

BUECHEL METROPOLITAN HIGH SCHOOL

DESCRIPTION:

Buechel Metropolitan High School is part of the Jefferson County Public School District and is located in southeastern Jefferson County in Louisville, Kentucky. The evolution of the school began in the early 1970's, just prior to the merger of the Louisville and Jefferson County school systems. In the beginning, there was a need for an alternative program for students who were exhibiting disruptive or misguided behavior in the schools. These students were separated from the school population and placed in a special program.

As the need for this program grew in the 1980's and 1990's, many transitions and changes were necessary to formulate the best possible atmosphere for both students and staff. This alternative program served students in grades six through twelve, with a middle school and high school component. In the fall of 1996, Buechel Metropolitan High School finally evolved as its own entity when the middle school students were relocated to Kennedy Metropolitan Middle School. Buechel serves a special need for students throughout the Jefferson County School District.

Students that attend Buechel Metropolitan High School are referred by the office of Student Services, juvenile court, or state and county agencies. Students who attend Buechel gain experience through varied learning modalities and through modeling appropriate behavior. Each student is focused on acquiring the necessary educational and behavioral skills required to facilitate a successful return to their home school. The minimum enrollment period at Buechel Metropolitan High School is one semester for most offenses and one year for more serious offenses. The staff is dedicated to providing a quality education to each student, as well as, preparing students for a successful and rewarding life outside the classroom.

PHILOSOPHY:

It is the school's philosophy that all students are capable of learning and that each student is responsible for his/her behavior. This is accomplished through smaller class sizes, a cohesive staff, and a program of acceptable behavior rewards or consequences. Structure and strong discipline are in place to create an atmosphere conducive to learning. Students also learn that inappropriate behavior has negative consequences, while cooperative, acceptable behavior has positive rewards.

GOALS:

The primary goal of the school is to foster the modification of each student's behavior to promote academic success, improve attendance, earn a return to their home school, and eventually receive a diploma from that school.

HISTORY:

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PROGRAMS:

Anger Management Group - To assist students in dealing with anger in a non-violent, safe, & controlled environment.

PASS (Plan for Achieving Student Success) Program - To develop career awareness through field trips, working with students on IGP, graduation requirements, connecting through community resources, meeting with Vocational Rehab to decrease truancy and drop-out rate, developing long-term career plans, connecting with COVE program to improve interview & job skills.

Social Skills Replacement - Social skills & replacement behavior are part of our CSIP. Teachers embed social skills training and replacement behaviors into daily lesson plans. They use the "teachable moment" as an opportunity to increase the importance to the students.

A.M. Assembly - Assembly time before school each morning is used by administrators to emphasize the importance of proper school conduct, social skills, attendance, improving grades, and the benefits of completing high school.

After School Detention - Detention is designed to address excessive tardiness, absences, and inappropriate behavior.

Motivational Programs & Strategies - Buechel Metropolitan High School provides numerous motivational programs and strategies for students, including: field trips for career awareness, camping trips, Kentucky Derby Art Contest, Student of the Week, Student of the Month, Motivational Speakers, Honor Roll recognition, Perfect Attendance recognition, Aquatic Resource Program, Poetry Contests, School Newspaper, Project One, SRO (School Resource Officer) to reinforce social skills, Paddling into History project.

ESS - ESS is provided both during the school day and after school for students who need to improve their grades.

Technology - Teachers use technology in the classroom to strengthen and enhance the academic programs, as well as, acclimate students with the practical uses of technology in the workplace. Our teachers use SRI, Read 180, Read and Write Gold, CCC, and JCHS Credit Recovery Options to assist students in reaching their educational goals.