



Burgin Independent Schools

District-Wide Initiatives

2017-2018

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

- **21 Career Pathway Programs**

- Agribusiness
- Agribiotechnology
- Horticulture & Plant Science Systems
- Environmental Science/Natural Resources Systems
- Agricultural Power, Structural, Technical Systems
- Animal Science Systems
- Consumer & Family Management
- Early Childhood Education
- Fundamentals of Teaching
- Culinary Arts
- Teaching and Learning
- Manufacturing Engineering
- Automotive
- Carpentry
- Electricity
- Welding
- Business & Office Technology
- Health Sciences, MNA
- Health Sciences, Pharmacy Tech
- Health Sciences, Phlebotomy Tech
- Health Sciences, EKG Tech

**** "127 Career Academy" to open in 2018-2019 school year, providing 6 new career pathway opportunities*

- **College and Career Readiness/Transition program**
 - College and Career Readiness is a priority for our district. We strive to make sure every student is Transition Ready upon graduation. Our high school is committed to intervention systems to make sure each student has many career readiness opportunities. We are partnering with the ATC in Harrodsburg to provide more career pathways and opportunities for our students.

- **Professional Growth and Effectiveness System**
 - PGES has been a focus for our district leadership team. Predicated on the belief that teacher effectiveness has the greatest impact on student achievement, we have concentrated on making our new evaluation system excellent by gathering input from all stakeholders. We have conducted several trainings sessions for our administrators and teachers and plan continued training opportunities as the system grows and expands.

- **Instructional Rounds**
 - Instructional rounds are one of the most valuable tools that Burgin Independent Schools uses to enhance teachers' pedagogical skills and develop a culture of collaboration. We use instructional rounds to provide feedback to the teacher being observed and for observing teachers to compare their own instructional practices with those of the teachers they observe. This practice is also used for teacher self-reflection to compare the instructional round feedback to the four domains of effective teacher practice on the Kentucky Framework for Teaching.

- **Implementing the Kentucky Core Academic Standards**
 - We have deconstructed the standards in Math and English/language Arts and are beginning sessions to review and update along with a focus on mathematical practices. We implement the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and are using best practices for the implementation.

- **Universal Screeners – Grades K-10**
 - We implement various Universal Screeners for use in grades K-10. Characteristics of universal screening assessments include being: accessible to all students, assessing critical skills and concepts, brief, easy to administer and score, given to all students (i.e. district, school, grade-level, course), quick turn-around time (1-3 days) of aggregated and disaggregated data to classroom teachers, repeatable, reliable.

- **NWEA Measure of Academic Progress (MAP)**
 - We are in our 10th year with using MAP as a progress monitoring tool and screener for Response to Intervention in the areas of reading, mathematics, and language. MAP is given to the students at the beginning of school, during the interim, and at the end of the school year. Students are expected to demonstrate one year's growth in the areas assessed and this helps measure their growth. Students demonstrating less than one year's growth are monitored for intervention needs. MAP provides both a vertical and longitudinal data on all students in grades 2-8.

- **Kindergarten screening using Brigance**
 - We implemented Kentucky's Common Kindergarten Entry Screener, the BRIGANCE Early Childhood Kindergarten Screen III. This screener provides a quick and accurate assessment of a child's development in five areas: Academic/Cognitive, Language, Development, Physical Development, Self-Help and Social-Emotional Development.

- **Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA)**
 - The Developmental Reading Assessment is a formative reading assessment in which Burgin Elementary teachers are able to systematically observe, record, and evaluate changes in student reading performance. This is a proven, criterion-referenced assessment and includes recommendations for scaffolded support to increase student reading proficiency, which reflects the student's oral reading fluency (95% accuracy) and comprehension (90% accuracy) at independent levels.

- **One to One student Chromebook technology for blended classrooms, grades 6-12**
 - Burgin High School students began using one to one technology in the classrooms using Google Chromebooks during the 2016-17 school year. The middle school students began in during the 2017-18 year. This technology enhances the Blended Learning Classroom, with its mix of technology and traditional face-to-face instruction. Burgin teachers 6-12 participated in a book study using Blended-Using Disruptive Innovation to Improve Schools, and have had follow up professional development for implementation. Blended learning combines classroom learning with online learning, in which students can, in part, control the time, pace, and place of their learning.

