

# Brooks Parent Newsletter

November 2017

Dear Brooks Community,



Congratulations! Brooks achieved a rating of Level 1+! This would not be possible without your support and commitment to our students and school.

I hope you and your family have a wonderful Thanksgiving! I am thankful to have the opportunity to work with you and support your student's success.

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

## Parent Teacher Conferences



Parent Teacher Conferences will be Thursday, November 16th from 12:00-6:15. Please see the attached teacher locations as well as the teacher lunch schedules so you can plan accordingly to see teachers.

HS Parents: To address general parent concerns and questions regarding the grading system, I will run HS Q&A sessions at 12:30, 2:30, and 5:00 in the library. If you plan to attend, [please](#)

[submit your question\(s\) in advance and RSVP for the session you plan to attend.](#)

AC Parents: Mrs. Mulder will have run several information sessions on GoCPS and AC Assessment/CBL policies. Please refer to the email she sent out on Friday. You can sign up for her sessions using [this link](#).

Here is the [link to our school wide Assessment policy, procedures, and FAQ](#). As a reminder, a slash represents the student is making progress toward mastery. In some cases, you may have seen a “P” in place of an A, B, or C. This because it is still early in the grading period and students may have only been assessed on one or two standards making it difficult to provide a true depiction of progress. If you see your student has a 2 or 1 on specific learning targets or standards that denotes an area of growth for your student. 3 and 4s indicate mastery.



Departmental Lunch Schedules for Parent-Teacher Conferences:

Departmental Lunch Schedule

Departments	Lunch Time
Art, Music, and English	1:00-2:00
STEM and Counselors	2:00-3:00
History, Informational Technology, and World Language	3:00-4:00
Diverse Learners and PE	4:00-5:00

## 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)	

## 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.

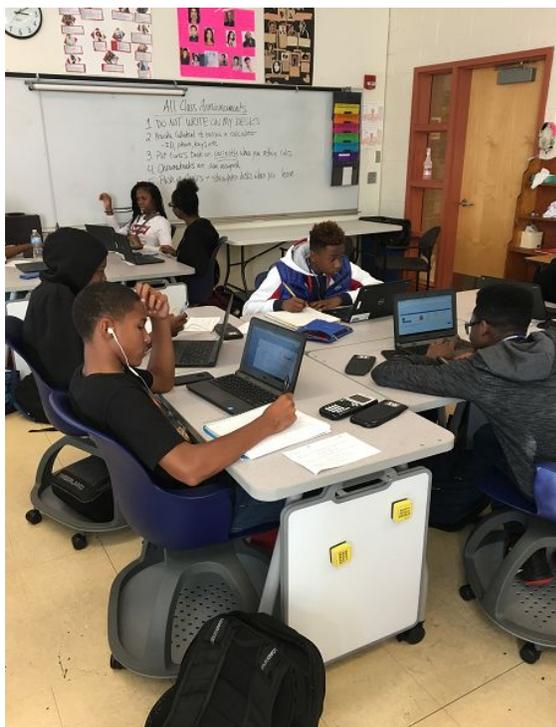
## Attendance

Our attendance is 94.92%. Thank you for ensuring your student is present and on-time for school!

## 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:

On November 3rd, Brooks teacher participated in a professional development at Lindblom on CBL practices with representatives from 10 other districts. Mr. Mrozek, Ms. Schmid, Mrs. Cicoria, Mr. Reed, Mrs. Mulder, and Mr. Barrett presented the great CBL work they are implementing at Brooks. In addition, Yvonne Smith and Kirsten McGowan shared their student perspectives and insights on CBL and SBG practices.

### AC Information:

NWEA Dream Team has started meeting after school on C Days to figure out how to group students based on NWEA results and how to incorporate areas of need into curriculum.

Refer to the November Newsletter for more information.



## **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**

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](mailto:mresh1@cps.edu) if you're looking for additional information about how to get your student ready for the SAT.

## **Brooks Highlights**

Brooks' Chess Team won 2nd place in the Chess Tournament at CVS on October 28th!

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

Brooks High School Debate Team soared at their second tournament this weekend!

1st Place Geometry Team and 3rd Place Pre-Calc Team! Go Math Team!

Several students from Brooks worked on the Pullman Mural project. The Chicago Sun Times featured an article about Luis Diaz (one of Mr. Mitchell's AP Photo students) and his work with the Pullman Mural project. Here is the [link to the fantastic article](#).

Pullman Wall Mural Unveiling is scheduled for Thursday at 4:00 p.m. There will be an awards ceremony to honor students who participated in the project.

