Leadership At BCMS

Peer Leadership, Student Council, Culture Club &
Incorporating Elements into 7th Grade LA

Urbanski, Cardamone, Rogoff, Gorski, Current and Alumni BCMS Students

#Bravobburg

EDUCATE THE HEART

What Do You Do With An Idea?

- The Peer Leadership program happened on accident and stems from a growing interest in the reverse social inclusion interest cluster, Be-A-Buddy.
- After digging into lots of research out of Harvard Graduate School of Education, Princeton University and the University of California, Berkeley, Peer Leadership at BCMS program was born.
- The Peer Leadership Program is aligned with the Flagship sub committee for a Middle School Advocacy Program

Peer Leadership is driven by research and passion...

The class of 2016, brought Be-A-Buddy a stellar group of 8th grade students. Utilizing the voices of these students, made this approach authentic and truly student led.

These students worked to shape the climate of our school while they:

- Identified topics to teach 6th graders
- Created goals for monthly units
- Trained incoming 8th graders in leadership
- Worked over the summer to create digital materials (videos) for monthly lessons

Connected

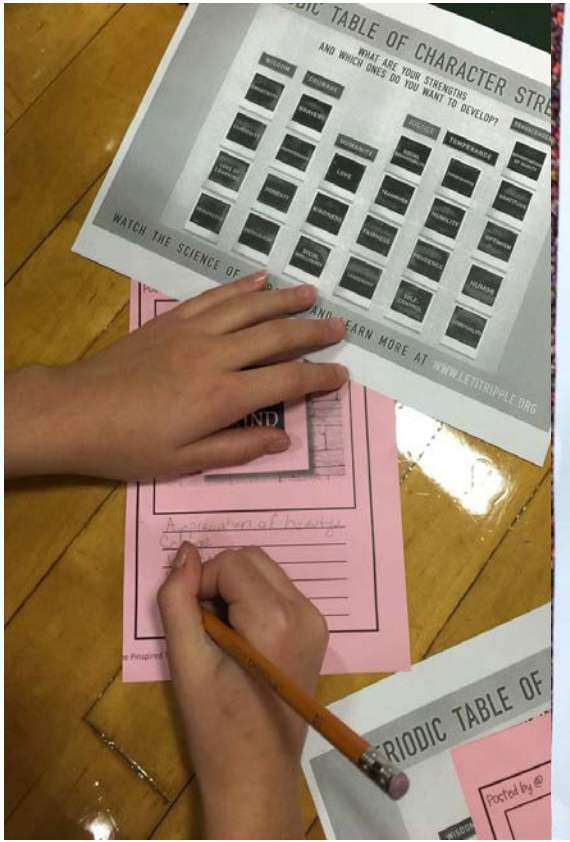
Matthew Ross@BCMSVP

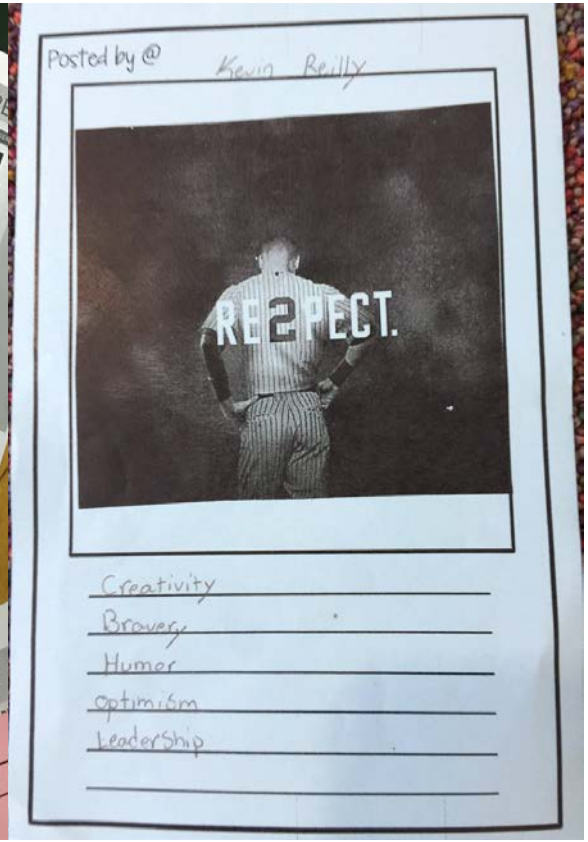
The 8th grade peer leaders met with 6th graders today to show them different ways to connect to BCMS. #bravobburg

Hanny’s observation after “Connected” inspired the development of a “*Concentric Circle*”. What is it?