- **Google Classrooms - Grades 6-12**
 - As a result of our implementation of student one to one technology and the Blended Classroom, Burgin Middle and High schools have begun to use Google Classroom. Two teachers are certified Google Teachers, and they have provided ongoing professional development to their peers for this initiative. Google Classroom is a blended learning platform developed by Google for schools that aims to simplify creating and grading assignments in a paperless way. Google Classroom combines Google Drive for assignment creation and distribution, Google Docs, Sheets and Slides for writing, Gmail for communication, and Google Calendar for scheduling. Students can be invited to classes through the institution's database, through a private code, or be automatically imported from a school domain. Each class creates a separate folder in the respective user's Drive, where the student can submit work to be a graded by a teacher. Mobile apps, available for iOS and Android devices, let users take photos and attach to assignments, share files from other apps, and access information offline. Teachers can monitor the progress for each student, and after being graded, teachers can return work, with comments, for the student to revise and improve the assignment. Teachers can post announcements to a class stream, where students can comment.

- **Energy and Power Program**
 - In 2016, Burgin received a grant to begin a program in the Engineering pathway, called Energy and Power. Students in this pathway are taking four high level courses that expose them to energy basics, power generation, distribution, emerging technologies, and management.

- **Multiple AP Course Offerings**
 - Students at Burgin Independent have the opportunity to take various Advance Placement courses that could potentially earn them college credit. These include AP US History, AP Calculus, AP Language, AP Computer Science Principles, AP Biology, AP Environmental Science, and AP Chemistry.

- **Implementation of Benchmark Advanced Core Reading Program Grades K-3**
 - With the 2017-18 implementation of Benchmark Advanced, our students will use a rigorous, integrated reading, writing, speaking, and listening instruction ELA program that meets the needs of Burgin Elementary Students. It provides a research based program that contributes to our a

reading instruction. It is a collaborative, balanced approach, workshop model, and enables all students to master rigorous learning goals with strong resources for differentiated instruction and responsive teaching based upon ongoing assessments.

- **Full Day Kindergarten**

- We offer full-day Kindergarten for our students. We currently have two classrooms. We have chosen to provide all day kindergarten, which goes above the Kentucky law of minimum half day program requirements. Our full-day kindergarten provides early learning opportunities for our students who are 6 years old or who turns 6 by August 1 will attend public school. Kindergarten Common Core Standards are implemented.

- **Handwriting without Tears - Grades K-5**

- Burgin began to implement The Handwriting Without Tears® curriculum at the beginning of 2017-18 for grades K-5. This program draws from years of innovation and research to provide developmentally appropriate, multisensory strategies for early writing. The program follows research of how children learn best and includes materials that address all styles of learning.

- **Lucy Calkins Writing Program - Grades K-5**

- Lucy Calkins writing implements the small instructional group “workshop” approach to teaching writing to children, which holds that writing is a process, with distinct phases, and that all children, not just those with innate talent, can learn to write well. This is implemented in Burgin Elementary as a part of our English Language Arts Curriculum.

- **Multiple Practice Opportunities for ACT Grades 9-12**

- As an extra learning opportunity for our Burgin High School students, our district funds the administration of the ACT for our beginning of the year Juniors and practice tests two times a year for grades 9-12. The ACT is required for all Kentucky juniors in March as a part of KY Unbridled assessment, and we believe that by offering the students multiple practice opportunities, it will provide them with the chance to see first-hand what the ACT is like before formal assessment, AND it provides our teachers with instructional needs for our students. The ACT program is a comprehensive system for collecting and reporting information about students planning to enter postsecondary education, and is the nation’s most popular college entrance exam accepted and valued by all universities and colleges in the United States. The ACT is based on what students learn in high school and provides personalized information about their strengths for education and career planning.

Interventions/Preventions

- **Math Recovery**

- Beginning with the 2017 school year, Burgin implemented Math Recovery® program. This is an intense individualized intervention program that helps identify students and strategies to help them overcome core problems when they struggle to learn and apply even the simplest numerical concepts. The objective is to intervene as early and quickly as possible before these at-risk students fall too far behind their peers.

- **Reading Recovery**

- Funded by a grant for implementation, Reading Recovery is a highly effective short-term intervention of one-to-one tutoring for low-achieving first graders. The intervention is most effective when it is available to all students who need it and is used as a supplement to good classroom teaching. Reading Recovery serves our lowest-achieving first graders—the students who are not catching on to the complex set of concepts that make reading and writing possible. Individual students receive a half-hour lesson each school day for 12 to 20 weeks with a specially trained Reading Recovery teacher. As soon as students can meet grade-level expectations and demonstrate that they can continue to work independently in the classroom, their lessons are discontinued, and new students begin individual instruction.