We had over 700 visitors for our Open House! Our students, student ambassadors, teachers and parents did a great job of sharing their experiences and stories. Families were excited to learn about Brooks and what we have to offer!

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

## School Calendar

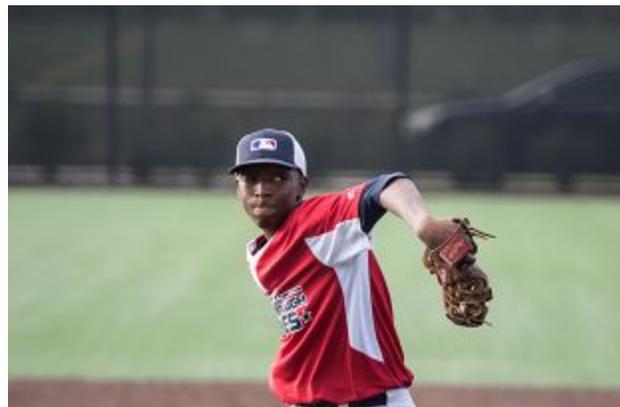
The A, B, C, and D Days can sometimes get confusing. I highly encourage parents to utilize the Brooks website to understand the school calendar: [brookscollegeprep.org](http://brookscollegeprep.org).

## Student Handbook

The student handbook can be found [here](#). 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

- Girls bowling tryouts are November 13th and 14th.
- Boys and girls basketball tryouts were last week.
- Girls and boys basketball season is about to begin.
- Boys bowling season is about to begin.



- Wrestling is about to begin.
- Swimming state championships were this weekend at UIC.

## 7th/8th Grade Sports

- If any students are interested in participating in 7th or 8th grade sports, please contact Reggie Dawson ([rdawson@cps.edu](mailto: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 Luncheon](#): May 25th
- [8th Grade Luncheon](#): June 14th
- [Prom](#): 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, November 14th 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](http://www.brookscollegeprep.org) and turn in your application to the Main Office.

## Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)



The next PAC meeting will be October 3rd 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,

December 5th, 2017 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 at our first meeting of the school year on Tuesday, December 5th at 6 p.m. in the school auditorium. Principal Jackson and a featured monthly Department will provide information on upcoming events and school happenings. Thank you VOB for providing refreshments for Open House. Thank you Ms. Hicks and Mr. Robinson for sharing your parent perspectives during Open House.



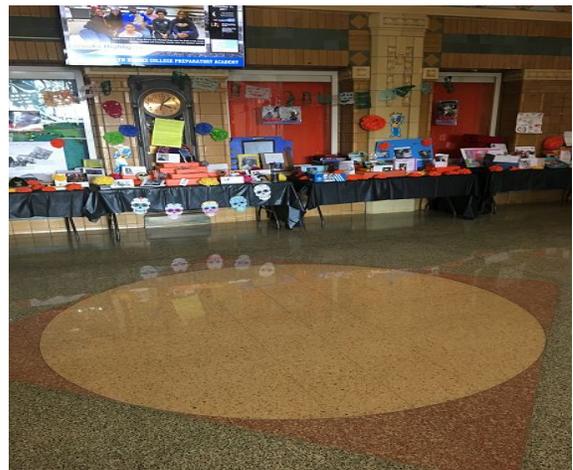
The VOB meets the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. You can find the exact dates on the Brooks calendar.

## **PARKING AND DRIVING ON CAMPUS**

All information below is grounded in our value for student safety over all other competing interests (e.g. convenience). If you are interested in volunteering to help with traffic flow before or after school please call [773-535-9930](tel:773-535-9930).

Drop-off info (7:15-8:00):

