

Partnerships Add to Students' Learning

THE BAINBRIDGE ISLAND ARTS EDUCATION COMMUNITY CONSORTIUM has been an exemplar of partnership, reaching students and staff in Bainbridge Island School District for 10 years. Using visual arts, drama, dance, media, and music, the consortium partners with over 90 teachers, 30 professional teaching artists, 20 community arts organizations and businesses, the University of Washington, and 96 trained volunteer Art Docents, annually reaching 3500 students in our schools.

Artists not only teach art skills, but more importantly integrate art as a means to learn other subjects. "Exploring History through the Lens of Television" teaches students about media literacy and critical viewing skills while they learn about the past. "Drama in Education" brings an actor/drama educator to create a dramatic context for a regular unit of curriculum, allowing students to "experience" social studies, science, language arts, or math.

Integrating the arts into other subjects supports student learning, motivation, and success. This is clear when you watch the enthusiasm of students using dance to find meaning in life and in culture, or a second grader who treasures her artistic creation when studying insects. Teachers also find that the fires of their own enthusiasm and motivation can be relit as they discover new ways to present a curriculum.

The Arts Education Community Consortium is a program of the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council.



Courtesy BIAHC

As part of the Bainbridge Island Arts Education Community Consortium, artists share their skills and integrate visual and performing art as a means to learn other subjects. BIAECC is one of many partnerships that support student learning.

IN THE KNOW

Budget Corner

ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO RECOMMEND POTENTIAL BUDGET CUTS

As you may know, like every school district in the country, BISD is faced with unprecedented state and federal funding challenges as they develop their 2009-10 budget.

The District Budget Advisory Committee (DBAC) and six subcommittees have analyzed the budget and considered a variety of strategies to address the potential budget cuts of \$1.8-\$2 M, which will result in significant reductions to programs and services.

The subcommittees presented their considerations to DBAC. These will be used to develop budget recommendations for the School Board.

Building Our Schools

FACILITIES MASTER PLAN GUIDES BOND

A \$42M bond measure will be on the May 19th ballot. The projects this would support are outlined in the 15-year, comprehensive Facilities Master Plan (FMP). This bond would fund \$9.5M in renovations across the district and \$32.5M to replace Wilkes Elementary School, all with stable local school taxes. Read about the FMP and bond on the district website—FMP Update and "Capital Bond on May 19 ballot."



www.bainbridge.wednet.edu

For more on the budget and May 19 ballot



Courtesy BIAHC

Over 30 community organizations and businesses partner in the educational experience and process of BISD students. Examples of other outstanding partnerships that support student learning include: Bainbridge Schools Foundation, Parent Teacher/Student Organizations, Rotary, and BHS Boosters.

Two Essential Funds Sustain and Nurture Aspects of Learning

Different “pots of money” support different but important student needs. One major pot of school funding, the General Fund, nourishes the day-to-day operation of our schools. It pays for all instructional programs, administration, food services, routine maintenance, and transportation. That pot of funding is provided primarily by state allocations.

Levies, donations, fees, and some federal allocations also contribute. Although our community provides the maximum amount of local support allowed by law, this tree is being severely cut back by our state’s economic crisis and compounded by the chronic underfunding of education.

The Capital Projects Fund, supported by voter-approved bonds, bears fruit over time in the form of construction, land acquisition, and major facility renovations. Capital projects-related salaries, equipment, and office space are covered, as well as one-time purchases of materials and equipment for new buildings. After completion, buildings are maintained from the General Fund.

The law is very clear that bond funds may NOT be used to pay for day-to-day operating costs of schools. The district keeps a strict accounting of the two funds and has an exemplary audit record.



did you know

... in this historic, dire economic climate, BISD faces a 5% budget cut in state funding? This does not take into account the fact that state and federal funding has never covered all the costs associated with educating students. (See “Budget Corner” inside).

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Bainbridge Island School District No. 303
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Bainbridge Island, Washington 98110



Open and Read About Your Schools

- Learning Possibilities Through Partnerships
- State and Federal Funding Cuts Drive Budget
- Two Funds Provide Different Support

OpenBook is a publication by the Bainbridge Island School District to connect with and bring timely information to our community.

School Events— Too good to miss!

MAY

- 1-2, 8-9 BHS Spring Musical
- 4 Gr. 6, Transition to WMS—Parent Night
- 4-8 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 8 Ordway Carnival
- 13 Half-Day, Early Dismissal
- 14 BHS Spring Arts Festival
- 15 Bike to School & Work Day
- 20 WMS Culture Fair
- 21 Sakai Band Concert
- 25 No School—Memorial Day
- 27 BHS & WMS Spring Concert
- Blakely 1st & 3rd Grades Concert

JUNE

- 1 Gr. 4, Transition to Sakai—Parent Night
- 3 BHS Band Pops Concert
- 4 WMS Band Bops Concert/Talent Show
- 13 Graduation
- 15-17 Half-Day Grades 9-12, Finals
- 17 Half-Day, Last Day of School



Remember to use your 60+ Gold Pass!



www.bainbridge.wednet.edu
For a complete list of district events