

Finally in the area of personal and social domains, health screenings are done by the school nurse to identify medical barriers to academic success. Families and community members rely upon the nurse to provide them with referrals to free and low-cost vision, dental, medical and mental health services. Additionally, BHS administers the Fitness Gram Testing to all students as required by the state.

Community Partnerships/Resources

Community resources are used in 3 areas: academics, careers, and social/emotional. In the area of academics, the SST feels making contact with each student by a counselor at least once each year is foundational to student success. This individual contact comes in many formats from facilitating concurrent/dual enrollment, correspondence and credit by exams through Texas Tech University, and credit retrieval for scheduling of classes year to year. Northeast Tarrant County Chamber of Commerce provides a medal for students graduating in the Texas Scholar Program. Herff Jones donates plaques and awards to outstanding seniors for scholastic accomplishments. A new resource for needy families is an opportunity to purchase a reconditioned computer for reduced cost.

In the area of careers, Achieve Texas is a focus of contact with students. JROTC works with the US Army. The cooking for Culinary Arts classes is done in local hotel kitchens. Travel and Tourism works with Travel Educate to teach and certify SABRE to book airline/train/rental car reservations. Clinical Rotation works with North Hills Hospital. PALS, Ready, Set, Teach! students and Fishheads work with area elementary and middle schools. BHS has 8 teachers certified for Articulated Tech Prep programs with Tarrant County College as well as state colleges and universities. The work-based learning program has 55 students in local work sites, including special education students.

In the area of personal and social resources, the SST actively supports many community resources: BISD/PTSA Clothes Connection provides clothing and school supplies to needy BHS families; JPS-Birdville Health Clinic; social services; and free/reduced lunches. United Way is supported by 100% of the faculty. Students participate in volunteer programs throughout the community like Summer Santa, food drives, Fun Run for Sarah Friend, and Adopt a Street. BHS is proud of a new program being sponsored by Chick-fil-A, American National Bank of Texas and Herff Jones Graduation Services is called Best Buddies. The program pairs student mentors with low functioning students.

Volunteer Involvement

Whether you have just an hour or a day we can use your help! Our Parent Teacher/Student Association (PTSA) volunteer coordinator is Kellie Kellner, KellieKellner@sbcglobal.net. We welcome and work closely with our PTSA in making a difference for all students. All volunteers with student contact are required to go through an orientation including a background check. The last two years have been impressive in the number of volunteer hours. For 2006-2007, BHS recorded the most hours of any high school in BISD. For 2007-2008, 830 volunteers logged 28,350 hours of time.

These dedicated volunteers are part of booster organizations and activities associated with fine arts, foreign languages, athletics, CTE, AVID program, BAGT, student registration, committees such as campus improvement, site-based, comprehensive guidance, awards programs, LPAC meetings, Project Celebration for seniors after prom, chaperoning of trips, parent workshops, fundraising, scholarships, and office assistance.

Focus for Improvement

A focus for improvement for CREST 2007 was math TAKS with the changing population. The first item in the CIP for 2008-2009 is TAKS math continued improvement for all students as well as ethnic groupings. The SST reports an improvement for all student of 2%, an overall increase for all populations of 2% with the exception of African Americans who increased by 13%. Additional evidence of improvement is noted as an increase of minority students taking SAT and AP tests, particularly the African American participation increased by 42.3% on SAT and 163.6% on AP tests.

AVID is a new program at BHS. Part of the process for AVID is evaluation of the program year to year. AVID's 11 essentials include attention toward classroom setting, delivery, and successful support. SST is active in collecting data, recruiting students and assisting with the parent contacts. The AVID program is a "buy in" by the entire faculty and staff. This is assisted by a committee of SST members and faculty who attended AVID Summer Institute.

Zeros Are Prohibited (ZAP) is a program initiated last year to keep students on target toward passing semester grades. This is open to all levels, but particularly focuses on freshmen to help them get in the groove of turning in assignments and organization. Assistance is offered during the ZAP sessions conducted on Wednesday evenings after school until 5:00. Attendance is usually 75-100 students. Although the program has not expanded as quickly as anticipated to all subject areas, the level of attendance is encouraging.

Keeping You Informed

BHS realizes that the Hawk stakeholders need to access information through different mediums and languages. Personal contact is made by means of open house, parent/student/counselor individual meetings, college/career night, parent information night, 9th grade orientation, IEPs, LPACs, 504 meetings, and phone calls returned within 24 hours. Other contacts include 8th Grade Parent Night, visits to 8th grade classrooms and individual conferences, AP/Honors Parent Evening, individual conferences with 9-12 grade levels. Counselors have an open-door policy, which affords optimal accessibility for students in the Counselors Office.

Electronic communication occurs through phone calls, e-mail and a new BHS school website, <http://www.birdvillehigh.com>. Automated phone calls regarding students attendance go out daily. Daily announcements are broadcast over the televised system in all classrooms with a rolling version available throughout the school day. Students can access the Go Center for career and college planning assistance. Family Access allows parents and students to access teacher's grade book to keep advised of grades. PTSA E-Blast, PowerPoint presentations, and E-Scholarships are available. Printed material includes district communication, Parent/Student Handbook, [Educational Planning Guide](#), grade and test reports, PTSA Newsletter, attendance letters, bulletin boards, marquee, memos, Parent's Guide to Special Education, Individual Graduation Plans, accountability report cards, and calendars. BHS is a multicultural and multilingual (16 languages) community. Interpreters for the Deaf or Hard of Hearing and other language translators are available as needed.

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Class of 2009

