

Beyond 12 Newsletter Project

CENTER FOR ACCESS AND SUCCESS

November 2024

What is Beyond 12?

Beyond 12 is a comprehensive program that exposes middle school students to college and career educational sessions. This approach inspires students to continue their education, create a plan beyond high school, and increase college access by providing post-secondary education options and knowledge. It develops college and career readiness skills, encourages students to explore careers and find careers they are passionate about, and builds essential life skills, including social skills, self-discipline, self-motivation, and responsibility.



Mr. Brown assisting student at Graham Middle School.

Middle Schools Program Launch

Beyond 12 sessions started in September 2024. Students attend two sessions per month during the academic year at their middle school campus. Currently, we serve 28 students. Graham Middle has 15 students, and Broadview Middle has 13 students. Each school is fortunate to have two dedicated teachers who actively engage with students and provide valuable support for program activities.



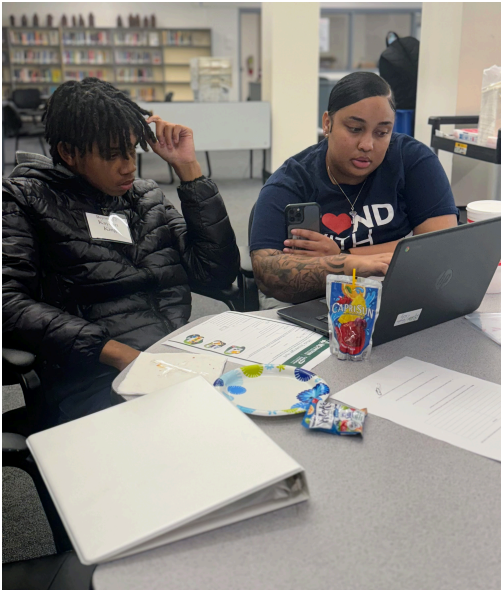
Broadview Middle School Students

*Back Row: Kayden, Jorge, Baldomero, Franko, Sophia
Front Row: Iris, Delanne, Adisa, Matthew, Jacye, Brianna*

Program Highlights

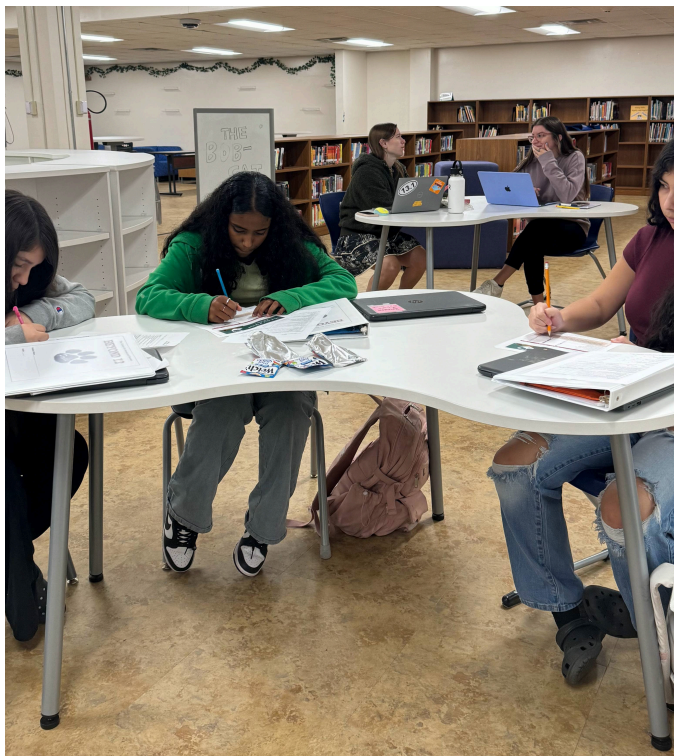
Each student will maintain a portfolio, a personal testament to their journey of growth and self-discovery. The portfolio will be kept with program teachers who support our students at each middle school, containing evidence of their personal growth, exploration, and next steps. At the end of the program, students will complete a portfolio presentation, sharing critical items from this portfolio to tell their story of growth, readiness, and next steps to their parents.

