

Brookside Briefs

CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2011

Note: With five buildings this year, I am going to do my best to list the dates of BPS events each month. Those listed are the ones I know are firmly in place for the month of October. As dates are confirmed during the month, I will send out information via email.

10/3 Whole School Back to School Night Presentation at OAS in the auditorium from 6:00 to 6:30 PM
10/3 Back to School Night at Washington School starts at 7:00 PM
10/4 Washington School Book Fair
10/4 Lunch tickets sold
10/5 Steve Barkley Learning Style Presentation at OAS for BPS 5th graders at 1:30 PM
10/10 Single Session Day - NO lunch served
10/11 Lunch tickets sold
10/20 BPS PTA meeting at 7:00 PM at OAS in the Cafeteria or Café - A sign will be at the main entrance directing people where to go
10/25 Picture Day at Washington School
10/31 Halloween Parades

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians:

First let me express my sincere gratitude again for all you have done to assist in getting the Brookside Place School 2011-2012 school year underway. The incredible resilience demonstrated by the entire Brookside Place School learning community has been unprecedented. From staff members that have answered the challenge with incredible fortitude to the students who continue to roll with what comes their way despite being housed in less than familiar surroundings, it is abundantly clear that perseverance and flexibility best convey the mood of the opening of school this year.

As we usher in the beautiful month of October and the Fall season, remember to take those moments to enjoy all this wonderful season brings with your family and friends. As your son/daughter(s) venture off to school each day (some on a bus nowadays), please know that the entire Brookside Place School staff continues to keep your children at the top of our priority list. Regardless of the current circumstances, a top notch, rigorous and enriching curriculum is the most essential component in our day to day operations.

Now entering my fourth year at Brookside and with all that has gone on, I can candidly say I have never been more **proud to utter the words, "I am the principal of Brookside Place School."** Being a witness to all the acts of sup-

port and compassion from too many to name, I am in awe of just how such an incredibly united a group of individuals can bond together and get through a challenging event that impacted so many on various levels.

Our focus on personalization continues to be front and center when it comes to really learning about each and every child. Teachers are regularly gathering information about all of their students in order to best tailor a myriad of instructional practices thus enabling each child to reach his/her fullest potential. Our incredible BPS PTA is in its second year of a dual leadership team again this year. Mrs. Kelly Fallone and Mrs. Maureen Santarelli have assumed the position of co-presidents of the BPS PTA for a second consecutive year. Their work this year will involve having many tentacles reaching to the various locations and their respective PTAs in each location. I am confident that all events will be coordinated in all schools so that BPS students continue to benefit from the work of the BPS PTA.

In closing, I cannot possibly thank all of you enough for your support of the Brookside Place School staff during the quite successful opening of the 2011-2012 school year. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or topics you would like to discuss with me. The main Brookside Place School phone numbers 709-6245 and 709-6244 will ring at Washington School. My email address is klimko@cranfordschools.org.

Emergency Contact Information

In an effort to be sure each school has the emergency contact information for all BPS students, I would like to gather this essential information in a manner that does not rely solely upon technology. To this end, you will be receiving a

hard copy notice on Monday with a reverse side for you to complete. The notice on the front side will provide the details regarding what to fill in and how to return it.

Back to School Night

Thanks to all of the parents/guardians that attended Back to School Nights (Grade 4 on 9/19 at LAS, Kindergarten on 9/21 at BAS, Grade 3 on 9/22 at HAS and Grade 5 on 9/27 at OAS) thus far at this early juncture of the school year. Classrooms were filled with parents/guardians intently **listening to their child's teacher(s) explicitly** describe his/her classroom expectations and the grade level course of study. The establishment and continued emphasis on an open line of communication and sup-

port is such a critical aspect in establishing parents/guardians as partners in the education of their child. Please note that on the evening of Monday, October 3, 2011, I will be hosting a whole Brookside Place School Community Open House at 6:00 PM at the Orange Avenue auditorium. My presentation should last approximately twenty to thirty minutes and then I will be heading over to Washington School for the Grades 1 and 2 Open House beginning at 7:00 PM.

School Events

The BPS PTA is working diligently to coordinate school wide events in conjunction with the PTA in each of the four district buildings. Information regarding events

within Washington School will be disseminated once firm dates and times have been secured.

