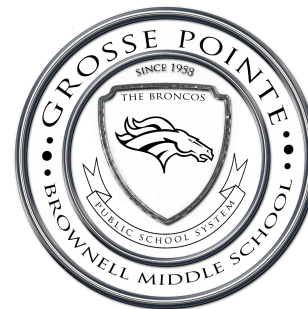


BROWNELL REPORTER



A NEWSLETTER FROM SAMUEL MILLER BROWNELL MIDDLE SCHOOL

<http://gpschools.schoolwires.net/gpbrownell>

(313) 432-3900

Volume 52

September 2017

Issue 1

Mr. Rodger W. Hunwick, Principal

Mrs. Holli McNally, Assistant Principal

PRINCIPALLY SPEAKING

Welcome back to school. On Tuesday, September 5, we opened our doors to 620 students. We have 206 sixth graders, 194 seventh graders, and 220 eighth graders. With the support of Brownell parents, we anticipate a successful school year for all of our students.

New Staff Members

The Brownell Family extends a warm greeting to the following nine new or returning Broncos:

Angie Amore	LRC Paraprofessional
Judy Ignagni	School Psychologist ASD
Melissa Lampela-Kifer	ELA Teacher
Amy Koontz	Speech Pathologist
Beth Labuhn-Allan	Physical Education ASD
Lynn Leggett	School Psychologist
Candace Meyers	Resource Room Teacher
Laura Miller	ASD Paraprofessional
Jeannette Taylor	ASD Paraprofessional

Back-to-School Night for parents will be Thursday, **September 7, beginning at 6:30 pm. Please report to your child's first hour classroom.**

Fun Run/Walk Fundraiser

Giddy-up Bronco students and put your best foot forward while showing your Brownell spirit and supporting your school. The bi-annual Brownell Fun Run/Walk fundraiser will be on Friday, September 29 from 1:00-3:18 pm. All money raised will be used for school programs, supplies, and improvements including Brownell Courtyard renovations in honor of Dr. Michael

B. Dib, retired long-term principal of Brownell. The suggested family donation is \$25.00. Your donation is 100% tax deductible. Parents can print a receipt through the PTO Webstore when you donate. This will be our **only** all school fundraiser of the year! Here is the link:

<https://goo.gl/JRG7Xf>

Money raised from previous fundraisers was used to purchase new student lockers, lights and sound in the Multi-Purpose Room, 120 mini-lpads and carts, classroom supplies, refrigerated drinking fountains, and grade level enrichment activities and field trips.

Parent Meeting

Please mark your calendars for **Thursday, September 28**. We will be holding an informational meeting in the Brownell Multi-Purpose Room for all parents.

The meeting begins at 6:30 pm and all parents are encouraged to attend. The purpose of this meeting is to share information on expectations for a successful school year for all our students. We will also be providing information on class trips (Washington, D.C., Chicago, Cedar Point, etc.); security; school procedures; events; and keys to student success.

If you are unable to make this meeting, we will also be sharing this information at the regularly scheduled Principals' Roundtable Meeting on October 4 in the cafeteria at 2:00 pm.

National Junior Honor Society

Brownell National Junior Honor Society Information Application Forms will be given to eligible seventh and eighth grade students within the first two weeks of school. All application forms must be turned in to the Brownell Office no later than Monday, September 25, 2017, at 4:00 pm. Our Faculty Council will review and evaluate all applications. Students selected for entry into NJHS will be notified by letter in early October. The Induction Ceremony will be held on Thursday, October 12 in the Brownell Multi-Purpose Room at 7:00 pm.

Reporting Student Absences

Our student attendance absence phone line is available twenty-four hours a day at (313) 432-3901. Absences should be called in before 8:00 am on the day of the absence. For early dismissals, students **must** bring a note to the office **before** school to receive an early dismissal pass.

Study Club

Beginning Monday, September 11, "Study Club" will be available to all Brownell students in the library. Two Brownell teachers will be available three days a week (Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday) from 3:20-4:20. Only students seeking homework help or a quiet place to study will be eligible to remain in the library. Study Club will not be available during student vacations or days preceding Holidays/Vacations.

PTO and Principals' Roundtable Meetings

There are monthly opportunities for parents to stay informed on issues in and around Brownell. PTO Meetings are held every other month and Principals' Roundtable Meetings are held once a month. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend these meetings.

PTO Meetings

All PTO Meetings are conducted in the Brownell library and begin at 6:00 pm. PTO Meetings for the 2017-18 school year:

September 25	March 19
November 20	May 21
January 22	

Principals' Roundtable Meetings

Roundtable Meetings are held one day each month for the purpose of sharing pertinent information about our school and programs. It is also an opportunity for parents to bring any concerns or questions they may have about our school and programs. Meeting times will rotate between 2:00 and 6:00 pm. Principals'

Roundtable Meetings are scheduled for the following dates and times:

October 4 in the cafeteria, 2:00 pm
November 1 in the library, 6:00 pm
January 10 in the cafeteria, 2:00 pm
February 14 in the library, 6:00 pm
February 28 in the cafeteria, 2:00 pm
April 11 in the library, 6:00 pm
May 2 in the cafeteria, 2:00 pm

Brownell Reporter

The *Brownell Reporter* is our school's informational newsletter that will be sent home with your child in September only and emailed the first week of each month along with being posted on the website at <http://gpschools.schoolwires.net/gpbrownell>

Student Planner

On the first day of school, each Brownell student will receive a Student Planner/Assignment Book with our district's *Student Code of Conduct* enclosed within the planner. During Advisory classes, teachers will be reviewing important information in both the planner and *Student Code of Conduct*. Information in the front of the Student Planner includes Standard Procedures, Regulations, Student Activities, Resources, General Information, Student Eligibility for Field Trips, Attendance, and Technology Use.