Portfolios will include plans, checklists, self-assessments, college searches, reflective statements, financial guides, and other items listed in the curriculum guide. The list of portfolio materials is located at the front of each student's notebook. In addition, students will write a reflection titled "What stuck with you today?" to explain how their knowledge, abilities, or attitudes have changed.



Beyond 12 Calendar Highlights

- Dec. Etiquette Dinner
- Feb. Truliant Fed CU Speaker
- March College Week Activities
- April Spring Break College Tour
- June Elon University Days



Top: Ms. Beasley assist Kayden on CFNC search.

Bottom: Broadview students taking a learning styles survey.

For more information scan the QR code to visit our webpage.



TEACHER TALK

Introductions

My name is Annie Goldberg and I've been the school counselor at Broadview Middle for 8 years. I believe this program is beneficial because early exposure and education surrounding post-secondary opportunities are crucial. Not all students have the resources and access to explore these possibilities, and this program is working to close that gap.

I am Christopher Brown. I graduated from North Carolina A&T in December 2022 and began teaching at Graham Middle School in August 2023! This program is important to our scholars because they need to see life outside of Burlington and know that they, too, can go to college and make a career for themselves! As a former falcon, I want to expose them to as much of a college experience as possible

Melvin Burnett has been a math teacher for nine years at Broadview Middle School. He holds a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in mathematics from Lenoir-Rhyne University. This is an excellent chance for our students to learn about how college functions.

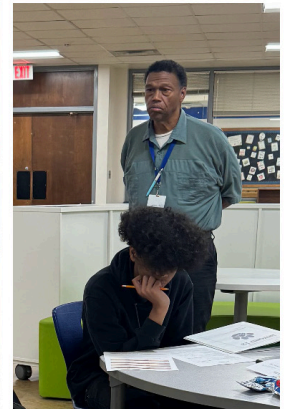
My name is Mercadez Beasley. I am from Burlington, North Carolina, and I am an alumna of Bennett College. I currently teach middle school social studies and science. I am passionate about creating a classroom atmosphere that encourages curiosity, critical thinking, and collaboration, tailoring lessons to meet the unique needs of each age group.

I believe education is about more than academics—it's about developing confident, well-rounded individuals. I strive to empower students at every stage, fostering a love of learning that lasts a lifetime. Integrating Beyond 12's into our school was important because the program provides resources and support that can make a significant difference for my students, helping them build the confidence, skills, and resilience needed to succeed in both college and beyond.



Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.

Malcolm X



Parents Corner

Bits & Beyond

How Parents Can Help 8th Graders Be Prepared for College



To prepare an 8th grader for college, parents should encourage them to explore their interests, develop strong study habits, take challenging courses when possible, actively participate in extracurricular activities, maintain good grades, and start conversations about potential college paths and career goals, while also discussing the importance of financial planning for higher education.

Key areas to focus on:

Academic Performance:

- Challenge yourself: Encourage your child to take honors or advanced placement classes when available to prepare for college-level coursework.
- Develop good study habits: Emphasize time management, organization, and effective note-taking strategies.
- Seek help when needed: Talk to teachers or get tutoring if your child is struggling with a subject.
- Read regularly: Foster a love of reading by encouraging diverse genres and discussing what they read.

Exploring Interests and Career Paths:

- Discover passions: Encourage your child to try new activities, clubs, and volunteer opportunities to identify potential career interests.
- Research careers: Talk about different career paths related to their interests and the education needed to achieve them.
- Career assessments: Consider using online career assessments to help identify potential fields.

Extracurricular Activities:

- Get involved: Participate in clubs, sports, or other activities that align with their interests, demonstrating leadership and commitment.
- Quality over quantity: Focus on meaningful involvement in a few activities rather than spreading themselves too thin.

College Awareness and Planning:

- Visit college campuses: Take family trips to nearby colleges to experience the atmosphere and explore **different** types of institutions.
- Start researching colleges: Discuss factors like location, size, majors offered, and admissions requirements.
- Financial aid exploration: Begin learning about financial aid options, including scholarships and grants.
- Communication and Support:
 - Regular check-ins: Maintain open communication about schoolwork, challenges, and college aspirations.
 - Build a strong relationship with counselors: Utilize guidance counselors to discuss course selections, college applications, and career planning.
 - Positive reinforcement: Celebrate successes and encourage resilience when facing setbacks.