K - 5 Conferences

Elementary school conferences will be conducted in the afternoons of three single session days in November. Friday, November 4th, Monday, November 7th and Wednesday, November 9th will be the days

set aside for parent/guardian and teacher conferences. Teachers have already begun to or will be scheduling these conference times and dates on the evening of the Back to School Nights.

Attendance Line/Absence Reporting

With BPS students in five different locations, I wanted to clarify the absence reporting. **The main line to reach Mrs. O'Hara** at Washington School is (908) 233-3144. Parents/guardians with students at Washington School should definitely use this number to report your son/daughter absent. With students in kindergarten, third, fourth and fifth grade, please always call the attendance line of the building in which your children are during this relocation. I

am sure you can just call the main office of each building to find out the attendance phone number in each respective building. In addition to calling the attendance line in either BAS, HAS, LAS or OAS, you are welcome to call the Washington School number (908) 233-3144 to speak with Mrs. **O'Hara as well. Please remember to always indicate your child's name, date of call, class, and reason for absence.**

Main Office Phone Numbers

The numbers to call to reach the BPS office staff at Washington School are (908) 709-6245 and (908) 709-6244.

School Hours

With the first single session day of the 2011-2012 school year coming up on Monday, October 10th, please check the district website to confirm the times in each of the schools your children are in.

The Washington School times for a single session day are students entering at 8:45 AM with instruction beginning at 8:55 AM. The dismissal time is 12:55 PM.

Busing and Single Session Days

I am working on finalizing the pick-up times for the AM on the days when school is only in single session.

Our first single session day is coming up on Monday, October 10th. More details will be forthcoming via email.

Open Agenda Meetings

In an effort to provide parents/guardians a forum to engage in an open dialogue with me, I would like to share that I am working to coordinate times and locations for these

meetings to occur over the first few months of the school year. Once I have secured a date and time for the first meeting, I will pass this information along.

How do I Learn Best?

For many years Cranford has been quite fortunate to work closely with Steve Barkley. Steve is best known for his work with many school districts as he supports each one on various initiatives they set out to explore each year. An additional bonus that Cranford has working with Steve is securing him to present to parents/guardians, students and staff about the **four main learning styles. Steve's work in**

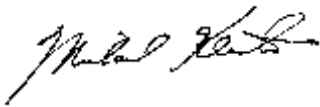
this area highlights all of the different facets of each style and how students can learn more about how they learn best. In fact, the fifth grade students complete a Kaleidoscope Profile which will help BPS fifth graders understand how they learn best. Mr. Barkley will be meeting with all BPS fifth graders during the afternoon on Wednesday, October 5th.

Reminders

- If you have a problem or concern, **please contact your child's teacher immediately.** Teachers will share or have already shared the best method for contacting them on Back to School Night.
- Lunch tickets are sold every Tuesday. The cost of a strip of five tickets is \$11.00; \$2.20 for a single ticket. These

tickets can be used on any day. Checks are preferred and should be made payable to the Cranford Board of Education. Please place the check or cash in **a sealed envelope with your child's name, teacher's name, and with the words *Lunch Tickets* written across the front.**

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Klimko

PTA's President Message



PTA Board Members

Kelly Fallone
Co-President

Contact for HAS
fallonepta@hotmail.com

Maureen Santarelli
Co-President

Contact for BAS
santarellipta@verizon.net

Kim Reitzel
1st Vice President

Contact for LAS
kreitzel@aol.com

Melissa Dowd
2nd Vice President

Contact for OAS
Mooseberry@verizon.net

Tracy Toto
3rd Vice President

Tracytoto@comcast.net

Laurie Levy
Corresponding Secretary
levy101@verizon.net

Krista Szark
Recording Secretary
kristaszark@hotmail.com

Jennifer Kelly
Treasurer
Contact for Washington
edjennjulia@msn.com

Welcome back to all of our Brookside **families. Although we're not together** at BPS, the school year has started and our children are excited to begin a new year. We hope the transition has been an easy one for you and your children. We would like to thank Mr. Klimko and all of the amazing teachers for all of their hard work and unending dedication to our **children's education. We would also like to thank all the Cranford Principals and PTA's for welcoming us into their** schools.

