

## **Briscoe Middle School Overview and Background**

Everyone at Briscoe Middle School knows that “The best is yet to come.” Located in San Antonio, Texas, Briscoe is a highly innovative campus that is committed to building relationships and providing an environment where students can explore their interests and grow in curiosity since 2010. Here at Briscoe we are **#BriscoeProud**.

### **Focus Area: Article V: Organizational Transformation**

We wanted to revisit our values and beliefs. After studying the Visioning Document, we identified three areas of change. We wanted to **define and operationalize our values, foster a climate where teachers are honored and ensure that students are in charge of determining where their attention, effort, and commitment go.**

### **Work**

Families and staff start their year with a brochure that highlights our campus and operationalizes our practices and policies. [The Bengal Experience: A Guide to Excellence](#) is a great way to learn about our campus.

We put any proposed changes as well as our current practices up against the notion that everything we do needs to operationalize our vision so that everyday, **“Every student grows in confidence, curiosity, and capability.”**

Our **PBIS** team puts the B in Bengal. We are Safe, Responsible, Kind, and Respectful and every Wednesday our parents join us in the cafeteria and help us celebrate our students with our Bengal Buggy.

**Because we believe that relationships are important**, we share our celebrations in our newsletter, in our daily broadcasts, and on social media. As you walk the halls of Briscoe, you will find large prints of our students doing amazing things. Our relationships are so strong that students come back for a Senior Walk in May to Celebrate their time in Bengal Country.

**Here at Briscoe we honor teachers and all things instructional.** Our PLC time has been carved out from our Master Schedule and provides grade level/content teachers the opportunity to meet during the school day and discuss the 4 questions. We also explore time during the school day for Reteach and Enrichment through our FLEX program.

“We’ll try anything once.” This has created a strong sense of ownership, risk-taking, and student engagement/choice. Here at Briscoe we are **leaders, creators,**

**collaborators, communicators, critical thinkers, innovators and solution finders;** students have the autonomy to create their own clubs on campus. Students interested in starting a new club, complete a proposal, find a sponsor and present their plan for approval to the principal. **Our clubs are 100% student generated.**

## **Results**

**Because we have operationalized our values,** there is clarity around our “why.” Office referrals have decreased 36% from this time last year.

**With empowerment and trust comes results.** Our Counseling Department has earned the **CREST** award for the first time in school history, and our **PTA Student Organization** is currently working with our **PTA President** and designing a January Spirit Week that will kick off a community sock drive that will support local shelters as well as bring awareness to homelessness in our city.

**Meaningful relationships and student choice are the formula for success.** Our **Destination Imagination Club** has earned their way from local, state, and finally to Globals for the last two years where they have competed against students from other countries.

Our **Art Club Students** were chosen to have their work displayed at the McNay Art Museum, and this year we were able to take our art students on a field trip to celebrate their peers' successes.

Our **Animal Ambassadors Club** works with a local shelter to bring animals on campus for office and classroom support. Our Animal Ambassadors clean cages, feed our animals and take the animals home during the weekends and/or long breaks.

Our dedicated staff and clear vision helps us operationalize our shared values and beliefs, foster a climate where teachers and learning are honored, and ensure that students are in charge of determining where their attention, effort, and commitment go. Here in Bengal Courty, we are **#BriscoeProud.**