



ABOVE: BWRSD IT TEAM, SUMMER 2016

BWRSD IT Team Release Notes Summer Update

AUGUST 2017

Summer 2017 Upgrades

Summer-time and the living is easy! Not for the IT Department members!

We have been working hard all summer to close out the 2017 year and prepare for the 2018 school year. Once again, you will notice some changes with technology in our district.

We have established our Google ecosystem and are working towards providing standardized hardware in each classroom. This year, we have been fortunate in that the grade 3 and grade 4 laptops are upgraded to Chromebooks and students in grades 6-12 will each have a Chromebook! Each grade 2 classroom has an iPad cart and a Chrome device. Grades K and 1 have 4 Chrome devices in each classroom. Our district libraries are also becoming better equipped with Chromebooks and Chrome devices! We are still working on finding the best solution for

projection in our classrooms. Sadly, the options that we have explored thus far are not optimal.

One Username-One password! By popular demand, we are **thrilled, delighted, ecstatic, pleased-as-punch** to announce that for the 2017-2018 school year BWRSD has adopted BWRSD-LaunchPad, a Single-Sign-On platform that allows you to access of all your web resources and files with just one username and password. Spend more time learning and less time logging in! Training for BWRSD-LaunchPad will occur during the first couple days that teachers return to school.



Single Sign-On



Chromebook Distribution Nights!

MHHS and KMS has planned Chromebook distribution nights! We will be very busy in the evenings on the last few weeks of August. Students will receive their new Chromebooks by grade level. Please contact your Principal if you are interested in helping out.

A [set of Chromebook procedures](#) for MHHS and for KMS have been established so that everyone knows what process to follow if/when students forget, lose, or break their Chromebooks.



KMS & MHHS CONTACT INFO

KMS – Christine Homen – christine.homen@bwrzd.org

MHHS – Deb DiBiase – deborah.dibiase@bwrzd.org

Student Data Safety



Be careful with our students' data. Educators should be familiar with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Children's Online Privacy and Protection Act (COPPA) and Protection of Pupil's Rights Act (PPRA). Generally speaking, FERPA protects the access to and sharing of a student's education record and gives parents rights to their child's education records. COPPA requires educational vendors that store student data have a privacy

policy and gain consent from parents if the child is under 13 years of age. The vendor may not use the student data for commercial purposes. PPRA guarantees that parents have the rights to review any surveys that are administered to their children. Please take some time to review the [Educator's Guide to Student Data Privacy](#) which is an excellent resource for this information.

Welcome New Teachers!



We are looking forward to welcoming new BWRSD employees at the end of August for training. They will be provided with a [New Employee Technology Handbook](#) so that they have a quick reference guide. Please review the handbook even if you have been with us for a while as it may contain some useful information for you!

Aspen Improvements

Many improvements have been made in our Aspen database! We have prepared it so that attendance calls will be sent out automatically at the time that the Principal determines. This will help in creating efficiencies for our secretaries and being more exact with our attendance data. The online conduct referral workflow is ready to be implemented at KMS and many reports have been created and updated for our users



Website Upgrades!



The district website will be improved during the fall and a Go Live date of the New Year is planned. The IT Department will be working with designees from each building and department to ensure a presence and increase communication. Please contact your Principal or the IT Department if you have any information or suggestions.



IT Spotlight- IT Team Member and Gladiator-*Brian Coutu*

Have you ever wondered how all of the information on the internet is able to come into our buildings, right to your Chromebook and if there is a problem relative to this, how it is solved? If you do, welcome to the World of Brian Coutu, BWRSD Network Manager! Brian is responsible for configuring and maintaining our district network and the connections that it makes to the World Wide Web. Solving problems and helping users access information efficiently are what Brian excels in doing!

Brian has been part of the BWRSD family for almost three years and has previous experience with Atrion Corporation and Meeting Street School. Brian is a graduate of the Leadership Academy at Roger Williams University. If you get a chance to work with Brian, you will notice that he is very easy going and has a great sense of humor. His car must have a bull's eye on it as he wins the award for it getting smashed into the most times in the IT Department parking lot!

Serving as a member of the American Coaster Enthusiasts, the world's largest ride enthusiasts organization, Brian is one of the most educated, dedicated and passionate amusement park guests! He enjoys listening to music and Bruce Springsteen is one of his fav's.

Brian grew up in West Warwick, Rhode Island and now lives in Cranston, RI with his wife Lisa, who serves as an English Department Chair for Talbot Middle School in Fall River, Massachusetts, his daughter, two sons, three dogs and a cat.

Brian and the rest of the IT Team are looking forward to the new adventures that are on the horizon for the 2018 school year!



Your Technology Team

Rose Muller – Technology Director
 Brian Coutu – Network Manager
 Chris Csanadi-PC Analyst
 Tom Driscoll-Director of Educational Technology
 Barb Kelleher – Data Manager
 Ryan Laverdiere-Technology Intern
 Kate Mills – Technology Support Specialist
 Joshua Parkinson – Systems Administrator

Find us on Twitter at:



@BWITDreamTeam