6th Graders Have Strength!

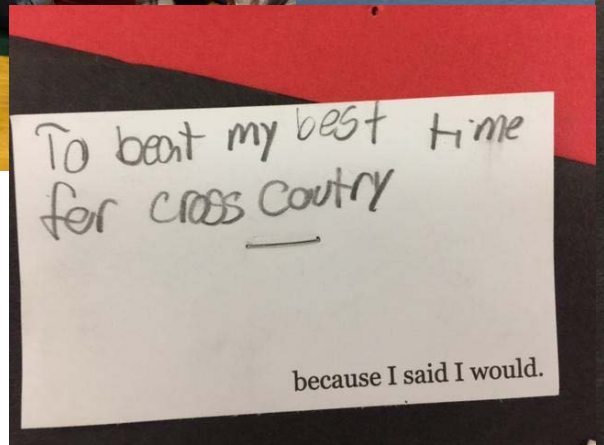
BCMS 6th grade has STRENGTH Props to @tiffanyshlain for an amazing film and conversation! @PrincipalBCMS @BCMSVP #peerleaders #bravobburg

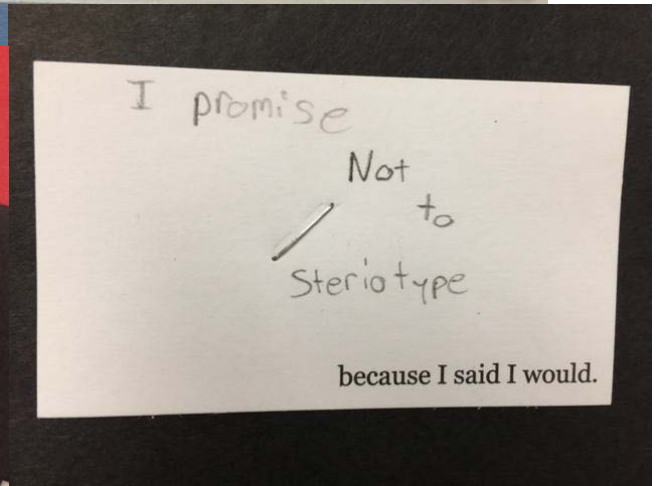




