

Brooks Parent Newsletter

December 2017

Dear Brooks Community,



I hope you had a wonderful and restful Thanksgiving! We are only two weeks away from Winter Break. The last day of school is December 22nd (a C Day) and students return back to school on January 8th at 8:00 a.m..

As always, it is a pleasure to serve and support your students. I appreciate your continued partnership.

Below, you will find some important details for the upcoming school year.

Grading Policies:

Here is the [link to our school wide Assessment policy, procedures, and FAQ](#). **If you have any questions and/or concerns about the grading policy, please do not hesitate to email me.** I will follow up with you to address your concerns and questions. Also, I will hold a meeting with parents to go over Gradebook, supports for students, and the grading system on **Tuesday, Jan. 16th at 6:00 p.m.**. If you are interested in attending this meeting, please [RSVP here](#).

Retakes and Tutoring:

Parents, please remember retakes is an option for students. However, some teachers may require students to complete any missing practice work and go in for tutoring to be eligible for a retake. Please encourage your students to complete retakes if they did not demonstrate mastery (a 2 or 1) on an assessment. Retakes allow students additional opportunities to demonstrate mastery (3 or 4).

The tutoring schedule is listed below. If students are unable to attend the tutoring session of their teacher, they may attend any teachers' session. Please encourage your students to attend tutoring if they need additional help outside of the classroom.



Tutoring

Started on November 6th. Listed below is the tutoring schedule.

After School Tutoring Schedule 2017-2018

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
S. T. E. M.	STEM I INS Lab 400 STEM II INS Lab 319 Technology Lab 229 Ms Sandhu STEM IV Math Precal/Calculus Lab 309 AC/STEM I: 2A Rm 314 AC Math/ Math I/ Math II: Mrozek Rm 304	STEM III Math Rm 301/305 STEM IV Math Rm 309/Lab 307 STEM I Science Rm 308 STEM Capstone Lab 321 AC STEM Schmid 312 AC/STEM I: 3C Rm 314 STEM III Math/Science 307/305	STEM I Math Rm 304 Engineering 327	STEM IV Life Science Lab 325 STEM III Sci Rm 305 AC/STEM I: 6B Rm 314 STEM: Rm 300 STEM II INT Rm 323 STEM I Peterek Rm 308	STEM IV Math Precal/Calculus Rm 309 AC/STEM I: 7D Rm 314 STEM 3: 301 (JK)
Social Studies	Kosteris (129)	Campos (109)	Yackee (131)	Mullooly (133)	Clark (135)
English	Souferis/Wilde (223)	Souferis/Wilde (223)	Hazzard (229)	Plunkett (221)	David (221)
Fine Arts	Youngblood (157F)	Famera (326) Mitchell (404)		Calderon (324)	Harding (157A)
World Languag e	Santoyo (209)	Castro (212) Cagney (214)		Santoyo (209)	



Fees

As you know, we were temporarily not collecting fees. However, we have started collecting school fees and AP fees again in the Main Office. Mr. Bayon collects fees from 1:00-5:00 p.m. daily. After break, I will send out communication to 8th grade and senior parents with the breakdown of fees for graduation activities.

Attendance

Our attendance is **94.02%**. Please keep helping to ensure your student is present and on-time for school! Also, remember, Seniors must have a **93% attendance** to participate in senior activities.

Family Income Forms and Physicals:

Please turn in your family income forms and physicals to the Main Office. It is extremely important we receive this documents. Currently, **90.3%** of our students are compliant. Currently, we have received **94.23%** of family income forms. Please continue to turn in your physicals and family income forms to the Main Office.

Feedback Loops and Instructional Rounds

The admin team are starting feedback loops with teachers that focus on specific aspects of teaching and learning. This year, the ILT (Instructional Leadership Team) will conduct instructional rounds once per quarter focusing on a specific area of teaching practice. We are excited as a school community to continue to improve our instructional practices.

CBL (Competency Based Learning) Update:

Three of our teachers and two students will be working with the district to help develop and plan for CBL implementation.

AC Information:

Students will take the NWEA test on Dec. 20th and Dec. 21st. Makeup NWEA testing will be Dec. 22nd.

After receiving the results, the NWEA Dream Team will do a "deep dive" into the data to plan for instruction and groupings.

Mrs. Mulder will be sending out information in the AC Newsletter regarding a meeting with parents to plan 8th grade activities.

Counseling Department Updates:

Counselors are in the process of reaching out to our senior parents who have not completed the FAFSA. The MAP grant will run out of money soon, so it is extremely important to complete the FAFSA ASAP. Please reach out to your student's counselor if they have questions or concerns.



