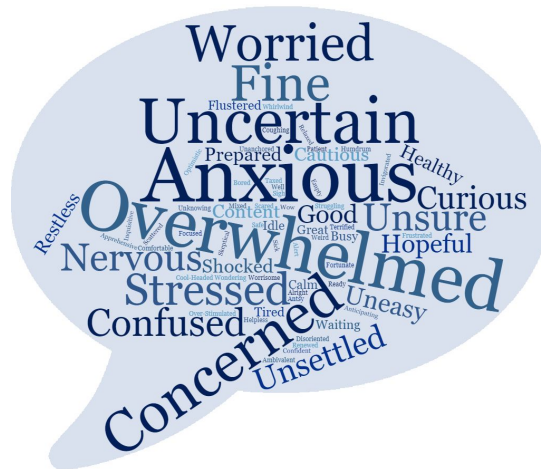
## Chief Executive Officer Report

Jeremy Chiappetta

March 23, 2020

### **Key Highlights:**

- Due to COVID-19, BVP, along with every other school in Rhode Island, has shifted over this past week to a Distance Learning Model for educating our scholars in grades K-12.
  - Our robust plan is captured on our website, inclusive of our formal submission to RIDE, blog entries describing our major activities and plans, and differentiated approaches to education. We met with RIDE staff on Thursday, 3/19/2020, and received feedback on our plan, which is incorporated in the version that you have been provided.
  - <http://blackstonevalleyprep.org/families/coronavirus/>
- To address the challenge of supporting Distance Learning, BVP surveyed families on issues of childcare, food security, technology access, and books in the home. In response to the survey results we have:
  - Distributed nearly 300 laptops to families reporting no computer or a shared computer (priority was scholars in grades 2-8; high school is already 1:1)
  - Direct Shipping five books to each family reporting fewer than five books in the home (selections from our Summer Reading Lists)
  - BVP has been awarded an emergency grant from the Charter School Growth Fund to support Distance Learning, we are submitting requests to RIDE based on emergency funding that they have released, and we are piloting a K-2 Book Reading video project with the support of City Fund.
- BVP distributed Distance Learning Packets to every scholar on Friday, 3/13/2020 and mailed them to all scholars who were absent on that day over this past week.
- We continue to check in with our staff to make sure that they have the resources, tools, and skills to do this work. This past week we have provided robust Professional Development, ensured distribution of tools to support the staff, and checked in on their well-being. Here's a graphical depiction of how our staff are feeling right now:



And in other news:

- High School Boys Basketball competed in the RIIL State Tournament, winning in the first round, upsetting Division I Woonsocket HS (BVP is D3). BVP went on to lose to North Kingstown, the #2 seed in the tournament.
- Our seniors continue to gain acceptance to colleges and universities. Among recent highlights include a full-ride to Holy Cross and our first acceptances ever to Swarthmore, UVA, and Wellesley (three different scholars!).

Talent

- We continue to forge ahead with filling anticipated openings for the fall, making hires for August and even in some hard to fill areas or high need areas now. Today we started four new team members, including a secondary math teacher.
- The BVPHS Head of School search continues, we have a pool of candidates we continue to process, though the team needed to focus on that work is currently focused on COVID-19 response.

Key Data

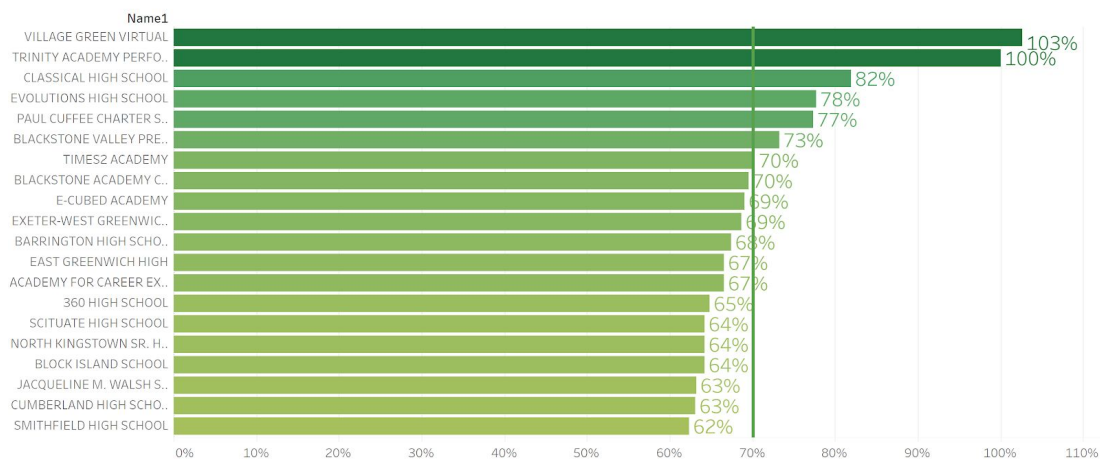
Attendance leading up to the “April Break” was monitored closely. One can see a significant drop-off as the outbreak grew and the public became more aware of the seriousness of the situation:

