



Brooks Academic Center Newsletter: October

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Do you want to provide Principal Jackson with some feedback? Please send your questions and positive feedback by following [THIS](#) link.

What Is Happening This Month?

Quarter 1 Progress Report: October 5th

NO SCHOOL Columbus Day: October 8th

8th Grade PSAT: October 10th

Pep Rally: October 12

Spirit Week: October 9 - October 12

Tues: Celebrity/Meme Day

Wed: Pajama Day

Thurs: Throwback Thursday (80s/90s/2000s)

Friday: Rep Your Class Day

8th Grade: White

7th Grade: Green

F@B Day: October 12

AC Homecoming Dance: October 12 4:00 - 7:30 pm

Homecoming Football Game: October 13th 2 PM

Q1 Counseling Department Parent Series: October 16th 6:00- 7:30 PM

F@B Day: October 24

Club Fair: Friday, Oct. 26th during lunch periods in the 2nd Fl. West Rotunda

Important November Dates

End of Quarter 1: November 1st

NO SCHOOL SIP DAY: November 2nd

Village of Brooks Parent Meeting: November 6th

NO SCHOOL Veterans Day: November 12th

NO SCHOOL Parent Teacher Conferences: November 15th

Open House AC: November 17th

NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break: November 21st

Academic Center News

Family Income Forms

Please submit your family income forms by October 19th. Your students can bring the completed forms to the main office to Ms. Ware. Your students will continue to get copies of this form in advisory until they are all submitted. Our school's funding is directly tied to our family income reported.

Physicals

Please submit updated student physical forms by October 19th. You can submit proof of a scheduled appointment to serve as a placeholder for the physical. Your students can bring the completed forms to the main office to Ms. Ware. Students will be excluded from school if we do not receive their physical.

Cell Phone Policy

- Students will not be allowed to have cell phones at school. If they are brought to school, they MUST remain inside a student's locker.
- Cell phones may only be used BEFORE or AFTER school. Students should not have their cellphones during lunch.
- If Students need to contact a parent during the school day, they can see Mrs. Ware, Mrs. Mulder, an AP, or Mr. Evans.
- If Parents need to contact students, they can send an email OR contact the school directly.

AC Homecoming

- **Tickets will be sold at the door.**
- **AC and HS Wristbands will be distributed on Friday, October 12th after the pep rally ends based on the criteria below. Only students who want to see if they qualify for a wristband will be allowed to stay in the gym. Everyone else will need to exit the building.**
- **Remember to bring your belongings with you to the pep rally because you will not be able to return to the main building and go to your locker.**
- **If you lose your wristband or fail to obtain it during that time, you will pay full price at the door.**
- **\$5 entry (reduced)**
 - 95% attendance
 - 0 cuts
 - 2 or less tardies
 - 0 Fs
 - Number and type of behavior infractions will be taken into account (No ISS or OSS)
- **General Admission (\$10)**
 - If you do not meet the criteria listed above.
- **Free tickets**

- [Follow @BrooksMsJackson to get free tickets!!](#)
- **Guest(s):**
 - Are \$10
 - Limit 2 per students
 - Must have visitor form turned in to Mr. McCoy, school ID, and be accompanied by a Brooks student.

Support for Students

The AC Tutoring schedule is [HERE!](#)

- Please encourage your student to attend tutoring if necessary and available.
- Students are not allowed to stay after 3:30 in the halls. They must be at tutoring or get picked up.

F@B Days (C Days)

- During F@B days, students will be pulled from their seminar if they need targeted intervention time in core classes. Students will also be able to take Retakes during this day.
- Students will be eating lunch during the third seminar of the day at 10:45.

Inside the Classroom

Curriculum Night

Thank you to families that attended our AC curriculum night on September 25th. In addition to Curriculum Night, I hope you had a chance to attend part of the Brooks College Fair.

7th Grade	8th Grade	Electives
<p>Science:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Progress report grades were based solely on students completion of their 1.1 binder. ● Students that did not yet master their binder by Oct 5th will be flexed on Oct 12. ● You can find the checklist of assignments students should have with hyperlinks to those assignments HERE. ● Remember that this is a 9th grade 	<p>Modern World:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First Summative Assessment: October 9th & 11th ● STUDENTS NEED A WORKING CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY CARD BY NOVEMBER 1st ● Chicago Metro History Fair discussion and research will begin 2nd quarter ● The focus of this class is writing as we prepare for AP level coursework next year. 	<p>Spanish 1: Nuñez</p>

course, please continue to support your student as they learn through investigations and experiences.

