



# Brookings School District

Working Together...Educating with Excellence...Inspiring Learners for Life

## BROOKINGS HIGH SCHOOL

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### High School Administrative Report December 2023

#### Advisory Leadership Team

Mrs. Carrie Oorlog's advisory class (Advisory Leadership Team) once again, is working to promote positive culture and strong life-skills lessons to the students of BHS. Members of the group (grades 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) completed an application process that included explaining how they felt that they could contribute positively to the culture at BHS.



This year, the students have taken over making the daily announcements, organized a costume contest for Halloween, and distributed lessons on positive life-skill lessons to advisories. Pictured: Winners of the Halloween costume contest.

Students have also created lessons focused on honoring support staff. Students are learning the names of our support staff through the "Name that Bobcat" presentations.



## **AP English Literature & Composition**

The journey continued for students in Mr. Ricky Ganci's 12<sup>th</sup> grade AP English Literature & Composition classes. 27 students turned out to finish their outlines for their research paper during **Office Hours** the evening of Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at *Cottonwood Café*.



Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, students participated in the **Victory Lap** after the completion of their papers. The classes gathered at *Brookings Cinema 8* for their celebration. Everyone enjoyed popcorn, snacks and watched ***The Hunger Games: Ballad of the Songbirds and Snakes***.



Following the movie, Mr. Ganci handed out the graded papers. Congratulations!!!



## Reading Buddies



BHS English teacher, Alyssa Laufman collaborated with staff at Medary Elementary to form the **Reading Buddies** program for elementary and high school learners. 9<sup>th</sup> grade students from BHS were recommended by BHS staff to participate in this program.

Once or twice a month, Mrs. Laufman walks a group of high school students to Medary Elementary during BHS **Bobcat Time**. Students took their visit to Medary Elementary on November 14th.

Pictured below, BHS students listen to the kindergarten and first grade students read to them and the BHS students read to them.



In addition, BHS students participated in seasonal activities, games, etc.



There is great excitement for this program. As Mrs. Laufman said. "I'm truly not sure who enjoys the experience more—the elementary kids or the high school learners!" Immediately after November 14th, countless students asked about the next visit. **Reading Buddies** will return to Medary Elementary on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **Schoolsgiving**

*Schoolsgiving* has been a tradition at BHS for the students in Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor's classes for many years. 2023 marks the 10th annual celebration. Over the years students have worked together to create a meal for staff and students.



*Schoolsgiving* planning begins with students identifying the different types of traditional Thanksgiving foods. In preparation for *Schoolsgiving*, student activities include:

- Finding a recipe for the selected food
- Creating a description (written) for their recipe and share with classmates.
- Voting for their favorite recipe (this is the recipe we will make).
- Adjusting recipes to make to accommodate for the number of people eating.
- Creating a shopping list that includes the ingredients needed for their recipes.
- Determining a timeline for which days foods can be prepared.

This year students from the Peer-to-Peer class helped with the food preparations. Students started preparations on Monday, 11/19 with baked goods and prepping some of the items. Final preparations and eating occurred on Tuesday 11/20.



Staff and students are working hard to close out our first semester. We are wishing everyone, a happy holiday season and peaceful New Year.