

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

The 2021-2022 school year has been one that has proven how our Rebel Family continues to be resilient, resourceful, and compassionate to our students, families, and community. Our school is helping all students develop the World Class Skills of the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by teaching rigorous standards in all content areas, promoting creativity and innovation, working collaboratively, instilling work ethic, integrity, self-direction, and developing interpersonal skills.

BFA's primary goal is to create a strong, continuous foundation for student achievement and development through graduation. The graduation rate for Byrnes High School is currently 87.3%. Our graduation goal is to increase our graduation rate to 90% by 2024. Our Academy instructed over 800 students in person this year. Despite the ever changing working conditions during the pandemic such as all virtual and regular schedules, our teachers continually worked to provide differentiated instruction to ensure strong academic outcomes for our students.

BFA was able to continue Academic and Attendance Recapture to assist students who were struggling with constantly changing learning schedules. Teachers provided free academic tutoring every Tuesday and Thursday for an hour and a half after school. Multiple Saturdays were used to provide additional assistance to students. In addition, BFA was able to return to a POWER Hour schedule. POWER (Preparing Our World for Educated Rebels) Hour utilizes time during lunch for students to receive tutoring, remediation, re-teaching, and participation in intramural activities. Students earning less than a C average are required to spend extra time on academic enrichment.

Our CDF (Career Development Facilitator) organized a career fair for ninth graders. Over 40 businesses and our entire student body engaged in career paths and opportunities. Interest assessments and virtual classrooms were additional resources created to peak student interests. Virtual and in person speakers were able to interact with students about careers in law, public safety, and manufacturing. Job shadowing opportunities enabled students to gain firsthand experience in the job market.

District Five Schools and Middle Tyger Community Center combined resources to provide our community with financial, emotional, and legal resources. Access to more mental health counselors and programs such as MTSS, SEL, Character Strong, Neptune Navigate, and Panorama provided strategies and support for our students.

School safety continued to be a focal point for our district as weapons detectors were installed for our students, staff, and visitors. Programs such as athletics, chorus, band, JROTC, orchestra, and drama provided much needed outlets for our students. Finally, our students and staff continued to support our local community through initiatives such as March of Dimes, canned food drives, and Relay for Life. BFA was the Relay for Life top earning high school in Spartanburg County.

The faculty and staff of BFA are extremely proud of our many successes. We are committed to continuous improvement from within to make our students life-long learners and productive members in a global society. Our focus will continue to be "every child, every day".

Neel Edwards, Principal and Lori Cooper, SIC Chairman