We would once again like to introduce **ourselves as the PTA President's for the 2010-11 school year. We're looking forward to working with all of our dedi-**

cated parents towards our common goal, achieving the finest education that Cranford has to offer. We would like to thank everyone for the overwhelming support you have shown us.

Please consider becoming active in the PTA and attending our meetings. Please do not hesitate to contact a board member if you have a question or need assistance. We are looking forward to meeting with everyone at our first PTA meeting on October 20th at 7pm.

Kelly Fallone - 276-8150

and

Maureen Santarelli - 653-0320

A Special Thank You

Thank you to Anthony Carbone for installing the Square 1 art tiles on the walls at BPS.

FYI

10/3 - 10/4 - Washington School Book fair

10/6 - BPS Students will participate in HAS Book Fair

10/20 - PTA Mtg. 7pm.

10/25 - Picture Day

10/28 - **Trick R' Trunk**

Thank You

We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to everyone who assisted with the Brookside Place School Book Drive. With the help and generosity of many people and organizations in Cranford and our surrounding communities, we collected thousands of books and were able to help the BPS teachers in every grade level begin to rebuild their classroom libraries. We still have many boxes of useful books that simply will not fit in the temporary classrooms and are in storage for when the students and teachers return to BPS.

We would like to specifically thank the **PTA's of all the Cranford and Westfield Public Schools**, as well as the Westfield Area YMCA for helping us get the word out about the book drive. We are grateful to the YMCA for being a drop-off site and to the Cranford Community Center for providing space to collect, sort and store books.

Thank you to the many individual book donors and local organizations who quickly responded to our need with an abundance of wonderful books. A special thanks goes to Scholastic, Barnes and Noble, and BookBGone for their particularly generous book donations.

We also appreciate the kindness of all those who made considerate monetary donations. We collected over \$1,200 which will be used to purchase specific titles that are still needed, as well as additional classroom supplies lost as a result of the storm.

Finally, there was a small army of volunteers who helped to sort through, organize and move into storage the many books that we received. It was truly a group effort. We could not have done it without all of you. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

Mary Castle
Megan Marchese
Debbie McCaffery

*Book Drive -
Thousands
of books
were
collected!*

OAS - 8th Grade Clothing Drive

The OAS Class of 2012 8th Grade Clothing Drive Fundraiser is coming October 15th! Drop donations off at the OAS front parking lot between 8am-2pm. Let the students make some money off of your used clothes, shoes, bedding, coats, **and stuffed animals...the more we collect...the more money we make for the 8th grade activities!**

Let your used items wind up in the hands of someone who really needs them. Absolutely nothing is shredded or wasted. [Thank you for supporting the OAS Class of 2012!](#) We are still looking for some 8th graders to help the day of the drive. Please contact Stacy Gunther at stacyguther@hotmail.com

*Class of 2012
Clothing
Drive -
October 15*

Healthy Hints

The 2011-2012 school year was off to a wet and wild start! But it seems like the Brookside students and their parents are settled in their temporary **schools. I certainly miss everyone's** smiling faces and look forward to our reunion. But until that time, please feel free to contact me about anything. My phone number at Washington School is 233-3144. My email address remains:

oharapau@cranfordschools.org

To update, all medical records from BPS were retrieved and returned to me. So I have all the information needed for students to be attending school. Some Kindergarten parents and parents of newly enrolled students may have gotten a call from me to submit medical enrollment forms or vaccination records. Please return those promptly to the school your child is attending. In order to insure health care throughout the year, all important medical information was shared with the school nurse at your **child's temporary school. Please be** assured all confidentiality was maintained.

To review procedures, if your child is going to be absent, please call the school that your child is attending. Also you can give them any notes that must be shared with the nurse. I am in daily communication with the nurses at the other schools, so they will **apprise me of any doctors' notes, gym** excuses, etc. However, please call me if you have any concerns.

I know this has been a very difficult month for so many Brookside families. My thoughts are with all of you who have been affected by the storm, especially those who are displaced and trying to keep a routine for their children. It must be difficult. Although I

can't see you daily, I welcome a phone call to hear how you are doing. I also want take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped us get up and running. Brookside parents have been so kind, generous and understanding during this time. It is a joy to work with such a wonderful group of people.