- Most assignments/investigations can be completed in class.
- Encourage students to complete the work that was not completed in class.

Early World:

- Progress report grades will be based on their 2-part summative assessments
- Students were tested on 1.) Geography Skills and 2.) Historical Knowledge of the content we studied in Unit 1
- We have begun Unit 2, but we are doing intervention/acceleration in class to prepare for Unit 1 Retakes
- Students are allowed adequate time in class to complete chapter section outlines
- Our textbook is on Google Classroom, it has been broken up by chapters per Units

- Please log-in to your students Google Classroom to locate all classroom materials and additional supplements to help students prepare, learn, and master the content and skills of this class

Math:

- Students get back Competency 1 Summatives week of 10/9
- Always check Google Classroom for HW assignments
- It is SO IMPORTANT that students do HW when assigned to keep up with class
- Answer Keys for HW are posted in a folder shared in the Classwork tab of Google Classroom
- Formatives *do not* count towards student grades, they are for Intervention/Acceleration ONLY (no need to stress about them)
- **2.1 P.I. Summative on 10/18 or 10/19**
- **2.2 P.I. Summative on 10/25 or 10/26**
- **Competency 2 Summative 10/31 or 11/1**
- **Competency 2 Binder due 10/31 or 11/1**
- Use Student Grade Calculator spreadsheet posted in Google Classroom to understand how grade is calculated (read the directions!)

Parent Partnership and Support Corner

Chaperones:

- Per New CPS policy ALL parents who want to participate in ANY activities during the school day with students MUST complete a volunteer form: cpsvolunteers.org
- If you potentially want to be a chaperone for the 8th grade trip, you must complete a Level 2 volunteer form.
- Only parents who have complete this process by January 1st will be eligible to be chaperones on the 8th grade trip.

PE Uniforms

PE uniforms will be distributed to students IN CLASS in the next two weeks. Students will receive participation credit for wearing their uniform in class. Students that still need to pay for their uniform should see Mr. McCoy.

Parent Partnership

- Parents, please do not wait to reach out to teachers until Parent Teacher Conferences in mid-November. If you have questions or concerns, REACH OUT!
- For academic questions/concerns, reach out to teachers first. While Mrs. Mulder is VERY helpful and supportive, she isn't always up to speed in what is happening in the classroom.
- Many teacher's preferred method of communication is email.
- If you would like a phone or in person conference, please email us to set a time.
- Allow teachers 2 business days to reply.
- Teacher [email addresses](#) can be found below.

Counselor Corner

Push-In Schedule:

- **October 23rd:** 7th Grade- High School Planning/Exploration
- **October 31st:** 8th Grade- High School Planning

High School Application Process and GoCPS

- Last week GoCPS activation codes were sent home with your students. The codes will allow your student to access their information within the GoCPS platform.

- The application doesn't open until October 1st. Once the application opens, you will be able to apply to different high school programs.
- Your student has a seat at Brooks. They **ONLY RELINQUISH** their seat if they accept a seat at another high school.
- IF you want to stay at Brooks you need to:
 - Activate Your GoCPS Account
 - Select Brooks As Your School
 - You **DO NOT NEED TO TAKE THE SELECTIVE ENROLLMENT EXAM.**
- IF you want to pursue other high school options, you will need to look up the options and requirements through GoCPS.
 - For a selective enrollment school, you **WILL NEED TO TAKE** the selective enrollment exam.
 - Rank the schools you'd like to attend.
 - Always rank your first choice **FIRST.**
 - Even if you get offered a seat at another school, you will **ONLY LOSE YOUR SEAT AT BROOKS** if you accept the new seat.

Important 8th Grade Graduation Information:

- **MUST** Pass the Constitution Test
- **MUST** take the EOY NWEA Math and Reading, Scores **ABOVE** the 24th Percentile
- **MUST** earn passing grades in **BOTH** Math and English
- Students who **don't meet** these requirements will ***not be able to participate in Graduation.***
- Students who don't meet these requirements will have to take summer school.
- Students who do not bring up their grades in summer school will **NOT** be promoted to 9th grade.

