

**Minutes – January 9, 2024**  
**South Buffalo Charter School**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Members Present:

In Person: Kathy Linhardt, Elissa Tipton

Virtual: Anne Marie Tryjankowski, Matt Szalkowski, Chris Schafer, Jen Mack

Members Absent: Jim Weimer

Public Comment: None

Presentation: Erin Willard & Emily Curran, co-teachers in ELA, discussed interactive reading aloud among students followed by student discussions  
Mr. Ehrle discussed NYS Test Scores – See Attached

Board Reports:

- Executive Committee – No meeting.
- Academic Committee – No meeting. Mr. Ehrle will attend 01/23/24 PTO meeting to discuss test scores.
- Facility Committee – No meeting.
- Finance Committee – Met 01/09 prior to Board Meeting. Everything in order.
- Human Resources/Appeals Committee – No meeting and no appeals to report.

New Business:

- Motion to approve the minutes from the Board Meeting on December 12, 2023 was made by Jen Mack; seconded by Chris Schafer. Vote: All in favor.
- Enrollment Summary – See attached.
- Superintendent's Report – See attached.
- Consensus Agenda
  - Motion to approve the SBCS Schedule of Bills for December 2023; Balance Sheet, Statement of Revenues and Expenditures and Statement of Cash Flows for October, November and December 2023; Check Register for December 2023; Income Statement for November and December 2023; 154 South Ogden, LLC Balance Sheet for October, November and December 2023; and LLC Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for November and December 2023 was made by Elissa Tipton; seconded by Matt Szalkowski. Vote: All in favor.
- The Board discussed implementing a procedure/timeline for Board packets to be distributed.
- Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Anne Marie Tryjankowski; seconded by Matt Szalkowski. Vote: All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

## 2023 - More NYS Test Score Data!

### ELA DATA – CHARTERS

SCHOOL	% SCORE
WEST BUFFALO	51
ELMWOOD VILLAGE DAYS PARK	49
TAPESTRY	42
BUFFALO ACADEMY OF SCIENCE	41
SOUTH BUFFALO CHARTER SCHOOL	37
GLOBAL CONCEPTS CHARTER SCHOOL	37
MARITIME	35
ELMWOOD VILLAGE HERTEL	35
CHARTER SCHOOL APPLIED TECHNOLOGY	31
WESTMINSTER	26
KING CENTER	25
PERSISTENCE PREP	25
REACH ACADEMY	21
BUFFALO UNITED	21
BUFFALO COLLEGIATE	20
INQUIRY CHARTER	19
BUFFALO CREEK	16
ENTERPRISE	12

### ELA - DISTRICTS

DISTRICT	% SCORE
<b>SBCS</b>	<b>37</b>
BPS	27
CHEEKTOWAGA CENTRAL	29
CHEEKTOWAGA SLOAN	35
<b>CLEVE-HILL CENTRAL</b>	<b>43</b>
DEPEW	31
<b>FRONTIER</b>	<b>48</b>
LACKAWANNA	18
<b>MARYVALE</b>	<b>39</b>
WEST SENECA	36

**MATH DATA – CHARTERS**

<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>% SCORE</b>
ELMWOOD VILLAGE	55
WEST BUFFALO	47
SOUTH BUFFALO CHARTER SCHOOL	43
KING CENTER	41
BUFFALO ACADEMY OF SCIENCE	40
TAPESTRY	35
ELMWOOD VILLAGE	33
GLOBAL CONCEPTS	32
REACH ACADEMY	30
WESTMINSTER	28
CSAT	26
INQUIRY CHARTER	24
PERSISTENCE PREP	22
MARITIME	15
BUFFALO UNITED	13
BUFFALO CREEK	9
BUFFALO COLLEGIATE	7
ENTERPRISE	6

**MATH – DISTRICTS**

<b>DISTRICT</b>	<b>% SCORE</b>
<b>SBCS</b>	<b>43</b>
BPS	23
CHEEKTOWAGA CENTRAL	26
CHEELTOWAGA SLOAN	43
<b>CLEVE-HILL CENTRAL</b>	<b>53</b>
DEPEW	42
LACKAWANNA	20
<b>MARYVALE</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>WEST SENECA</b>	<b>51</b>

## Enrollment Summary

January 2024

As of January 5, 2024, we have the following:

K 96 (0) -1 (moved to Georgia)

1 101 (2)

2 101 (29)

3 101 (4)

4 101 (26) -1 (Moved – Wheatland/Chile Central SD)

5 101 (32)

6 99 (11) -2 (Moved to Starpoint, Moved to BPS – behaviors)

7 98 (10) -1 (Moved to BPS – behaviors)

8 96 (8)

Total = 896

The number in parentheses is the number of wait list students. Many grades have a considerable amount. Grades 6, 7, 8 waitlist families have been notified of openings, difficult to move students at this point in the year.