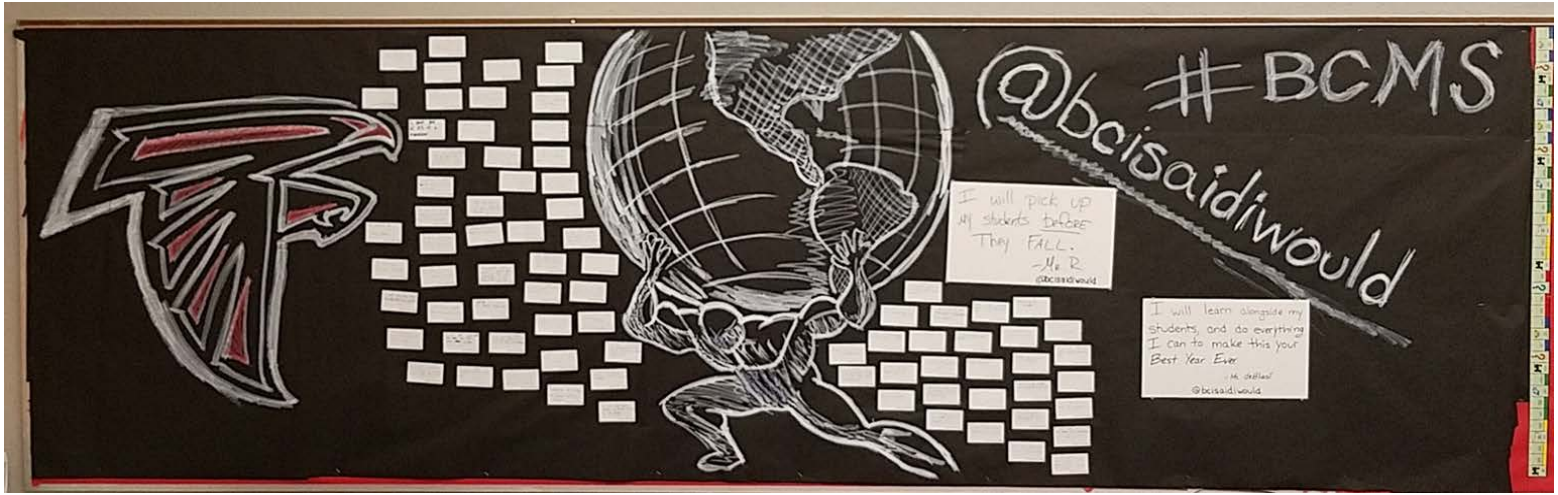
The Power of A Promise

because
I said
I would.



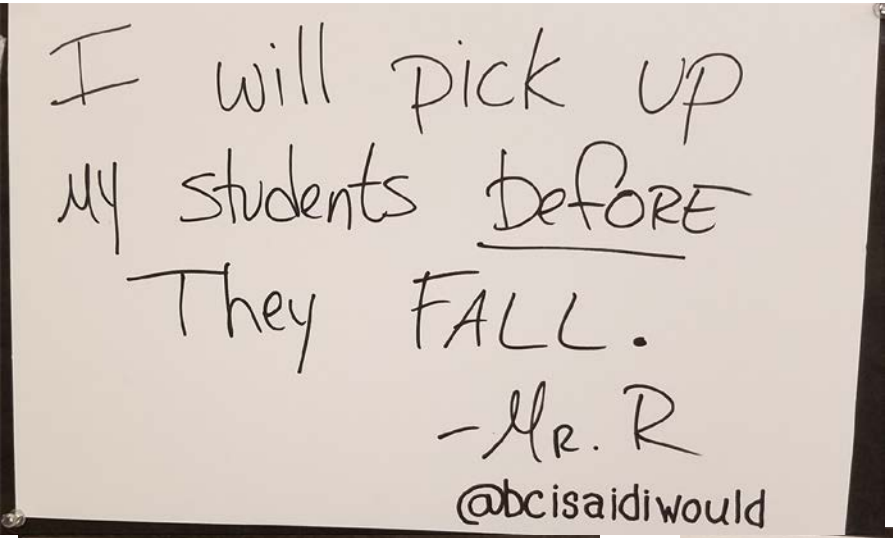


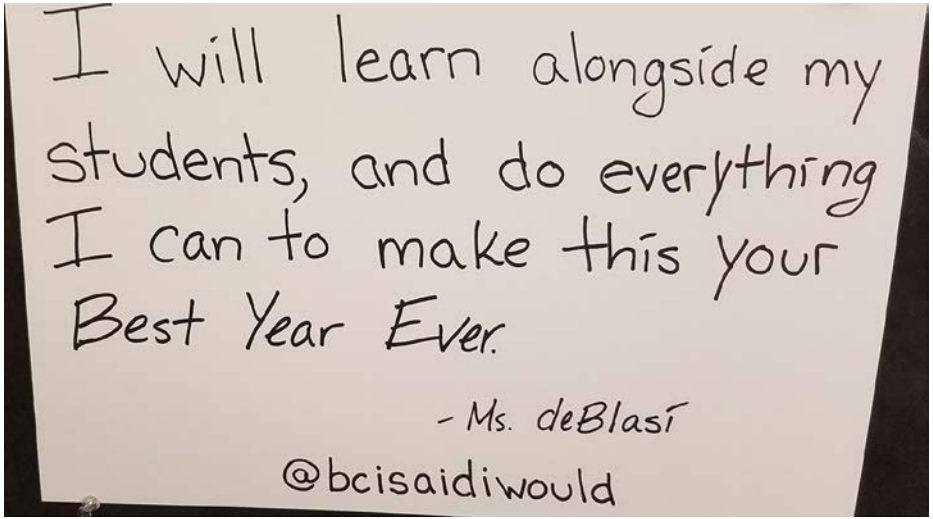
@bcisaidiwould makes it into Mr. Rogoff’s classroom