SAT Information:

SAT/PSAT scores were released for student viewing today.

11th grade composite score: 1026, 10th grade composite score: 986, and 9th grade composite score: 946.

On Wednesday, Dec. 13th Juniors will take a practice SAT exam. After testing, we will help students re-link their Khan Academy accounts with their new scores. Please continue to encourage your students to utilize Khan Academy at home. Also, please encourage your students to be in attendance on Seminar days to take advantage of the SAT prep classes.

SAT Dream Team will continue to meet to conduct a "deep dive" into the data and plan for how it will inform instruction in preparation for the Spring SAT test.

Class of 2019 Parents: Please be sure your students are getting Khan Academy practice in for SAT. Twenty hours of independent SAT practice on Khan has been correlated with over 100

points of growth on the SAT. The more we can get students preparing for this test, the more we'll see acceptances at highly competitive colleges/universities and the more scholarships our students will qualify for. We are counting on your support at home to ensure our Juniors are preparing. Please reach out to Ms. Resh at mresh1@cps.edu if you're looking for additional information about how to get your student ready for the SAT.

Brooks' Highlights



Winter Arts Showcase: Dec. 19th and Dec. 21st. Please come out and support our students as they display their talents and work. Please [click this link](#) for more information

Chicago Chess Foundation hosted a Chess Tournament at Brooks for K-8 on November 18th.

Winter Play: *Dorothy Meets Alice, The Wizard of Wonderland* is **Friday, Dec. 15th at 6:00 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 16th at 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Come out and support Encore!**

Cheerleaders won 1st place in City! Congratulations!

Our STEM Department and Verizon Innovative Learning partnered for a STEM Career Day on Thursday, December 7th. Students had an interactive conversation with STEM professionals.

Student Ambassadors prepared boxes on November 30th for our annual coat and toy drive. Each advisory was given a box to collect toys and gently used coats. We will deliver the items to the South Side Help Center on Dec. 22nd.

70 juniors were selected to attend Hamilton on November 29th. It was a great experience for students who had a chance to engage in a Q&A session with cast members.

*Want more frequent updates and highlights? Follow me on twitter [@BrooksMsJackson](#).

School Calendar

The A, B, C, and D Days can sometimes get confusing. I highly encourage parents to utilize the Brooks website to understand the school calendar: brookscollegeprep.org.

Student Handbook

The student handbook can be downloaded at the bottom of the page you downloaded this newsletter from. This is an excellent resource for families interested in school-wide policy. Please note, if students are not participating in after school activities, they should be off campus by 6:00 p.m.

Athletics

- 12/11 Boys Swim vs. Odgen@Brooks
- 12/13 Varsity Girls Basketball@Harlan
- 12/15 Varsity Girls Basketball@Kenwood
- 12/16 Boys Swim Invitation
- 12/18 Varsity/Sopho Girls Basketball vs. De La Salle@Brooks
- 12/20 Varsity Girls Basketball vs. MP@Brooks

7th/8th grade Sports

If any students are interested in participating in 7th or 8th grade sports, please contact Reggie Dawson (rdawson@cps.edu) for more information.

Upcoming Events

- **MOY NWEA Math Testing:** December 20th
- **MOY NWEA Reading Testing:** December 21st
- **NAEP Testing:** Feb. 13th
- **SAT:** April 10th
- **Senior Prom:** May 25th
- **8th Grade Luncheon:** June 14th
- **Senior Luncheon:** June 1st
- **8th Grade Trip:** June 7th-9th
- **HS Graduation:** June 11th CSU
- **8th Grade Graduation:** June 15th (Brooks)

Local School Council (LSC)

The LSC meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. in the library. The next meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 12th at 6:00 p.m. You can find the exact dates on the Brooks calendar. **We have two parent vacancies to fill.** If you are interested in completing an application, please visit our website, www.brookscollegeprep.org and turn in your application to the Main Office.

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

The next PAC meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 16th at 6 p.m. Future meetings can be found on the Brooks calendar. Please see the attached meeting notice and agenda for the Annual Title I Parent meeting and the Annual Title I Parent Advisory Council Organizational meeting. I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Village of Brooks (VOB)

Village of Brooks Parent Club invites all parents, grandparents, friends and anyone you consider part of your "village" to come join us for a meeting. Principal Jackson and a featured monthly Department will provide information on upcoming events and school happenings. The VOB meets the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. You can find the exact dates on the Brooks calendar.

- **Our Mission:** To ensure each student learns at high levels.
- **Our Vision:** To be the school of choice in Chicago
- **Our Values:** Going the extra mile, being energetic and collaborative