With kids, life and holidays must go on no matter what and Halloween is right around the corner. With all the **excitement, don't forget to remind** your kids of simple safety.

- **Make sure children's costumes don't block their vision (peripheral vision also)** and that they can move and walk freely.

- If they are wearing a dark costume, include some reflective or light colored clothing with it for nighttime trick or treating.

- Avoid props that could be dangerous if they fell with them. Also, weapon props are not allowed at school for the parade and party.

- Approach homes by way of their walkway. In the dark, it is hard to see any objects or uneven areas on neighborhood lawns.

- Always have your trick or treaters cross streets with an adult. Remind the older children that it is extremely important to stop and look before running into the street.

Have the goodies checked by an adult before being eaten (maybe you can talk them into sharing a few pieces with you!)

If you are sending in treats for Halloween, **please check with your child's** classroom teacher about any diet and allergy restrictions.

I hope everyone continues to have a great school year and a happy Halloween.

Washington School Fall Book Fair

Brookside PTA

presents the

Fall Book Fair

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome back to school! The Brookside Place School Fall Book Fair is scheduled to begin during the Open House on Monday, October 3rd, in the Washington School Cafeteria. The Fair will continue to run during the school day on Tuesday October 4th.

At the Book Fair, you will have the opportunity to purchase books for your child and for the teachers. Please consider contributing to the library of your child's classroom!

On the day that your child(ren) is scheduled to attend the Book Fair, please place their book fair money in a sealed envelope with the child's name, class and "Book Fair" written on the outside.

Volunteers are always needed to help out. Below is the schedule of when your children are attending the book fair. If you are interested in helping at that time or any time slot, please e-mail Kelly Fallone at fallonepta@hotmail.com.

The Fall Book Fair has always been such a success thanks to our parents and volunteers. We sincerely appreciate your continued support!!

Laurie Levy Schrier
 (908)931-0773
 LevyL01@verizon.ent

Time	Monday, October 3rd	Tuesday, October 4th
9:20 AM – 9: 50AM	Not Applicable	Mrs. Chelland
9:50 AM – 10: 20AM	Not Applicable	Mrs. Gilbertson
10:20 AM – 10: 50AM	Not Applicable	Mrs. Glakin
10:50 AM –11:20AM	Not Applicable	Mrs. Stanzik
11:20 PM -- 11:50 PM	Not applicable	Ms. Borges
11:50 PM – 1:15PM	Not applicable	Lunch Break
1:20 PM- 1:50 PM	Set up	Mrs. Kroll
1:50-2:20	Set up	Mrs. Schlenker

Brookside PTA - Helping Hands

Dear Parents

In our continued efforts to support our community at Brookside Place School, the PTA would like to proceed with our "Helping Hands" program.

This program is designed to assist Brookside families who may need assistance due to illness, hospitalization, etc. Your volunteer effort could assist with any of the services below.

As some of our volunteers have since moved on due to graduation; we would like to update our list. This will ensure a complete 2011-2012 list of volunteers.

If you are interested in assisting, please complete the form and e-mail Sarah at etch874@verizon.net (you can copy and paste the form below into your e-mail message). If you have signed up in the past, we would ask that you still complete and send back the form via e-mail.

Our Helping Hands program has been successful through the participation and willingness of our volunteers.

Thank you for your support!

Sarah Echavarria
272-6991

Harmony Bertrand
276-0169

Name _____

E-mail _____

Phone Number _____

I can prepare meals _____

Carpooling assistance _____

Running Errands _____

Brookside Place School - Trick R' Trunk

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

In an effort to bring our school back together as a whole we are going to be having a Brookside Place School TRICK R' TRUNK.

Friday, October 28
6:30 pm
Orange Avenue Pool Parking Lot

It will be here before you know it and we need YOUR help! We need volunteers to decorate the trunks of their cars, make spooky Halloween treats and help with the music and games.

If interested in helping, please contact:
Halloween Treats: Kim Reitzel at KReitzel@aol.com
Or
Decoration of trunks: Anne Dolan at dolanfamily1995@verizon.net

If you have any other questions, please contact either Kim or Anne.

We look forward to having a spook-tacular time!!