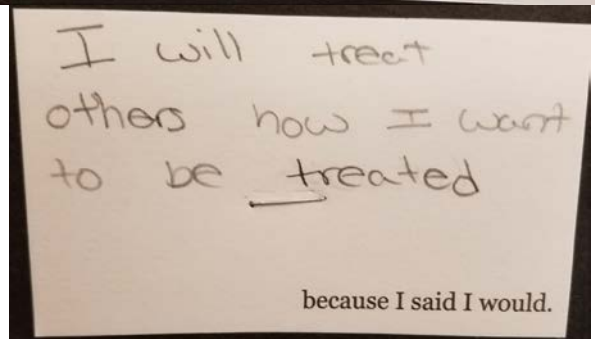


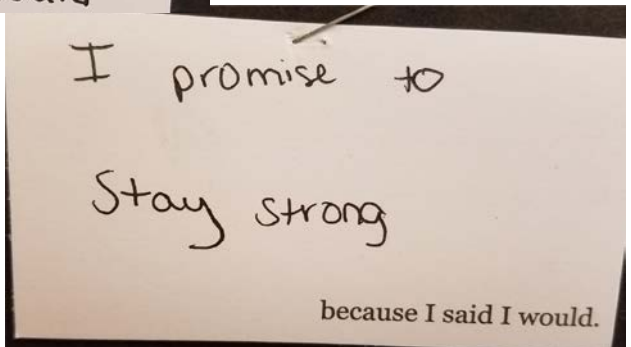
“I want my students to begin to take accountability of their own academic destiny. When you make a promise to someone else, you don’t always feel the emotional aftermath of the broken promise. Promising yourself forces the connection, you let down yourself, and that tends to sting a bit more. Ms. deBlasi and I made a promise to our students so they knew they were not in this alone.” -Mr. Rogoff

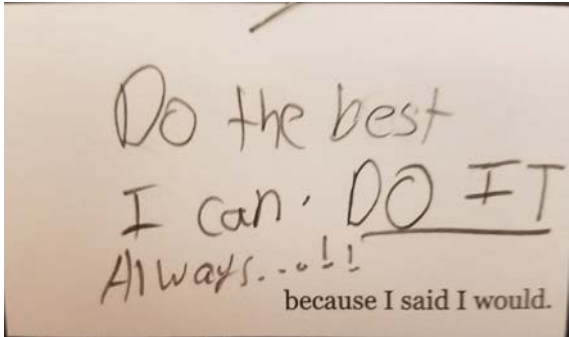
@bcisaidiwould → From the Magnificent Board!











December 15th: Got Gratitude? 8th Grade Peer Leaders Plan the Next Meeting With 6th Graders!

When students gain experience in leading, where can it take them?

An Unexpected Leadership Opportunity for Owen in Cross Country

&

Andrew Diodato gets selected for Harvard Graduate School of Education Youth Advisory Board

Harvard's Making Caring Common Announces Youth Advisory Board

CROSS COUNTRY

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

MAKING CARING COMMON PROJECT

HARVARD
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
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CARING
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PROJECT

A 6th Grader's Perspective & A Promise

See For Yourself!