Enrollment by district:

Lackawanna – 62

West Seneca – 24

Cheektowaga Sloan – 23

Cheektowaga Central – 17

Frontier – 7

Cleveland Hill – 5

Maryvale – 4

Depew – 4

Sweet Home – 4

Orchard Park – 2

Amherst – 1

Lockport – 1

Buffalo PS – 740

Gowanda - 2

## Superintendent report

January 2024

### Student Behaviors:

Write-ups increased in December to an average of four a day. Looking at the past three years December is typically one of the highest months of the year for write ups- this can be attributed to the social-emotional toll of the holidays on households, families, and staff.

Three different items for behavior totals are attached to the report to give an overview of where we are at for the 23/24 school year.

### Instruction, Curriculum, Development:

The school purchased books for 7th, 8th, and 4th grade for reading workshop. Math leads will be getting an initial training in iReady Math classroom, Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>. iReady 2nd diagnostic opened Jan. 3rd-17th.

Grades 3rd-6th grade will be administering their 2nd interim assessment.

17 ESL Students: 2 Emerging, 4 Transitioning, 4 Expanding, 7 Commanding. 4th grade and 7th and 8th grade teachers worked with Jeanne Tribuzzi on workshop.

We will have 5 student teachers starting in January. ELA vertical planning has occurred with 6th-8th and 3rd-5th. Working with admin and IT to get CBT into place.

### General K-8

School play auditions, revision of 7th grade specials schedule to better balance classes, set up schedule for former student attending ECC to observe for 15 hours in grades 5-8 ELA, Datwise meetings began, Mental health book study started with about 20 staff members, staff holiday plans organized.

Teachers are working on coaching students where they see what we are teaching not only in the real world, but in their world. Madden/Fortnite/Minecraft for example. This has helped students get "hooked."

There are two grade level team meetings for January. The first is to have teachers take the math state exam one grade level higher than what they teach (K and 1 take 3rd). The second is to review I-Ready data to determine if students are reaching their goals.

### Maintenance:

Fire Inspection was completed. Snow removal is a work in progress as SBCS has come upon some different situations (snow starting after staff gets to school). Making changes as needed as well as recommendations for differing situations. Continue to have stolen cars left on property. New nuisance is dirt bikes and dune buggy riding on property. During December break many rooms received a deep clean, one received a complete painting and many other projects have taken shape.

### Business Office:

Financials have been caught up as well as district billing. We are hoping to have this office fully staffed by the next board meeting. Continuing to correct the TRS issues and update TEACH account.

The administration gave the staff “12 days of Holiday Cheer” for the hard work they have done. It was a little sign of appreciation for being a great influence on our students' lives.

Thursday December 7th	Dress Down Slip	It's the 12 days of Christmas Because we wanted to say.... Thanks for all you do to teach the students day after day. You've got a tough job. But you do it so well. We hope you enjoy these gifts in fact, there are twelve
Friday December 8th	Whoppers	Reindeer poop
Monday December 11th	Lip Balm	"Thanks for being such a great teacher, you are the BALM"
Tuesday December 12th	Hershey Bars	On the third day of Christmas You know what they say: A chocolate a day keeps the headache away
Wednesday December 13th	Chips	"You are all that and a bag of chips"
Thursday December 14th	Star Burst	"BURSTing with appreciation for your STAR studded effort!"
Friday December 15th	Tic Tacs	"You were MINT to teach"
Monday December 18th	Tissues	"We tissue a Happy Holiday"
Tuesday December 19th	Hot Cocoa	When the temperature is LOW. Warm up with a cup of HOT COCOA
Wednesday December 20th	Life Savers	You are a LIFESAVER!
Thursday December 21st	Lunch	Panera Boxed Lunch
Friday December 22nd	Candy Canes	Candy Cane saying, If you're back is aching From standing all day, Use this "cane" To help you on your way.

Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus visited the building on Friday December 22<sup>nd</sup> and had a chance to take pictures with grades k-4 in the small gym.

Many classrooms and grade levels hosted holiday activities during the week before break. Kindergarten had families come in and decorated Gingerbread houses and castles. While first grade had cookie decorating as a grade level in cafeteria with the help of our cafeteria staff.

Administration is working towards being ready for NYS computer-based testing coming up in the Spring for grades 5 and 8. We will be checking our systems using guidance given to us by New York State Ed. Practice test for Grade 8 is January 18<sup>th</sup> and Grade 5 on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

On December 18<sup>th</sup>, we had our annual “Elf Hunt.” This is a fun event where each homeroom takes 20 minutes to attempt to find 25 hidden “elves” throughout the building. The goal of the activity is to build teamwork among the classrooms and teach students the value of working together for a common goal.