- **Read to Achieve**

- We receive funding from Reading Diagnostic and Intervention Grant Program, which is a competitive program that provides funds to schools to implement research-based reading diagnostic and intervention programs. The Kentucky Read to Achieve (KY RTA) Program, which we implement at Burgin Elementary, was created under Senate Bill 19 in 2005 with the goal of supporting schools in implementing a reading diagnostic and intervention program to address the needs of struggling readers. More specifically, the KY RTA program was designed to identify and provide intensive reading and intervention programs to struggling readers within primary grades (K-3). We are pleased to provide our K-3 students with this intervention.

- **Response to Intervention (RTI)**

- RTI is a multi-tier approach to the early identification and support of students with learning and behavior needs. The RTI process begins with high-quality instruction and universal screening of all children in the general education classroom. Three tiers of instruction are required as a part of this approach, with the least intensive being Tier 1 and the most intensive being Tier 3. We have developed a comprehensive system of interventions and set aside time in the daily schedule for students to receive intervention specific to individual student needs.

- **Focus and Finish Program**

- This initiative was started in fall of 2017 to help at-risk seniors focus on their barriers to graduation with the hope they finish by crossing the stage at graduation. At-risk seniors meet with counselors and administrators in August to identify barriers to them graduating, January to follow-up on their status and again in April to see if they are on track to graduate.

- **Burgin Academy/After School Program**

Burgin Academy is a unique program that is grant based. In 2015 Burgin Independent School was awarded a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant. With this grant, we are able to offer before school, after school, and a summer learning program. We offer homework help, tutoring, reading and math interventions, academic and recreation enrichment, fitness activities, snack, and bus transportation home. All Burgin Independent students in grades K-8th can become a part of this program FREE of charge.

- **Comprehensive School Counseling Program**

- At Burgin, the goal is for all students to receive a high level of education, but we understand that the whole child must be fostered. Through our comprehensive school counseling program, we work with families, teachers, and outside agencies to ensure that all student needs are met. Burgin currently has two certified school counselors on site to provide various services that include one-one-one counseling, academic advising, small group counseling, classroom guidance, and many early prevention programs.

- **Extended School Services**

- The Extended School Services (ESS) program is a proactive program designed to assist individual students who are having difficulty in one or more content areas. At Burgin, we offer extra instructional time outside regular school hours and may take a variety of formats including after school or before school programs, evening sessions, Saturday learning opportunities, summer programs and/or intercessions.

Professional Learning Communities

- **School Leadership Team**

- The School Leadership Team is comprised of the Superintendent, the Principal, two Assistant Principals, two School Counselors, and the Director of Special Education. This team meets every other week to discuss correlates, KDE due dates, and various other topics that affect the school.

- **Student Vibe Council**

- This initiative was started in the fall 2017. Each month the principal and the superintendent will invite 4-6 students to join them in lunch to get the vibe of the school. This gives the student a voice and new students are chosen each month.

- **Larry Lezotte's Correlates for Effective Schools**

- Fall 2017, we implemented Larry Lezotte's Correlates for Effective Schools. The School Leadership Team created five correlates to serve as the school's committee structure. One person from the School Leadership Team will serve as the Correlate Liaison to share information back and forth with the Correlate, the School Leadership Team, and the school's site-based council when need be. Every teacher will be on a correlate and other staff are invited to be a member of the correlates as well. Membership on the correlates will do three things for our school: 1) with 100% teacher participation, each teacher will have a voice in the decision making 2) increase communication within our school 3) build leadership capacity amongst our staff. The five correlates are:

- Frequent Monitoring of Student Progress Correlate
- Climate and Culture Correlate
- Opportunity to Learn/Time on Task Correlate
- Positive Home/School Relations Correlate
- Safe and Orderly Environment Correlate

Health Initiatives

- **School Health**

- The district has remained committed to staffing a nurse throughout the day to assist with the health needs of our students. Schoolwide training on student bullying/harassment, Suicide Prevention, Use of EPI pen/Glucogen.

- **Burgin Family Connections FRYSC**

- Burgin Family Connections FRYSC is a full-service Family Resource and Youth Service Center addressing all 10 of the FRYSC components: Pre-School Child Care, After School & Break Child Care Families in Training, Family Literacy, and Health Services for the Family Resource components; Health & Social Services, Career Exploration & Development, Summer & Part-Time Jobs, Substance Abuse Education & Counseling, and Family Crisis & Mental Health for the Youth Service components. Services provided by Burgin Family Connections include basic needs, such as nutrition, transportation and utility assistance. Programs sponsored by BFC include but are not limited to Cradle School, Community Baby Shower, Back-to-School Open House, Shaken Baby Prevention, Nurturing Parenting, Grandparents as Parents newsletter, Take Back Family Dinner, Vision/Hearing/Dental services, Red Ribbon Week (substance abuse prevention), Shoo-Flu Campaign, Teen Hygiene, Backpack Snax, Reality Store, Truth & Consequences, Welcome to the Workforce trainings, Clothing Closet, Careers Closet, Food Bank, and Project Graduation.