Peer Leadership

has a link on our webpage

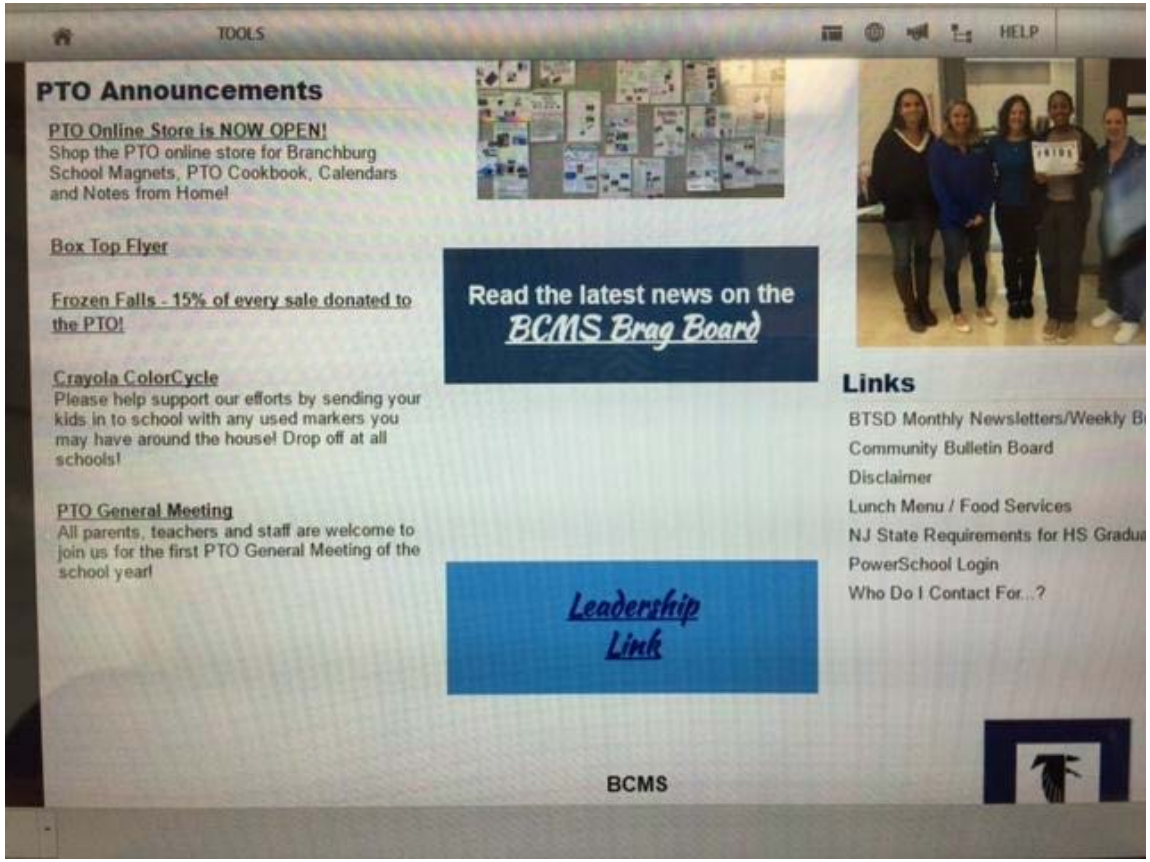
(*Leadership Link*) where

parents have been invited

to go to get additional

information on what their

child is learning in school.



Culture Club- Previously known as Willow Tr

The BCMS Culture Club originated as the Willow Tree Program which started back in 2005 when the Branchburg Rotary approached Mrs. Gorski to pilot the program and continued through 2013. The Rotary funded 10 scholarships each year for students to attend a four-day residential conference during the November Teacher’s Convention weekend. Our students participated in interactive workshops which were student led by previous years Teen Leaders. Students learned how to be effective prevention and wellness advocates, create positive satisfying experiences through laughter and fun, deal effectively with emotions, bullying, teasing, and encourage acceptance and respect for diversity. The students that were trained then brought their knowledge back to their school community and created an action plan to improve school climate. Arvin’s Greenhouse truly believed in the mission of Willow Tree and donated an actual Willow Tree which was planted in the front of BCMS and still grows stronger each year.

The Transformation to Culture Club

In 2013 the Willow Tree Teen Leader program changed to the Culture Club due to the discontinuation of the four-day conference. Although the Culture Club operates on similar philosophies as the Willow Tree, it has now become a club that is geared towards but not limited to:

- **Taking leadership roles in helping their school and community.**
- **Promoting peace and acceptance amongst their peers.**
- **Participating in active citizenship in a culturally diverse society.**
- **Actively participating in and creating various projects to improve the quality of life for their school, local and global communities.**

Some examples of projects that Culture Club has worked on are as follows:

Helped plan & facilitate the 100 Voices Program & Lead by Example Program at BCMS (from 2010-2015)

Socktober Event- students collected socks for homeless teenagers at the Covenant House and Somerset Home for Displaced Teenagers. (2015-2016)

Assisted with Teacher Appreciation Day Activities. (2015-2016)

Helped plan activities for Week of Respect.(2015-2016, 2016-2017)

Made blankets for children in the hospital with pediatric brain cancer working with Ileen Bradley and the Megan Rose Bradley Foundation.