On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, we had our winter session of our “Unity Games.” Unity Games are held multiple times each year and pits homeroom vs homeroom, one grade level at a time, in various competitions. The activities this session was holiday themed with trivia questions from Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza and Diwali in addition several whole group activities. The winners of each grade level earn bragging rights and the “Unity Trophy” for their homeroom until the next session.

Mr. Hahn worked with all teachers in grades K-4 on a professional development entitled “Seeing vs Solving Math.” The purpose of this research-based methodology is for teachers to showcase to students where math can be seen in every aspect of their lives. Teachers were shown how to incorporate “Math Stories” into their lessons and were also given some tips on making math simpler for students to understand.

Write-ups increased in December to an average of four a day. Looking at the past three years December is typically one of the highest months of the year for write ups- this is mostly likely due to the social-emotional toll of the holidays on households, families, and staff.

Attendance Policy – In an effort to increase attendance for the second half of the school year we are prioritizing attendance and making every effort to hit 92% on a daily basis. Please see attached letter sent to families.

The National Junior Honor Society held their inductions in December. They inducted 13 new members.

PTO held a vendor and craft fair in December, inviting members of the community into our building. It was a successful night with almost 100 vendors and many students, teachers, parents and community members attending.

Our chorus had two during the school day Winter concerts on January 9<sup>th</sup> (today). They will be having a night presentation on Thursday January 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm.



*South Buffalo Charter School*  
154 South Ogden Street, Buffalo, New York 14210  
(716) 826 - 7213 (Fax) 826 - 7168



December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

South Buffalo Charter School Parents and Guardians,

Just a reminder that South Buffalo Charter School's school-wide goal is a 92% attendance rate for the 2023-2024 Academic School Year. In order to achieve this goal, we will be making some changes to our attendance procedures starting January 2nd, 2024. We need your help for us to reach this goal.

This letter serves as notice to our families that these policies will be changing to not only improve the school's overall attendance, but help us as a community address and assist families that may be dealing with issues which might impact attendance.

Mr. Thomas Wheeler, who serves as our Family Engagement and Community Outreach Coordinator, has many connections to outside agencies within the area to help point families to resources and supports for all families and situations- not only those that might affect attendance. Please feel free to email him at [twheeler@southbuffalocs.org](mailto:twheeler@southbuffalocs.org) with any questions or issues, and continue to use our school as a resource to support you and your families.

With this being said, the new attendance procedures are as follows:

**Up to 8 absences (does not have to be 8 exactly)** – you will receive a call, email, or Remind notification from your child's teacher.

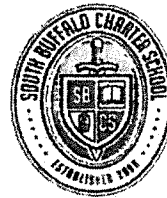
**12 absences** – Letter #1 is sent by a guidance counselor or social worker. A phone call is made and logged in Power School when the letter is mailed, and when a phone call is placed. You will receive the Attendance Letter #1, and the phone call will be made by a Guidance Counselor or Social Worker.

*Learning. Character. Respect. Community.  
Making it Happen!*





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**13-19 absences** – The grade level Assistant Principal or Family Engagement Coordinator contacts the family.

**20 absences** – Letter #2 is sent by the grade level Assistant Principal.

**More than 20 absences (21-25)** – Principal contacts family.

**25 absences** – A possible agency call could be placed after guidance counselor or social workers confer with the Assistant Principal, and Principal.

South Buffalo Charter School wishes everyone a Happy Holiday along with a safe and healthy New Year. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Ehrle".

**David Ehrle**  
Superintendent

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Thomas".

**David Thomas**  
Principal

***Learning. Character. Respect. Community.***  
***Making it Happen!***

BEHAVIOR	Referrals	Female	Male	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
September	17	6	7	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	9	4
October	31	16	15	1	0	2	0	0	3	7	9	9
November	51	22	29	1	0	0	5	0	11	14	9	11
December	64	32	32	0	2	4	3	3	15	15	13	9
January												
February												
March												
April												
May												
June												
Yearly Totals:	163	76	83	2	2	6	8	3	33	36	40	33

Average write ups per day

	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
2023-2024	0.94	1.47	2.68	4						
2022-2023	2.09	4.9	5.92	8.18	6.45	8.46	5.91	3.35	4.3	3.73
2021-2022	1.7	2.4	4.46	5.41	2.52	3.07	3.91	1.64	4.3	2.81

Behavior Calls Overview: 10wk

Total Calls- 174, Grade Level	
<b>Primary (K-4)- 52</b>	<b>Secondary (5-8)- 122</b>
Kindergarten- 23	Fifth- 39
First- 7	Sixth- 23
Second- 12	Seventh- 32
Third- 4	Eighth- 28
Fourth- 6	

Total Calls- 174, Location	
Classroom- 86	Bus- 5
Specials- 49	Cafeteria -4
Other- 15	Bathroom- 2
Hall- 13	

