

# Brooks Academic Center Newsletter

## What Is Happening This Month?

- January 9th:** School Resumes
- January 11th:** Personalized Learning Day
- January 18-20:** NWEA Mid Year Test
- January 24th:** Picture Retake Day 10 AM- 2 PM
- January 25th:** English I American Dream Symposium
- January 25th:** Seminar Day/ Mentoring
- January 30-Feb 2nd:** Final Exams
- February 3rd:** Grades Due

## COUNSELOR CORNER

At Brooks we provide a comprehensive and data driven school counseling program.

I will be working with your student ALL YEAR inside the classroom, in small groups, and individually to support your student with academic, social-emotional, and with college and career exploration.

I will be providing classroom guidance lessons each month through PE classes. Our next lesson will be on **February 1st and 2nd** to discuss their Individual Learning Plans & Create SMART GOALS for the rest of the year!

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns!

**Mrs. Mulder**

- 773-535-9931
- [jloegel@cps.edu](mailto:jloegel@cps.edu)
- [www.brookscollegeprep.org](http://www.brookscollegeprep.org)

## ACADEMIC CENTER NEWS and PARENT PARTNERSHIP CORNER

- **Change for Semester 2! Academic Lab Course Offered.**
  - We are planning to offer MORE SUPPORT for our AC student's second semester.
  - Our students are currently on a path to earn MORE high school credits than any other AC in the city! We want to support your student's success EVEN MORE.
  - Your student's elective classes will become "skinny" courses next semester. This means that your student will take Music or Computer Science for the first half of each block. The second part the block will be for Academic Lab.
  - See more info about the Academic Lab Below.
- **Math Class Change from Geometry Credit to Algebra 1**
  - We have been teaching an Integrated Math Curriculum this year, which has focused heavily on Algebra.
  - Our team has decided that it is in our AC student's best interest to take the Algebra I exam at the end of the 7th grade year.
  - This allows students who do not pass to have additional time over the summer and in the beginning of 8th grade to receive their Algebra credit.
  - More information about this change will be provided via e-mail and sent home with students.
- **Finals Schedule:**
  - Official finals schedule will be sent out next week. However, students will only have two finals per day to ease the stress level for students.
- **Grading Scale Change**
  - At the 7th grade parent meeting on curriculum night, we discussed changing the grading scale.
  - We will move forward with this change.
  - 4- 100, 3-90, 2-75, 1-65, and 0- Below 65
- **[Integrated Math I Personalized Learning Platform Tutorial](#)**
- **Picture Day Information:**
  - All student's packages are scheduled to be shipped out to you on December 6th. Retakes are (tentatively) Tuesday, Jan. 24th from 10:00-2:00. Please contact Mr. Famera with any questions at [jfamera@cps.edu](mailto:jfamera@cps.edu).

## EXTRACURRICULAR NEWS

- **Athletic News:**
  - Brooks is hosting the Elementary School Sports Basketball Tournament this weekend in the Main Gym. Good luck Eagles!
  - All Middle school programs have a "no-cut, no-tryout" policy.
  - All students who want to participate in sports MUST:
    - Complete a physical.
    - Meet academic requirements.
  - For any sports related questions, please contact the Athletic Director:
    - Reggie Dawson 773-535-7762 or 773-844-2255
- **Extracurricular Club Opportunities:**
  - **Happiness Club**
    - Sponsor: Mrs. Mulder
    - Meetings Monday 3:30-4:30, THE CUBE
  - **Chess Club**
    - Sponsor: Mr. Hazzard
    - Meetings Monday 3:30-4:30, Room 231
    - Brooks is hosting a Chess Club Tournament this weekend.
    - Good luck Eagles!
  - **Science Club**
    - Sponsor Mrs. Tyagi [AETyagi@cps.edu](mailto:AETyagi@cps.edu)
    - Meetings Thursday 3:30-4:30, Room 307
- **Second Semester Seminars**
  - Within the next week, students will receive a link to register for second semester seminars.
- **Seminar Project Day**
  - Jan. 25th
  - Students will have the opportunity to engage and explore seminars in preparation for second semester seminar registration.

## LEARN MORE ABOUT....

- [Mastery Learning/ Standards Based Grading](#)
- [Personalized Learning](#)
  - [Summit Platform](#)
- [Google Classroom](#)
- [Parent Portal](#)
- [CPS Student Handbook](#)

## PROGRAMS FOR PARENTS

- Monthly Parent's Club Meetings with VOB (Village of Brooks)
  - The first Tuesday of the Month @ 6:00 pm

## SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

- **NEW Academic Lab Class:**
  - We want to provide MORE support for your student. Your student will have the option to be in an academic assistance class that meets EVERY DAY or TWICE A WEEK.
  - **What does the class offer?**
    - Time to work on soft skills: organization, time management, study habits
    - Time to work on assignments and study
    - Tutoring and Group Work
    - Classroom Guidance and Small Groups
    - Mentoring
- **7th Grade Mentoring Program:**
  - Your student has been assigned a mentor in the building. This mentor will be monitoring your student's progress throughout the year and supporting them to be successful.
- **Peer Tutoring:**
  - Peer Tutoring has started! Students who qualify for a peer mentor will be paired with an upperclass student mentor.
- **Study Time in the CUBE:**
  - The CUBE is available for quiet study time/ group work Monday -Thursday 3:30- 4:30
  - C-Days from 12:30- 3:00
  - Mrs. Mulder will be monitoring the space.
- **After School Tutoring:**
  - **Math: Mon & Tues: 3:30- 4:30pm**
  - **Science: Thurs: 3:30- 4:40 pm or By Appointment**
  - **English: Mon & Tues: 3:30- 4:30 pm**
  - **World Studies: Mon 3:30- 4:30 or By Appointment**
  - **Music: Mon 3:30- 4:30 or By Appointment**
  - **Computer Science: Mon & Wed: 3:30- 4:30**

## 7th GRADE HIGHLIGHT

- **Assistant Principal's Student Advisory Council (APSAC)**
  - We are starting to plan for Homecoming 2 in February.
- **English I American Dream Symposium**
  - The 7th and 9th grade English classes have been investigating The American dream through fiction, nonfiction, and community research.
  - We will be hosting a symposium featuring their work on January 25th.
  - More information will be coming soon!
- **CPS4ALL CODE60+ Program**
  - Brooks is participating in "Code 60+" A Chicago Public School's Hour Of Code Initiative. Exclusive opportunity for CPS Students, Parents & Teachers to enter in a draw to win a chance of getting a Chromebook from CPS Connects!. For more information visit [chicagocodes.org](http://chicagocodes.org)