8th Grade Fees:

- Instructional class fee: \$400
 - graduation fees (cap and gown, stole, diploma cover and trips.) 8th grade fees (\$100) associated with graduation are not eligible for fee waivers.
 - Luncheon
 - 8th Grade Trip
- **ALL FEES** must be paid by the **END** of Semester 1 ***February 1st, 2019***
- **Fees will not be reimbursed if your student does not qualify to participate in 8th grade activities.**

8th Grade Trip & Luncheon Eligibility:

- Student have passed Semester 1 in **BOTH** Math and English.
- Student cannot have any behavioral referrals→ Semester 1 and Semester 2

- Students who receive a behavior referral will have the opportunity to earn back their trip. These decisions will be made by the Dean, Counselor, and Principal.
- 93% Attendance

Student Spotlight

Congratulations for the September students of the month! Students were nominated by their teachers for exhibiting the Be's of Brooks.

7th Grade Student of the Month: **Noah Collins**

8th Grade Student of the Month: **Sabine Boyer**

Extra Curricular News

<p>If any students are interested in participating in <u>7th or 8th-grade sports</u>, please contact Coach James (jforrin@cps.edu) for more information.</p>	<p><u>Math Team:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Practice on Fridays from 3:30-4:30 in Room 312 ● Competition Dates @ Whitney Young <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Saturday, October 20 ○ Saturday, December 8 ○ Saturday, May 11 ● Email Ms. Schmid for more info!
<p><u>ComED STEM CLUB</u> Members will conduct science fair project or the new name STEM Exhibition Research Project. Our goal is to make sure our students will have the place and time to pursue their research investigation or experiment that will qualify them to represent Brooks for Regional Competition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Thursday from 3:30-4:30 pm starting October 15. ● Room 307 	<p style="text-align: center;">More to come after the Club Fair!</p>

Learn More About...

- [Mastery Learning/ Standards Based Grading](#)
- [Google Classroom](#)
- [Parent Portal](#)
- [CPS Student Handbook](#)
- [Brooks Grading Policy](#)

AC Contact Information:

The Academic Center Team's preferred method of communication is email. We commit to responding to emails within two business days. Please ensure that if you have a question about a specific class, that you communicate with your student and follow up with the teacher if further clarification is needed.

Administration Team	Student Services Team:
<p>Principal: Ms. Shannae Jackson (773) 535- 9934 sbjackson1@cps.edu Assistant Principal: Ms. Kerry Dolan (773) 535-9959 krdolan@cps.edu Assistant Principal: Mr. Cortez McCoy (773) 535-7764 camccoy@cps.edu</p>	<p>Business Manager: Rick Bayon rbayon@cps.edu Athletics: Coach James jforrin@cps.edu Attendance Clerk: Quincy Dyer qodyer@cps.edu AC Dean: Billy Evans bjevans@cps.edu AC Counselor: Jessica Mulder jlloegel@cps.edu Social Worker: Sharron Tillman sdtillman@cps.edu School Clerk: Barbara Ware baware@cps.edu</p>
7th Grade Team	8th Grade Team
<p>Science: Julia Ciciora: JACiciora@cps.edu English: Eugene Hazzard: ehazzard@cps.edu English: Gianna Campione: gcampione@cps.edu PE: Clark Morgan: cpmorgan@cps.edu PE: Shea Parks: scparks@cps.edu Math: Miriam Schmid mrschmid@cps.edu AC Lab: William Reed: wgreed@cps.edu History: Melisa Campos: mcampos32@cps.edu</p>	<p>English: Gianna Campione: gcampione@cps.edu English: Eugene Hazzard: ehazzard@cps.edu PE: Clark Morgan: cpmorgan@cps.edu PE: Shea Parks: scparks@cps.edu Math: Matthew Mrozek: mmrozek@cps.edu Science: Kara Wang: kpwilson1@cps.edu History: Catherine Clark: caroland@cps.edu Band: Brandon Harding: bharding1@cps.edu</p>

<p>Music: Addison Youngblood: ajyoungblood@cps.edu Art: Emily Calderon: elcalderon1@cps.edu Band: Brandon Harding: bharding1@cps.edu Art: John Famera: jfamera@cps.edu Spanish: Ana Nunez: acbaeza@cps.edu French: Mary Cagney: mccagney1@cps.edu</p>	<p>Art: John Famera: jfamera@cps.edu Spanish: Ana Nunez: acbaeza@cps.edu French: Mary Cagney: mccagney1@cps.edu Art: Emily Calderon: elcalderon1@cps.edu Music: Addison Youngblood: ajyoungblood@cps.edu FIT: Kara Wang: kpwilson1@cps.edu FIT: Surjit Kaur Sandhu skaur@cps.edu</p>
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AC OVERVIEW: Important Curriculum Information

