

Engage★Achieve★Thrive



Brooke Grove Elementary

[BGES Parent Handbook](#)

9.15.23

Dear Brooke Grove Families,

We hope that you were able to attend our Back to School Night last week. We have [developed a survey](#) to gather your input and feedback regarding this important event. We hope to hear from all parents - even if you could not attend, we still would like your input about this event. We look forward to hearing from you!

I have enjoyed seeing our students coming to school prepared and ready to learn. Students have settled into the new school year and are busy learning and growing. Thank you for your support and collaboration in helping students to engage-achieve-thrive.

Next Friday marks the interim, halfway through the first marking period. Please note that this is an early dismissal day, giving teachers time to do important work on grading and data collection. Dismissal is at 12:55 pm.

If you have questions about Brooke Grove Elementary, please check out our [BGES Parent Handbook](#). If you do not find the information you are looking for, or have suggestions for additional information and resources, [please let me know](#) and we will add it.

Check out the [MCPS Things to Know](#), including information on the Pathway to College, Career and Community Readiness. Please see below for more information and updates!

To our families who are celebrating the start of a new year, wishing you health and happiness for you and yours. We love our wonderful, diverse community!

Warmly,
Jolynn Tarwater, Principal



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OCTOBER 4 WALK/BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY

Did you know that Brooke Grove ES is considered a “walking school”? Approximately 80% of our students are considered “walkers”, as they live within 1 mile (using accessible walking paths) of the school. Still, we have a great many cars at school each morning and afternoon. October 4 is National Walk & Ride to

School day. We hope that you will be able to take some extra time to observe this day and celebrate the joys and benefits of walking/biking. Brooke Grove has been chosen as the Montgomery County Department of Transportation as their “Host School” for this event. We will have some fun activities planned for this morning. Stay tuned for more information!

CAFETERIA NEWS

Meal prices: Breakfast—\$1.30; Lunch—\$2.55 (Elementary), \$2.80 (Middle and High)
Beginning this year, students in Maryland who qualify for reduced-price meals will not be charged for breakfast or lunch meals!



APPLY
HERE!

FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEAL APPLICATIONS

Apply online NOW so that benefits will be in place when school starts!

Families who meet certain federal income standards are eligible for free or reduced-price meal benefits. All children use their MCPS ID number at the register so confidentiality is maintained and no child is overtly identified as receiving free or reduced-price meals. Only one application is needed for all students in a household. **A new application must be completed for any family requesting assistance this school**

year. The online application is now open for families to submit applications.
www.MySchoolApps.com



**MORE INFO &
How-To Videos**

For more information and How-To videos, visit the Food Services website:
www.montgomeryschools.org/departments/food-and-nutrition/meal-payments/#FARMS

Wednesday Folders

Please be sure to check your child’s backpack each Wednesday. We send large envelopes each week with completed work, community flyers, PTA announcements, and other information.

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After School Enrichment

Big Learning has Foreign Language classes and Science & Engineering classes after school located at Brooke Grove ES. The registration link is <https://biglearning.asapconnected.com>. Classes are open for registration. These activities are not sponsored by BGES, but we have had a long time successful collaboration with Big Learning.

Saturday School

If you would like to register for this wonderful opportunity, please return the forms directly to Saturday School or you may enroll online. Please do not return the forms directly to Brooke Grove. Registration for the George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy (Saturday School) is open. Saturday School provides academic tutoring and instruction with certified teachers in a nurturing and supportive environment. The program is in 12 school locations across Montgomery County and runs from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. with breakfast provided at 8:00 a.m. [Click here](#) for more information.

Feeling sick? WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL

When your child is sick, keep him/her home from school. This not only benefits your child but other children and staff in the classroom at school. Some important signs of illness are:



1. A temperature of more than 100o orally	8. Earache
2. Nausea or vomiting	9. Thick yellowish discharge from nose
3. Stomach Ache	10. Sore throat
4. Diarrhea	11. Rash or infection of the skin
5. Pale or flushed face	12. Red or pink eyes
6. Headache	13. Loss of energy or decrease in activity
7. Persistent cough	

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If your child has any of these symptoms It is best that he/she stay home for 24 hours. If the symptoms are severe or persist for more than 24 hours, you should contact your Dr. Children sometimes use illness as an excuse to miss school. On the other hand, some children force themselves to go to school even though they are sick. There may be times that your child does not show signs of the above-noted symptoms but may be ill. It is up to you to be alert to your child's health and to decide when it is best to send him/her to school. Generally, your child may return to school when he/she is free of signs of illness. However, there may be times when it is necessary for your child to see your Dr. before returning to school. Please call your school nurse if you have any questions . 240-722-1801. It is important that you provide the school with up-to-date information and phone numbers in case it is necessary to contact you.

New Information on COVID-19 Outbreak Measures

As new cases of COVID-19 increase locally, we have seen outbreaks occurring in multiple schools across the county. Temporary outbreak precautions for individual classrooms where COVID-19 is spreading rapidly helps prevent spread to vulnerable individuals and to the rest of school. Check out the [FAQ](#) page for more information about how outbreaks are managed. The [newly approved COVID-19 updated](#) vaccine will be available in our area in the next few weeks. For information about COVID-19, influenza and RSV vaccine availability, refer to [Vaccines.Gov](#).

Absences : [Report an absence.](#)

Once you complete the online form, that information will go to our attendance secretary and she will mark your child absent. If you do not contact us by 11am then you will receive a phone call to notify you of your child's absence. If we do not hear from you your child's absence will be marked unexcused.

KIDSCO-Drop off and pick up.

Please do not pull into the bus loop to drop off your child after 8:30 am and before 3:15pm. We need to leave this for the buses. Please park and then walk your child in.

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PTA FUNdraiser

Kona Ice puts the FUN in fundraiser! Our PTA will host our first “restaurant night” of the year! Join us in the BGES parking lot on 9/29 from 4:15- 6:15. Kona Ice will donate a percentage of the evenings’ proceeds to the BGES PTA.



IMPORTANT DATES [Click here](#) for a list of events/dates for the school year.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
Wednesday, Sept. 22	12:55 pm	Early Release Day
Thursday, Sept. 21	3:30 pm	PreK Parent Back to School Meeting
Monday, Sept. 25		No School for Students and Teachers
Friday, Sept. 29	4:15-6:15 pm	Kona Ice Truck in parking lot
Wednesday, Oct. 4	8:30-9:00 am	Walk your child to school day
Friday, Oct 6	9:15am	Individual Pictures 9:15 am
Monday, Oct. 9		Professional Day - No school for students