The Student Code of Conduct

The *Student Code of Conduct* communicates expectations for appropriate behavior. Possible consequences for inappropriate behavior are also defined. This document will be reviewed with all of our students during Advisory classes. Please have your child bring home the planner so you can review the information with your child. Note the dress code on page 22 in the Student Planner.

Book Fines

Teachers record the condition of textbooks before they are given to students during the school year (other than normal wear and no tear). We send damaged books out for repair and rebinding over the summer. Students are charged a fee for damaged books. If you or your child believes he/she has been given a damaged book, please have him/her report the damage to the teacher.

Pinnacle Electronic Gradebook

Student grades will be recorded in an electronic gradebook titled Pinnacle for each of their classes. Students and parents will be able to access grades using

a password. All students in grades 6-8 will be receiving new passwords this school year.

Picture Retakes

Picture retakes will occur on Friday, October 27 from 9:00-11:00 am in room B28. If your child did not have her/his picture taken during registration, please have her/him bring the completed Life Touch photography envelope that was mailed to your home. If you are dissatisfied with the pictures you purchased, please have your child return the photography package to the photographer on October 27.

Brownell Website

I believe many of your questions can be answered using the Brownell website. Staff phone and voicemail numbers, email addresses, tentative student assignments, calendar for the entire school year, daily announcements, and our monthly newsletter are a few highlights that can be used on a regular basis. Please let us know if there is any other pertinent information we can add to our website to assist you.

Looking Forward to a Great Year

I believe that students, parents, teachers, and staff all working together will create a positive impact on the lives and learning for all our children and students. Please join the Brownell Staff in making this a productive year for all of our students.

If at any time you have questions or concerns, please call my direct line at (313) 432-3904 or email HunwicR@gpschools.org. We hope to see all of you at Back-to-School Night on September 7.

Sincerely,



Rodger W. Hunwick

From the Desk of Mrs. McNally

Welcome Broncos to the 2017-2018 school year! We are so excited to have all of our 7th and 8th graders back in the building and look forward to getting to know all of

our 6th grade and new students. We hope that everyone had a relaxing, enjoyable summer spent with family and friends. A special thanks goes out to our maintenance and custodial staff for all of their hard work over the summer preparing the building for this school year. In addition, I want to recognize our teachers and paraprofessionals for all their preparations (conferences, workshops, classes, books read, lesson planning, collaborations, teaching, etc.) during the past 9 weeks. Finally, extraordinary thanks goes out to our administrative and counseling staff for their tireless work in making sure our students have: registered, schedules, immunizations, lockers, and the list goes on and on.

In the coming days and weeks, we will be spending some time with students discussing our PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports) program and what it means to be an “upstander.” One of our main goals at Brownell is to ensure that all students have a safe environment where learning takes place. We want our students to be respectful, responsible, and safe. We will be talking about our building-wide expectations and would greatly appreciate if you would spend some time reviewing these expectations as well with your child (page 14 in their handbook). We often assume that students should know the expectations and procedures; however, this is not always the case. Our PBIS program is centered on the idea that we not only introduce building expectations and procedures, but we rehearse and reteach repeatedly. During the second day of school, our PBIS Committee has created activities for the students in all grade levels to complete and familiarize themselves with our upstander expectations. Students will be rewarded with stamps for their participation. Students accumulate stamps and redeem them for a variety of rewards. Please check your child’s planner for reward stamps after Wednesday.

I am very excited to start the school year and get to know each student. We have a tremendous amount of talent in our building and I am looking forward to seeing your son/daughter grow over the next ten months. Please do not ever hesitate to reach out and contact me with any concerns or comments. I can be reached at (313) 432-3911 or mcnallh@gpschools.org. Again, welcome and get ready for a great year ahead!

KEY DATES TO REMEMBER

September

- 7 Back-to-School Night, 6:30 pm
- 15 Grade 6 Clue Party, 6:00-8:00 pm
- 20 Deadline to submit articles for the October *Brownell Reporter*
- 25 PTO/PA 25 Report @ library, 6:00 pm
- 28 Parent Orientation @ Multi-Purpose Room, 6:30 pm
- 29 Fun Run/Walk Fundraiser, 1:00-3:18 pm



All School Fun Run/Walk

Friday, September 29, 2017

1:00-3:18 pm

Giddy-up Bronco students and put your best foot forward while showing your Brownell spirit and supporting your school. All money raised will be used for school programs, supplies, and improvements. Previous fundraisers have funded many important updates and activities including:

- Brownell's Multi-Purpose Room
- New Lockers
- 120 Mini iPads & Carts
- Classroom Supplies
- Refrigerated Drinking Fountains
- Grade Level Enrichment Activities & Field Trips
- Brownell Courtyard Continued Renovations



The suggested family donation is \$25.00. Thank you for your continued support-making Brownell a GREAT place for our students to learn.

PLEASE NOTE: This will be the only all-school fundraiser we will be having for the 2017-18 school year.

PLEASE VISIT THE BROWNELL PTO WEBSTORE TO MAKE YOUR FAMILY DONATION or go to the following link:

<https://goo.gl/JRG7Xf>