- **Cradle School - Ages Birth -3**

- Cradle School is a parent/child program in which families are supported by our District Family Youth Service Center and directed by Sharon Perkins. The mission of the Cradle School program is to provide support and encouragement to parents during the crucial, early years of their children's lives, from pre-natal to preschool age. Early brain research shows that 0-3 years of age are critical years for learning and development.

- **Grandparents Raising Kids Program**

- In the state of Kentucky, approximately 90,000 children under the age of 18 live with grandparents. Within Burgin District, we recognize our grandparents raising children are a special population that needs additional support. This program, through our Family Youth Service Center, directed by Sharon Perkins, provides this support with meetings throughout the year.

- **Parenting Program**

- Initiative for better parenting practices and is an abuse prevention program. This program is research based, and provides intensive support and instruction for any Burgin parents. and helps provide additional support parents of students at risk, who have had children removed from their care.

- **Partnership with Mercer County Health Dept. for flu shots**

- In conjunction with the Mercer County Health Department, we have a full-time nurse that is able to provide a few conveniences for students and staff. One of the many conveniences provided by our nurse is that she is able to administer flu shots. Flu shots are available at school from the 1st of October until the middle of November for staff.

- **Preventative Health Screening (Vision, Hearing, Dental) P-5**
 - Vision Screenings are provided school-wide by a local eye doctor and his office staff. Hearing Screenings are as needed or requested and are also done by a local doctor. Dental Screenings and actual preventive actions are provided by a mobile dental unit from Jessamine County each year.

Community Outreach/Partnerships

- **KSD Cooperative**
 - Burgin Independent is in partnership with KSD to provide students with exceptional opportunities outside the classrooms of Burgin, through the “CCR Exchange” (College & Career Readiness). Students have the ability to utilize the state of the art facilities on KSD’s campus in Danville to pursue career pathways that interest them. All pathways offered through this program allow students to earn industry certifications, putting them ahead of the game in their chosen field.
- **Mercer County Industrial Foundation Partnership**
 - Burgin Independent is in a partnership with the Industrial Foundation to provide students with the opportunities to make connections with local industries. All seniors attend an all-inclusive Industry Day, through this partnership, in which they tour local industries, explore career options, explore opportunities for scholarship, learn about required skills for employment, and are able to get a first-hand experience of opportunities available to them in our community.
- **Kentucky Utilities Power Plant partnership for Energy and Steam**
 - Kentucky Utilities, located in Burgin, Kentucky has aligned with Burgin Independent to provide more authentic learning experiences. They have opened their doors to provide opportunity for students working in the Energy and Power programs to tour their facilities, work one on one with their skilled employees, and participate in shadowing opportunities.
- **Campbellsville University Dual Credit Program**
 - Juniors and Seniors that have met benchmark on college entrance exams have the opportunity to take dual credit classes through Campbellsville University at a discount rate.
- **Murray State Dual Credit Program**
 - Juniors and Seniors that have met benchmark on college entrance exams have the opportunity to take dual credit classes through Murray State at a discount rate.
- **BCTC Dual Credit Program**
 - Juniors and Seniors that have met benchmark on college entrance exams have the opportunity to take dual credit classes through Bluegrass Community and Technical College at a discount rate.
- **FFA Greenhouse**
 - Students get hands on experience with all aspects of the greenhouse business. They are involved from seed to sales in a greenhouse located on premises. Students assist in growing flowers and

garden plants, and use communication skills in customer interactions and promotion. They learn business principles including career and financial skills and decision making.

- **Burgin Family Connections FRYSC Backpack Program**

- The Backpack program is a nutritional supplement program offered for those students who qualify for free lunch and/or have been nominated by school staff. This program is designed to help poverty families weather the weekend with nutritional snacks for their children including but not limited to fresh fruit, juice, milk, various protein offerings, cheese sticks, breakfast items as well as desserts and other snacks. Each Friday, participating families receive a backpack full of food items for their children to consume over the weekend, thus helping to stretch the family budget and provide healthy nutrition for economically disadvantaged students.