Lunch Menu

Elementary Lunch Menu


October 2011




Want a quick healthy complete lunch?
 Try our Bagel Bag; Baby carrots, a fresh apple,
 cheese sticks, & a Lender's bagel...available daily



Made with healthy
Whole Grains



Ovo-Lacto vegetarian
May contain egg or milk

<p>3</p> <p>Chicken Nuggets w/brown rice </p> <p><small>Fruit & Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Pear Slices Baby Carrots</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Beef Nachos</p> <p><small>Fruit & Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Shredded Lettuce & Salsa Fresh Apple</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Baked Ziti</p> <p><small>Fruit & Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Tossed Salad Orange Smiles</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Diced Chicken teriyaki </p> <p>w/ Brown Rice</p> <p><small>Fruit and Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Broccoli Fresh Apple</p>	<p>7 <u>Pizza Fridays</u></p> <p>Tony's Low Fat Pizza </p> <p><small>Fruit and Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Peaches Golden Corn</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Half day</p> <p>No Lunch served today</p>	<p>11  </p> <p>French Toast Sticks w/turkey sausage patties</p> <p><small>Fruit and Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Maple Syrup Peaches & Juice Cup</p>	<p>12</p> <p>California Hamburger  served w/wheat bun</p> <p><small>Fruit and Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Romaine Lettuce & Tomato Juicy Orange</p>	<p>13 </p> <p>Macaroni & Cheese</p> <p><small>Fruit and Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Green Beans Cinnamon Apple Slices</p>	<p>14 <u>Pizza Fridays</u></p> <p>Rolled Edge Pizza </p> <p><small>Fruit and Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Mixed Fruit Garden Salad</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Chicken Nuggets w/brown rice </p> <p><small>Fruit and Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Pear Slices Baby Carrots</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Turkey Hot Dog w/ hot dog roll</p> <p><small>Fruit and Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Mixed Fruit Cup Veggie Beans</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Chicken Fingers served w/BBQ sauce & roll</p> <p><small>Fruit and Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Sautéed Spinach Petite Banana</p>	<p>20  </p> <p>Pancakes & Scrambled Eggs</p> <p><small>Fruit and Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Maple Syrup Peaches & Juice Cup</p>	<p>21  <u>Pizza Fridays</u></p> <p>Tony's Low Fat Pizza</p> <p><small>Fruit and Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Cinnamon Apple Slices Golden Corn</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Chicken Patty Served w/bun </p> <p><small>Fruit and Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Caribbean Beans Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p>25 </p> <p>Beef Tacos w/hard corn shell & shredded Cheese</p> <p><small>Fruit and Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Shredded Lettuce & Salsa Fresh Apple</p>	<p>26 </p> <p>Tony's Cheesy Breadsticks w/ marinara sauce</p> <p>Juicy Cup Cucumber Coins *ACE Giveaway*</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Cheese Burger</p> <p>Romaine Lettuce & Tomato Juicy Orange</p>	<p>28 <u>Pizza Fridays</u></p> <p>Rolled Edge Pizza </p> <p>Mixed Fruit Garden Salad</p>
<p>31</p> <p>Chicken Nuggets w/brown rice </p> <p><small>Fruit & Veggie Selections</small></p> <p>Pear Slices Baby Carrots</p>	<p><u>Daily Offerings</u></p> <p> Tony's Cheese Pizza Bagel bag PB & Jelly Sandwich Cheese Sandwich</p>	<p><u>Daily Sandwich</u></p> <p>Mon: Turkey Tues: Bologna Wed: Italian Hoagie  Thurs: Cheese  Fri: Tuna</p>	<p><u>Daily Salad</u></p> <p>Mon: Chicken Caesar  Tues: Cheese & Fruit  Wed: Hummus Platter Thurs: Chef Fri: Chicken Caesar</p>	<p>Whole Wheat bread is available upon request</p> <hr/> <p>Whole Grains are encouraged and offered when ever possible</p>



Lunch Price
\$2.20

Burger Bash This Month, Try Our California Burger

- We use low sodium seasoning and no added fats in production
- Wheat bread and whole grain products served when possible
- See www.cranfordschools.org for more nutritional information.
- Feel Free to contact the foodservice office @ 908-709-2012 if you have any questions.
- Due to new dietary regulations we can no longer offer 2% milk products.

Milk Choices

Varieties available daily include 1% White, 1% Chocolate, & Skim Milk

Meal Tickets are Always Available in the Main Office

