

*Leading Together: Excellence in Action*

# Leadership 2026

Beechwood Independent Schools



# The **B**eechwood Way

We design teaching and learning focused on students.

We build resilient learners and leaders who are fearless in the pursuit of excellence.

We are a uniquely intimate community developing globally competitive students.

weare**beechwood.**

## **We are Learners**

We are fearless.

We pursue excellence.

We are resilient.

We reflect and grow.

## **We are Leaders**

We are safe.

We are respectful.

We are responsible.

We are proud.

# THE 5 PILLARS



**PERSONALIZED  
LEARNING**



**CULTURE**



**WELLNESS**



**COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**



**LEADERSHIP**





## LEADERSHIP SPECIFIC GOALS

**1.**

Provide ALL students with intentional instruction in leadership development and goal-setting to prepare them for lifelong success.

**2.**

Create student voice and leadership opportunities for ALL students at every grade level.

**3.**

Offer meaningful leadership development and growth opportunities for staff members.

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*These three goals will be measured and progress reported annually.*

## **LEADERSHIP IN ACTION**

### **STUDENTS:**

- Leadership curriculum in Seminar 5th - 8th
- Student leadership certificate opportunity
- Middle grades leadership assessment
- K-12 student leadership collaboration - EDGE challenges, etc.
- Menu of leadership opportunities through the service site
- Expanding opportunities for leadership outside of formal groups or positions
- Tracking of leadership in EDGE folder - inside and outside of school
- Principals' Advisory Councils
- SBDM Council student input
- Recognition of student leaders

### **STAFF:**

- EDGE Certified and recognition of staff leaders in other areas
- Encourage and support staff leading professional learning at Beechwood and in the region/state
- Offer a staff leadership group that is a combination of feedback and growing leadership skills/learning about leadership
- Continue to offer Innovation Teams for staff to demonstrate leadership and provide feedback

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*These action steps will be monitored, assessed, reviewed, and refined annually over the course of the next three years. Implementation of these action steps may vary from year to year. Additional action steps will also be included as needed upon annual review.*

The background features a large, faded watermark of the Beechwood Schools logo. The logo is circular and contains the text "BEECHWOOD SCHOOLS" around the top, "1860" at the bottom, and "FORT MITCHELL, KENTUCKY" in a smaller circle. In the center is a shield with a building and the motto "simul us in vno".

***Focus of Year 1:  
Staff Leadership***

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# Staff Leadership Innovation Team

*Ashley Chaiken, Jennifer Gasser, Rachael Sharp, Michelle Stamper, Amie Taphouse, Brian Williams  
Ashley Ritchie, Alicia Wittmer, Sarah Schobel*

- Review of **Staff Leadership Opportunities** in the District
- Creation of a **mid-year survey** for students, staff, and the community
- Review of staff **survey results** with action steps
  - [Leadership Site](#)
- **Strategic Plan** Review & Planning for Next Year
- Learning about Leadership
  - **StrengthsFinder** Assessment and Learning
  - **Covey's 4 Essential Roles of Leadership**
  - **Building Trust**



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# Other Staff Leadership

- **EDGE Certified** - expanded plans and 4 new
  - IDEA Lab 2.0
  - Grant-writing
  - Partnership opportunities - 2nd grade Changemakers, Tiger Throwback Shop
- Many **staff presenting** at conferences, professional learning days, and/or our Summit
- **English Learners** - EL Celebration, Family Night
- Sponsoring **new student clubs** - Lego, Ethics Bowl
- First **Gifted & Talented Family Night**
- **Cohort** of Writing Teachers
- Staff **Wellness Day**
- **Collaboration** amongst staff - Elem, HS, GA



***Focus of Year 2:  
Student Leadership***

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# *Student Leadership This Year!*

- **Young Investors' Society**
- Refining and expanding **6th - 8th leadership curriculum**
  - Collaboration with HS
  - Nicole Dirks' group
  - Franklin Covey Work
- Interns, peer mentors, and **greatly increased collaboration** between older & younger students
- **Broadcasting** - elementary and high school
- Student-led **dance class** for GT
- **EDGE Minors Rush**
- **Student Panels** for Visitors
- **Leading Professional Learning** for Staff (Nov. PD Day & Educators Rising)
- Student-led Mu Alpha Theta **Book Club** for students and staff

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***Leading as a District***

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# ***District Leadership This Year***

- **Aurora Institute** Case Study
- KDE **Spotlight School**
- EDGE **Featured in the News** - Local 12 as well as LINKnky article
- Selected to present at the **Learning Forward** conference
- 13 Districts/Groups have **visited** to learn about Beechwood already this year! - KY, OH, PA
- **Justin** - Nominated for NKCES Board President
- **Sarah** - NKCES DAC Lead and Elected to KAAC Board
- **Ashley** - NKAGE President
- **Stephanie** - Presented to the College & Career Network and Leadership NKY Committee Lead for Talent Pipeline Day
- **Lauren** - MSD & EL Roundtable leadership
- **Innovation Teams**

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