



## September 2021 - BTA Report

### BTA:

The Brighton Teachers' Association collected food during the final weeks of school this past June to help support the Brighton Food Cupboard. The BTA wanted to build up the summer food supply for the cupboard at the start of the summer recognizing the extraordinary year we had all just been through. The BTA recognized the need for food was more important than ever before. BTA members collected enough food to fill a Jeep! Thank you to our BTA members for their generosity in support of our community.



### CRPS:

- Second Grade: Nicole Ureles and Ashley Youngman are VERY excited about their new shared space! We spent time brainstorming, re-arranging, and shaping our environment to create a space that students will be excited about! Everything was done intentionally with children in mind. We want this space to be inviting, calming, inspiring ... anything and everything our children need on any given day. We have a maker's space, library, writing center, light table, and calming corner.



➤ New Year, New Library!

- New Shelving: books are face-out and at child height - kids will flip through book covers
- New Categories: in child friendly language
- New Organization: fact books and story books on a given topic are right next to each other

**Special Thanks** to Brighton PTSA for volunteering in August to get everything labeled and sorted! We had many brand-new families come to help, as well as old friends, whose children have already graduated CRPS! We hope to open the library to volunteers again later in the Fall.





## FRES & TCMS:

- Marcie Shapiro shared a wonderful collaboration that occurred between Jessica Padilla's 7<sup>th</sup> grade students in her Advanced Chemistry class and Michelle Close's 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at FRES. Both classes have been fully remote this year.

Jessica reached out to me with an idea to have her students teach some students at FRES some of what they have learned this year. Her idea was to provide an opportunity for her students to learn even more (as we know, when we teach, we learn), and to build a bridge between students at TCMS and FRES. I asked one of the teachers that I work with in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Michelle Close, if she was interested in this collaboration. She enthusiastically agreed, and the collaboration was born.

Jessica's original text asking about interest was on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The program occurred on June 9<sup>th</sup>. It's amazing what Jessica and Michelle accomplished in such a short period of time.

Jessica's students planned and executed brief chemistry lessons. The advanced students were broken into 5 different teaching groups, with each group covering a different topic. The topics included Characteristic Properties of Substances, Physical and Chemical Changes, Concentration, Periodic Table, and Atomic Structure. FRES students were also broken into 5 separate groups based on their interests in particular topics. When the 7<sup>th</sup> graders came to FRES, all students were placed in 5 different breakout rooms and the lessons commenced. The 7<sup>th</sup> graders presented information, assured student involvement, and assessed understanding using power points, demonstrations, videos, discussions, and surveys.

In addition, after the lessons, FRES 5<sup>th</sup> graders were given the opportunity to ask questions to the 7<sup>th</sup> graders about TCMS. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade students were incredible ambassadors and gave some very practical suggestions as well as explained about some exciting opportunities that FRES students will have when they get to TCMS. This was an amazing event to watch, and all the students seemed to really enjoy it.

Attached is a short video that Jessica recorded to capture this wonderful experience.

[https://brightoncsd-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/nicole\\_ureles\\_bcsd\\_org/EQPSbTpeVIZFiiOCv-wysNgBRv404C3YLt8glOrxaPVQA?e=hnw3f8](https://brightoncsd-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/nicole_ureles_bcsd_org/EQPSbTpeVIZFiiOCv-wysNgBRv404C3YLt8glOrxaPVQA?e=hnw3f8)

## BTA 2021-2022:

The members of the Brighton Teachers Association are excited to be back working with all our students full time this year. We are also enthusiastic about the first year of full-day Kindergarten starting at Council Rock Primary School. Although this year will come with challenges, we are committed to providing the best educational experiences for Brighton's children and supporting families. Our members have been working hard over the summer doing professional development and getting classrooms ready to welcome everyone back. We truly appreciate working in partnership with the District and Brighton families. We know that working together is the key to success.

# Thank you!!

