



# BLACKSTONE VALLEY PREP

*Preparing every scholar to achieve their goals for college and the world beyond*

## Chief Executive Officer Report

Sarah Anderson

Submitted for Acceptance December 4, 2023

### **Key Highlights**

- U.S. News and World Report [ranked](#) BVP's JHS as the #10 middle school in Rhode Island. JHS was the only Title I school to make the list.
- The first quarter marking period at BVPHS and the first trimester in the elementary and middle schools closed in the past couple of weeks. Family conferences for the high school were held in November and were well attended, and K-8 family conferences will take place on December 6th.
- This winter, two of our custodians are retiring. These are BVP's first ever retirees, truly the mark of an organization that is growing up! We wish them both well.
- College Applications are in full swing with the largest senior class in BVPHS history, with 30 more seniors than last year's class. By December 1st, 33% of students will have submitted their first application. That percentage will jump to at least 70% on December 15th. So far, we have 5 acceptances, and we are awaiting two Questbridge match decisions and several Early Decision/Restrictive Early Action Decisions. Finally, the new FAFSA will open on December 31st with a significant early January push for FAFSA completion.

### **Strategic Plan Implementation (Goal A)**

- The strategic plan working groups aligned to each of our Year 1 milestones have made progress toward each of them. Below are updates on each milestone.

Milestone	Update
Update all BVP communications collateral and key messages to align to Strategic Plan.	The Associate Director of Communications has updated the website, communications templates, and staff recruitment materials, and launched a new quarterly newsletter. Scholar/family recruitment materials will be updated guided by the working group on the strategy for recruitment and enrollment.
Create a K- age 22 scope and sequence for college and career exploration.	The working group has a draft scope, and BVP has secured a small grant to support this exploration.



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<p>Create a BVP Family Diversity compact and an annual process for ensuring families sign and educating them on its importance.</p>	<p>The working group, made up mostly of BVP parents, has drafted the Diversity Compact and is in the process of gathering feedback from stakeholders.</p>
<p>Create a strategy for recruitment and enrollment.</p>	<p>The working group has identified key areas to focus on in our recruitment and enrollment process. In addition, through the support of the Fostering Diverse Schools grant, BVP is hiring a demographer to strengthen enrollment projections.</p>
<p>Codify the criteria for entry, goals for successful completion, and professional development strategies for the Teaching Fellows and Leadership Fellows programs.</p>	<p>BVP's Human Capital and CIA teams are collaborating on this work, and making updates to programming to better align it pathways to certification offered by potential partners, such as Teach for America, UnboundEd, and the RI School for Progressive Education.</p>
<p>At UES, create and monitor the implementation of a pilot version of a specific yet flexible BVP playbook for school culture.</p>	<p>This summer, UES staff drafted an extensive school culture playbook. UES leadership, our Chief Academic Officer, and I are monitoring it's effectiveness through observations several days per week, and are making substantial revisions.</p>

## **Academics (Goals B and C)**

- In October, the Board received a high level summary of BVP's RICAS performance from spring 2023. This evening, the Chief Academic Officer will provide a more in depth report on RICAS as well as trimester and quarter 1 performance on internal BVP assessments. [The slides are available here.](#)

## **Attendance and Enrollment (Goal D)**

- BVP's current enrollment as of 11/27 is 2248, with 11 offers outstanding. This is 99% enrollment and exceeding our goal of maintaining enrollment at least 95% of target.
- Attendance at each school year to date is as follows:



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School	2023-24 Attendance as of 11/30	2023-24 Chronically Absent as of 11/30	2022-23 Attendance as of 12/6	2022-23 Chronically Absent as of 12/6
ES1	94.4%	19.1%	91.8%	27.7%
ES2	95.4%	13.6%	94%	18.5%
ES3	94.0%	23.2%	92.4%	25%
UES	94.9%	17.7%	94%	15.1%
JHS	95.3%	12.9%	93.9%	19.7%
BVPHS	93.8%	18.9%	93.8%	18.4%

## **Talent (Goals F, G, H)**

- As of 11/29/2023

ES1	98.3%
ES2	98.4%
ES3	93%
UES	87.5%
JHS	100%
BVPHS	96.4%
Advancement Academy	100%

- Our long-time Data Analyst Will Masse's last day is Friday, as he took a position as the Director of Data and Strategy for Providence Schools. This is a great opportunity for him and a way to continue to work toward BVP's mission for Rhode Island children. It will, however, be a difficult role for us to fill given the specialized expertise in data analysis and computer programming required. Contacts from board members' networks would be welcome!

## **Development**

- Thanks to a donation from a vendor, we recently raffled off two tickets to the Celtics vs. Bulls game on November 28. The raffle raised over \$1,600 for the BVP Social Workers'



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Fund which assists families experiencing extreme—and oftentimes unforeseen—hardships. On Giving Tuesday, the Social Workers' Fund received \$700 in donations. **Nearly 400 individuals have indicated they need some form of assistance this holiday season (help with food, warm clothing, toys for children, etc.), so every donation matters.**

- Board giving is at 40% over the past year.

## **Facilities (Goal E)**

- We have renewed the lease at 310 Broad Street, home of our network offices, through June 2027.
- We continue to look for all possible solutions for additional space at the high school. This week, we communicated to families that we will not be able to add classroom space for the 24-25 school year, which means we will need to continue to manage the waitlist of rising 9th graders. A brief update on progress toward a solution for the 25-26 school year will take place during executive session.



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