Leadership Workshop- October 20, 2016

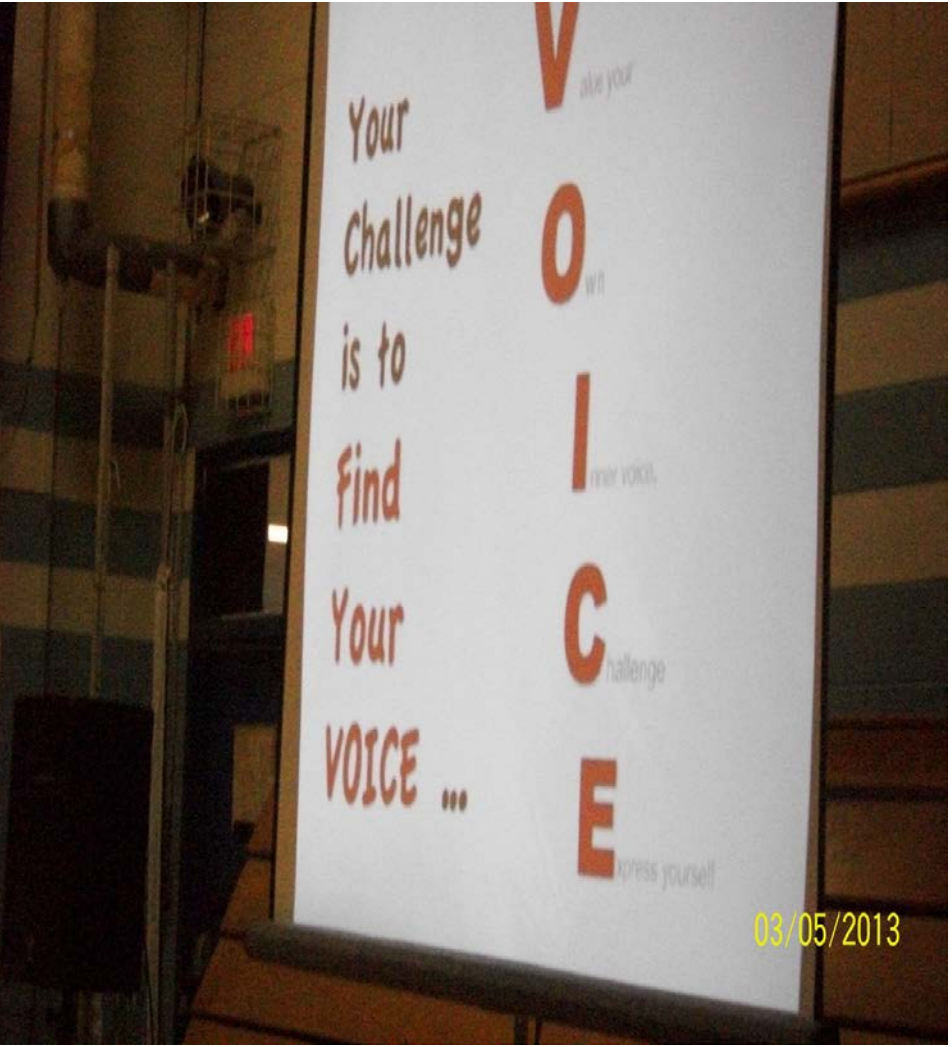
Students from Culture Club, Student Council & Peer Leadership participated in a leadership training workshop to work on some of the following concepts:

- **Interactive activities that focus on staying positive.**
- **Interactive activities that focus on how we can be an advocate for each other.**
- **Ways to make the school a more positive place to be by fostering and building connections.**
- **A variety of activities focusing on creating “win-win” situations.**

Culture Club students met with Somerville Middle School Leaders to plan a few team building activities which will be incorporated into the second BCMS/SMS Mid-Year Mixer at the Branchburg Sports Complex. The students from both schools met after school on November 9, 2016 to plan together.