	Total Write Ups			Total In-School & Out-of-School Suspension					
	Sept	Oct	Nov	Sept ISS/OSS		Oct ISS/OSS		Nov ISS/OSS	
2023-24	17	31	44	2	5	3	7	10	13
2022-23	47	98	83	11	9	25	16	23	18

Last year we had 228 write ups, this year we have 92 (59% less)

Last year we had 59 ISS, this year we have 15 (74% less)

Last year we had 43 OSS, this year we have 25 (41% less)

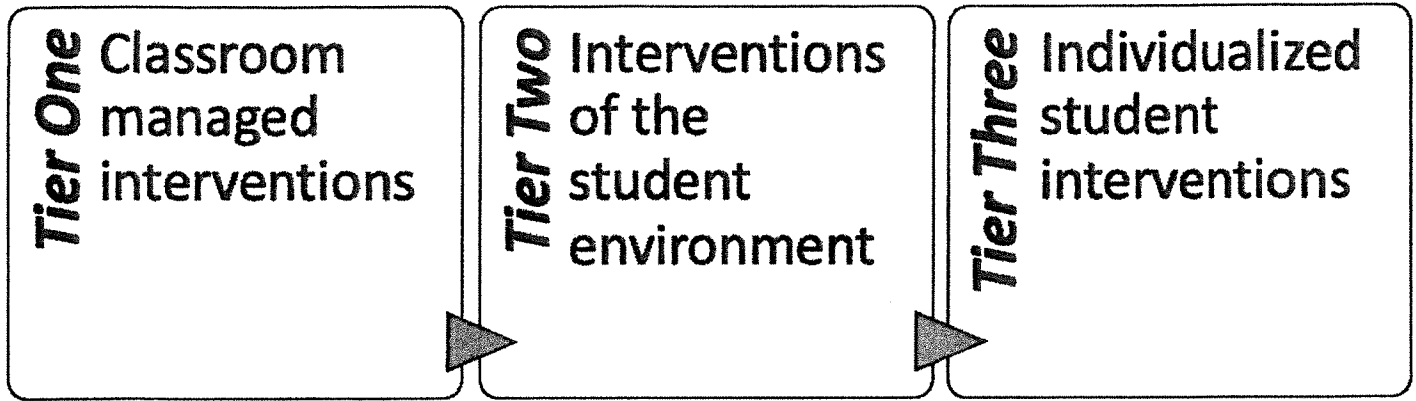
Goal is a daily write-up rate up rate where is the entire school is 99.75% behavior free or more every month..

We reached that goal in Sept and Oct but were 99.71% behavior free for November.

(new-original)/original= percentage change

The area here where students listed with most behavior calls has been deleted, but it is being tracked to see how much a single student(s) affect the percentages in some cases.

## Tiered Behavioral Intervention Process & Examples



**Tier One Examples:** Goal is to implement best practices of classroom management.

About 80% of students.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Active supervision- moving, scanning, interacting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explicit re-teaching of rules and expectations to student</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Instructional choice of task/task type</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Self-monitoring</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● “Coach” a desired response or action by referencing the visibly posted classroom rules</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Student-specific incentives for meeting goals or expectations</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prompts/pre-correction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Positive contact home</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Flexible timing or seating for completion of task</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Multiple and varied opportunities to respond to tasks</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Instructional feedback</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Differentiating presentation of task</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Phone call home to discuss emerging behavior</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Knowing your students with opportunities for genuine connections</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Adapting materials or task</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Structured seating, transitions, and lineup</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Routine greetings, farewells, and attention signals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Behavior specific praise/increase ratio of praise to correction 4:1</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Short and structured breaks from an activity within the room</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Student-teacher conference</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Community building</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Non-verbal cues of redirection or praise</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mood Check-In routines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Classroom jobs</li> </ul>

**Tier Two Examples:** Goal is to compliment already established classroom management practices.

About 15% of students.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Structured breaks- mindfulness exercises, sensory or physical activity in or out of room</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Check-In/Check Out (CICO)</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Home-School Behavior plan with physical/digital tracker, goals on desk, or daily notebook homes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Academic supports small group</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Explicit self-management skills development- organization, task lists, time management...</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● SEL Skills Groups</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Group mentoring/ Check and Connect Mentoring</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Behavior Contract</li></ul>

**Tier Three Examples:** Goal is to provide enhanced, individualized versions of lower-tiered supports.

About 5% of students.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Individualized school counseling</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Behavior meetings with parents/guardians</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● CICO/SEL Check and Connect</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Family engagement services</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● FBA/BIP</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Sensory room?</li></ul>

Resources:

Pbis.org

Navigate360.com

<https://sites.google.com/scred.k12.mn.us/scredsel/educators?authuser=0>

<https://www.buffaloschools.org/page/mtss-b-tiers-of-support>