

# BACS NEWSLETTER

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## UPDATES & UPCOMING EVENTS



### \* Board Meeting

There will be no Board meeting for December.

### \* Pre-Registration

We are NOW ACCEPTING student registration applications for the 2026-2027 school year! Please visit [this link](#) to begin registering your student for the 2026/2027 school year at Breakthrough Academy!

Completion of the registration application is the first step for BACS enrollment. In the event we exceed our maximum capacity for any learning pod, a Lottery will be held in February. Notifications of acceptance will be administered between February 17-21, 2026. Once accepted, further steps must be completed in order to finalize enrollment.

[Registration Application Link](#)

## The Power of Intrinsic Motivation in Competency-Based Education

Intrinsic Motivation is when a child is driven to learn or complete a task because it feels rewarding or meaningful. They are not motivated by prizes, grades, or pressure, but instead by genuine interest, curiosity, or pride in doing something well. When students are intrinsically motivated, they are more likely to stay engaged, try new things, and keep going even when the work is challenging. They are more driven because they want to learn and not just because they have to.

Competency-based education (CBE) and intrinsic motivation are closely linked because CBE's core features like flexibility, autonomy, and clear learning targets create an environment that fosters students' internal drive to learn. By focusing on mastery of skills rather

than seat time, CBE allows students to advance at their own pace, which builds a sense of competence and reduces stress, further enhancing intrinsic motivation and self-directed learning.

CBE naturally supports intrinsic motivation by giving students greater ownership of their learning. When students understand exactly what they're working toward and can move at a pace that fits their needs, they feel more autonomy and control. CBE also helps students build confidence as they demonstrate true mastery by allowing them to see real progress in their skills. Research shows that clear learning targets can significantly boost students'

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## The Power of Intrinsic Motivation in Competency-Based Education

...motivation and learning capacity. With flexible instruction and regular opportunities for reflection, students learn to self-regulate, set goals, and take pride in their growth. All of this leads to a deeper, more authentic desire to learn.

Certain classroom practices can strengthen the connection between CBE and intrinsic motivation. Project-based learning, for example, helps students engage with meaningful, real-world tasks that make learning feel relevant and personal. Providing clear, specific feedback and encouragement builds confidence and keeps students motivated. When teachers use varied, flexible instructional methods to match different learning styles, students are better able to stay engaged, self-regulate, and take ownership of their progress.

Farm-based programs foster intrinsic motivation through hands-on, experiential learning that naturally connects to real-world tasks. When students care for animals, manage garden beds, or apply math and science to daily farm work, they develop a deeper understanding of their environment and see firsthand how their learning has purpose. These activities build personal ownership, curiosity, and confidence as students navigate challenges and gain practical life skills. The freedom to make choices, try new approaches, and have tangible results from their hard work creates a strong sense of accomplishment. A farm-based program can provide meaningful, relevant experiences that boost their self-efficacy and help them stay genuinely interested and engaged in learning.

## Property Updates

Thank you to Scott from Bailey Environmental Services (BES) for working on our new septic design!

Thank you to Taylor from Lucy Hardware for working on getting the gravel pads ready for our modular classrooms to be delivered!



## Get Involved!

We are always looking for local experts to volunteer their services in any way. If you have a skill or service that you are willing to share, please contact us! We will also have general volunteer opportunities as we move through our preparation to open.



## Happy Holidays

This time of year reminds us how powerful it is to come together, support one another, and share in the spirit of giving.

We wish our entire community a safe and joyful holiday season!

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