Culture Club meets 3x Wednesdays per month before school and occasionally during lunch to plan. We are working on a plan to help members of our community at the moment.

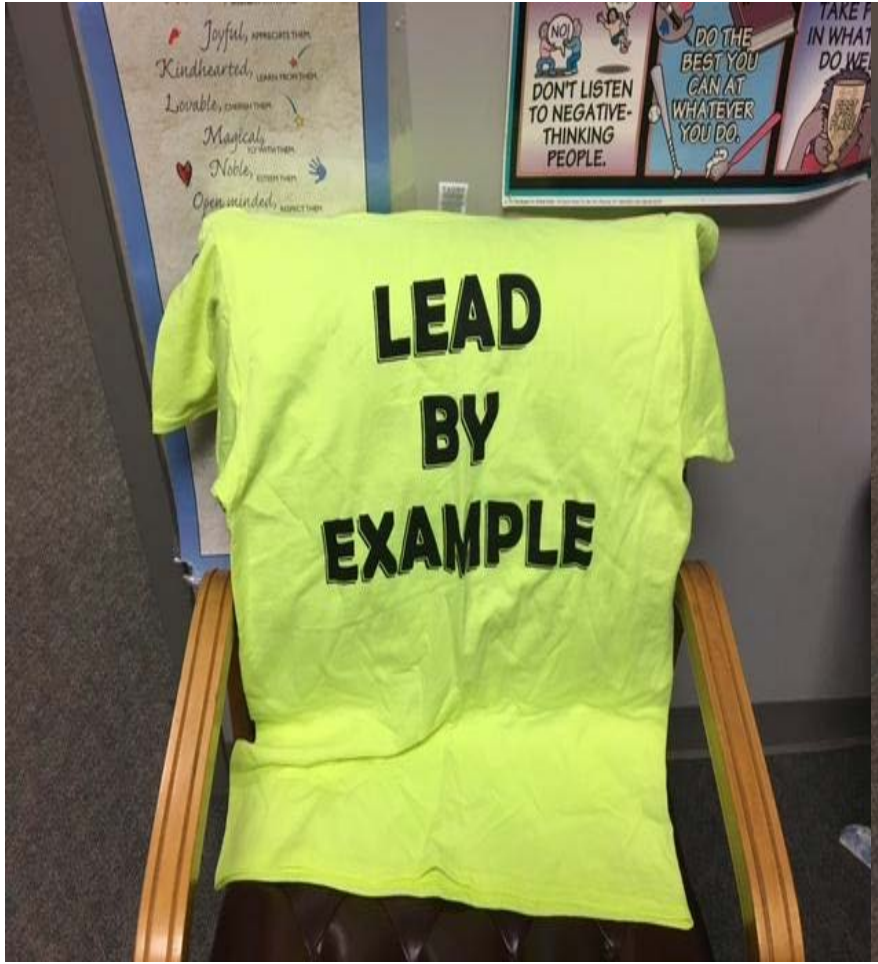
Some photos of our work

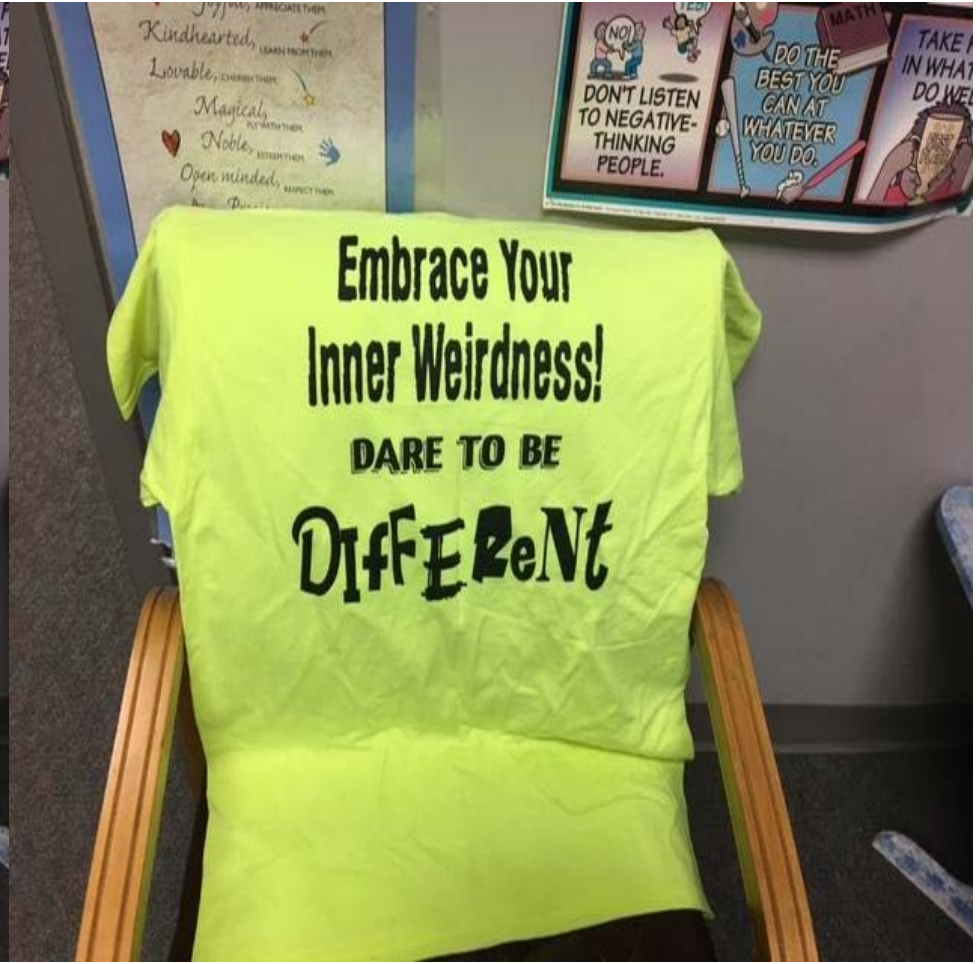

Your
Challenge
is to
Find
Your
VOICE ...
Value your
Own
Inner voice,
Challenge
Express yourself
03/05/2013

LEAD
BY
EXAMPLE
Leadership is...
STAND OUT
Fight for Justice!

BRASIL

LEAD
BY
LEAD
BY
EXAMPLE


Joyful,
Kindhearted,
Lovable,
Magical,
Noble,
Open minded,
NO!
DON'T LISTEN TO NEGATIVE-THINKING PEOPLE.
DO THE BEST YOU CAN AT WHATEVER YOU DO.
LEAD
BY
EXAMPLE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NO!
DON'T LISTEN TO NEGATIVE-THINKING PEOPLE.
DO THE BEST YOU CAN AT WHATEVER YOU DO.
Embrace Your
Inner Weirdness!
DARE TO BE
DIFFERENT

Student Council 2016-2017

Branchburg Central Middle School

Officers

Trent Greenfield - President

Hannah Tubridy - Vice President

Lauren Opalewski - Secretary

Nick Vidal - Treasurer

Student Council Elections

Officers are elected in June by 7th grade students
Petitions signed by 7th graders
Administration verifies academic eligibility
Primary election if needed followed by a regular election of candidates

September-Homeroom rep elections

Rep council meetings twice a month with officer run leadership activity

Leadership Training

NJASC conference- College of New Jersey

All New Jersey middle and high school Student Council leaders

Summer Leadership conference

8th grade in October and 7th grade January

<u>Events for BCMS students</u>

2 Fun nights for 7th and 8th

2 Fun nights for 6th,7th,8th

BCMS Drama production- sell snacks

8th grade picnic in June

Events Supporting Families in Branchburg

PTO- Thanksgiving Thoughtfulness

PTO- Holiday Happiness

Volunteer to make food bags for SHIP with recreation department

Meghan Rose Bradley- week long fundraiser

Police Faculty basketball game

Activities

6th and 7th grade homeroom reps are the tour guides for the 5th grade orientation in June.

Student Council Officers are the tour guides for the student and parent open houses in August and September.

Student Council Officers are the tour guides for Back to School night.