Competency / Mastery Learning: Mastery learning refers to systems of instruction, assessment, grading, and academic reporting that are based on students demonstrating that they have learned the knowledge and skills they are expected to learn as they progress through their education. The general goal of mastery learning is to ensure that students are acquiring the knowledge and skills that are deemed to be essential to success in school, higher education, careers, and adult life. If students fail to meet expected learning standards, they typically receive additional instruction, practice time, and academic support to help them achieve competency or meet the expected standards.

Standards Based Grading (SBG): Standards-Based Grading (SBG) is the grading function of Standards-Based Assessment. In SBG, a student's grades represent proficiency of standards.

Why is Brooks using Competency/ Mastery Learning and Standards-Based Grading?

The goal of standards-based grading is to ensure that grades accurately reflect what students truly know and can do. With this system, students will be graded solely on their performance on assessments and projects. Each unit students will be given a list of standards and objectives they need to master, along with rubrics that define what mastery looks like for each standard and objective. This allows for grading consistency throughout the school. grading promotes a shift from adding up points throughout a semester to a focus on what material and skills students have mastered in a course.

We are a part of the Illinois Board of Education Competency Learning Pilot. ISBE is moving towards competency-based learning for all of Illinois. We are on the forefront of this movement. Competency-Based Learning focuses on mastery of content NOT busy work or work completion. With this focus, we can be sure that students truly understand and master the material.

What does it look like?

- Overall Mastery Rubric
- Students assigned specific learning targets/objectives each with a detailed rubric.
- Formative Checkpoints vs. Summative Assessments
- Retakes/ Opportunities to Demonstrate Mastery (ODM)

Supports

To ensure that our students have a successful transition to high school curriculum and environment, the following support services are offered:

- **Intervention and Acceleration:** Every class has intervention and acceleration options built into the class itself. This allows for support within the classroom.
- **Learning Assistant Program:** We have started a Learning Assistant program with our TOP seniors. Qualified Brooks seniors go through an application and interview process to become learning assistants in AC classes. They support the teacher by offering additional tutoring and small group support within the classroom.
- **Lunchtime and After School Tutoring:** Starting in Q2 teachers will post their tutoring schedules for students to receive additional support.
- **Mentoring Program:** Each Academic Center student is paired with an AC teacher in a small mentor group. These groups meet each Seminar day to discuss relevant issues, grades, and to create smart goals.
- **Academic Lab:** Each 7th-grade student in the Academic Center has Academic Lab. This space is designed to assist students set goals, complete assignments, study, and participate in tutorials.
- **Classroom Guidance:** The Academic Center Counselor meets with 7th-grade students every Monday and with 8th graders once per month for classroom guidance lessons that focus on growth mindset, SMART goals, creating individualized learning plans, college and career exploration, and social-emotional support.

Grading and Awarding of High School Credit

- **Grading Scale:**
 - A, B, C, /

- Gradebook will show grades for Ds and Fs up until grading deadlines for Quarters and Semesters, when they will be changed to a (/) .
- Students can continue to work towards mastery throughout the school year. Once students gain mastery for all concepts from the semester 1 or semester 2, a (/) will become a grade.

AC Communication

Want to know what is happening at Brooks and in your student's classrooms? Below are the following ways send out communications at Brooks

1. Brooks Website: www.brookscollegeprep.org

- **School Calendar, Important Documents, Schedules, and Student/Parent Resources.**

2. Brooks Parent Newsletter

- **Monthly email from Ms. Jackson with updates about what is happening at the school.**
- **If you are NOT receiving email from the school, please email Mrs. Mulder (jiloege@cps.edu) and let her know.**

3. AC Monthly Newsletters

- **Starting in October you will be receiving an AC specific newsletter.**

4. Google Classroom

- **You should have received an invitation from ONE of your student's teachers to sign up for google classroom. Once you have signed up via ONE class, you will have access to reports from every class your student has that uses.**
- **Access to Google Classroom Parent Reports provides you with:**
 - **Missing Work**
 - **Due Dates for Upcoming Work**

5. Parent Portal

- **Provides parent/guardian with information about the students:**
 - **Grades**
 - **Attendance**
 - **Can send notes to teachers as well.**