School	YTD	3/13	3/12	3/11	3/10	3/9	3/6	3/5
ES1	<b>95.06</b>	86.65	92.96	PD Day	95.31	92.33	95.39	95.39
ES2	<b>96.1</b>	89.56	92.48	PD Day	94.17	93.69	93.45	96.6
ES3	<b>95.28</b>	89.14	88.39	PD Day	93.26	96.63	96.25	95.13
HS	<b>94.66</b>	88.05	91.55	PD Day	93.88	84.84	95.34	86.88
MS1	<b>95.94</b>	89.23	94.61	PD Day	96.3	91.58	91.92	95.29
MS2	<b>95.95</b>	91.53	92.83	PD Day	96.3	90.23	96.42	96.09

Overall	<b>95.53</b>	88.99	92.3	PD Day	94.84	91.62	94.79	96.05
<b>Gap to YTD</b>	<b>3/13</b>	<b>3/12</b>	<b>3/11</b>	<b>3/10</b>	<b>3/9</b>	<b>3/6</b>	<b>3/5</b>	
ES1	8.41	2.1		-0.25	2.73	-0.33	-0.33	
ES2	6.54	3.62		1.93	2.41	2.65	-0.5	
ES3	6.14	6.89		2.02	-1.35	-0.97	0.15	
HS	6.61	3.11		0.78	9.82	-0.68	7.78	
MS1	6.71	1.33		-0.36	4.36	4.02	0.65	
MS2	4.42	3.12		-0.35	5.72	-0.47	-0.14	
Overall	<b>6.54</b>	<b>3.23</b>		<b>0.69</b>	<b>3.91</b>	<b>0.74</b>	<b>-0.52</b>	

- BVP will track and submit attendance on a daily basis going forward. Teachers will mark scholars present or absent based on whether or not the child has engaged in learning during that day as demonstrated by participation in Zoom-based courses, submissions through Google Classroom, and/or conversations between their Distance Learning Teacher and the scholar or family.
- BVP continues to be a leader in the state’s effort to complete FAFSA’s (the form that must be completed to be eligible for most financial aid in colleges, including CCRI’s Rhode Island Promise).

<FAFSA Completion Dashboard>



## Development

- Annual appeal letters have been mailed. Please give generously!
- We have added a new donation opportunity to our website, inviting specific support for our Social Worker Fund and to support our alumni:  
<http://blackstonevalleyprep.org/product/social-workers-fund/>
- The Art Show, despite happening at the on-set of the outbreak, proved to be a great success. Door receipts were consistent with years past and the Opening Night Reception was the best attended yet.

## **Media and Advocacy**

- BVP has been covered favorably in its response to COVID-19, most notably in the Providence Journal on 3/21/2020.  
<https://www.providencejournal.com/news/20200320/in-ri-public-schools-its-al-l-homework-starting-monday>
- BVP continues to coordinate with lobbyists to best watch for and prepare for any and all legislative response to COVID-19.

## **Facility Updates**

- All facilities are undergoing a “Deep Clean” at the direction of the Commissioner of Education. This includes the wiping of all surfaces with particular products to ensure safety.
- **Current portfolio:**
  - **291 Broad St. (ES1):** N/A.
  - **52 Broad St. (ES2):** N/A.
  - **3 Fairlawn Way (MS2):** Addition progress is meeting (or beating) timelines for completion in time for the 2020-2021 school year.
  - **909 Lonsdale Ave. (MS1):** N/A.
  - **3357 Mendon Rd:** N/A.
  - **65 Macondray Street (HS):** N/A
  - **7 Fatima Drive (Network Support Team):** N/A.
  - **Other:** We continue to pursue other real estate opportunities to best support our mission, within the budget constraints with which we are operating.