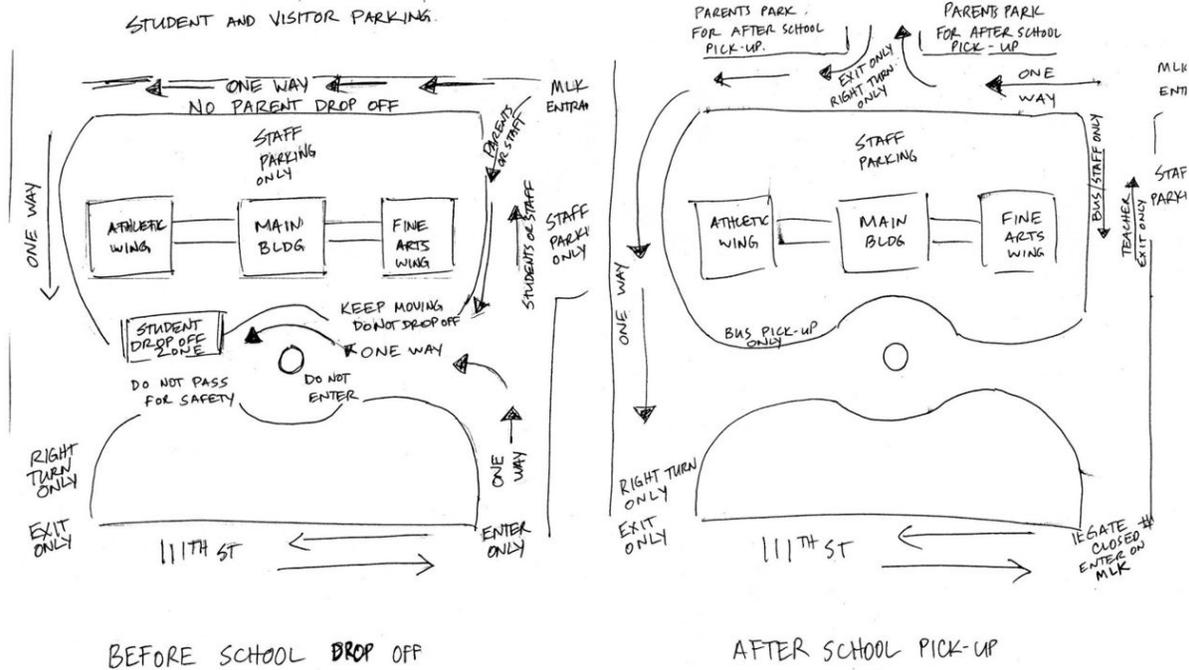
- Arrive early. The earlier you drop-off the quicker you can get off campus and get to work.
- Most people drop-off between 7:50-8:00am. Expect longer wait times during this time.
- You can use both the North (behind the school) and South (in front of the school) lanes to drop off.
- School buses drop students off behind the school. YIELD to buses for student safety.



- Students park behind the school. YIELD to students as they cross the drive to get to school safely.
- In front of the school there are horses set up to control the flow of traffic. The horses are there for safety so cars cannot pass each other or drive too fast on campus. Please do not move the horses.
- Cars should make a single file lane both in front and behind the school. Passing is not allowed for student safety.
- Wake up earlier, leave your home earlier, and arrive to campus earlier and your time on campus dropping-off will be a better and quicker experience.

Pick-up info (3:30-3:45):

- No cars are allowed in front of the school (south drive) to pick-up at the end of the school day. The south drive is reserved for buses. In the past, buses could not move adequately because cars were blocking them.
- Please park in the large parking lot behind (north) the school. Park in the lot. Parking on the drive is not permitted as it restricts the flow of traffic. Parking in the staff lot is not permitted.
- Be patient! Everyone picking-up is trying to get home as quickly as possible. Everyone is in the same position.
- Traffic must flow west behind the school after 3:30. This means all cars will exit the campus on 111th. This is not an inconvenience. It is just 3 right turns and 2 minutes away from MLK Drive. This is for student safety.



BEFORE SCHOOL DROP OFF

AFTER SCHOOL PICK-UP

#### Parking permits:

- Parking permits are \$50. All student vehicles must have a permit by Friday, October 6th.
- Students must complete an application, pay the fee, and provide proof of insurance to park legally on campus.
- Unauthorized cars will be towed by Rendered Services on 35th and Ashland. This is a contract through Sodexo.
- Free parking is available on 111th.
- Lots will be monitored between 9am-2:30pm to avoid towing before school and after school when we have events. If there is an all day event there will be no towing that day.
- Parents and other guests that visit the school need to get a guest pass and put that in their car (or risk towing) between 9-2:30. Guest passes are available at the security desk.
- Guest passes are unnecessary before October 5th.
- We are not the cheapest nor the most expensive:
  - Lindblom - No parking available.
  - Jones - No student parking. Unauthorized vehicles towed.
  - South Shore - No student parking. Unauthorized vehicles towed.

- Payton - No student parking. Unauthorized vehicles towed.
  - King - Free. Parking lot is two blocks from school. Was \$40 in 2014.
  - Westinghouse - \$25. Parking lot is two blocks from school.
  - Brooks - \$50 on campus parking.
  - Whitney Young - \$75 on campus parking.
  - Lane Tech - \$95 on campus parking.
  - Northside - \$175 on campus parking
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- **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

Again, I look forward to working with you this year!!!