

Engage★Achieve★Thrive

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Brooke Grove Elementary

[BGES Parent Handbook](#)

9.1.23

Dear Brooke Grove Families,

What an amazing first week of school! And my eternal wish for the first week of school came true - no indoor recess! 😊 The weather cooperated and we had lots of fun out on the playground. Speaking of the playground, supplies for our new fence were backordered, but the fence should be installed next week. We will extend the fence on the playground side of the school to fully enclose that area for the safety and security of our students. On the other side of the playground, that fence will also be extended to the end of the blacktop. The gates in the PreK/Kindergarten courtyard will have new locks installed so that we do not have to keep using bungee cords to keep the gates closed. We also will have some new playground equipment installed, which was delayed this summer because of supply chain issues. We have heard that it should be installed by the end of September.

Additionally, our school is in the final stages of the MCPS plan to have cameras installed at every school in the district. We have had the wiring installed, and today several cameras were installed. We are still waiting for more cameras and the servers to be installed. We hope to be fully functional with this additional security measure soon. I will keep you updated.

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.

Also, if you did not see our [BGES Back to School Video 2023 2024](#) check it out! We had a great time making this for you!

Thank you for all you do! Please see below for more information and updates. Much of the information is repeated from last week as we all get the year started - check it out! I hope you all have a wonderful and relaxing 3-day weekend! We will see you back on Tuesday, September 5!

Warmly,

Jolynn Tarwater, Principal

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Wednesday Folders

Classroom teachers will send home a large envelope every Wednesday. Please review the items, sign the envelope and send it back to the teacher via your student's backpack. We do not have those envelopes this week, however we should have them next week. We will just send the information home this week without the Wednesday envelope.

This week there was a yellow student information form in the folder. Please review this information. If changes are necessary, please go into Parentvue and make the edits. You can also make the change on the yellow card and sign the back of the yellow card and send it back in with your student .

If there are no changes then there is nothing else you need to do. You do not need to return the yellow form.

Reminder: You can never do an address change on parentvue. You need to bring proof of residency into the office and they will make the change.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Thursday, September 7, 2023

7:00 pm -8:30 pm

GRADES K-5

Please mark your calendar for **Back-to-School Night** on Thursday, September 7, 2023. Back to School Night is an important night. It continues our partnership between the school and home, and the teacher and the parent, with the child as our common purpose and goal. We hope to see you there!



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During each session, you will have an opportunity to visit your child’s classroom and learn about the curriculum, classroom expectations, and routines from your child’s classroom teacher. Please note that PreK parents will attend a different Back to School event later in September.

7:00 – 7:10 p.m.	Report to your child’s classroom for Video Welcome Message from Administrators and PTA
7:10 – 7:40 p.m.	Session 1 - Visit your child’s classroom
7:45– 8:15 p.m.	Session 2- Visit your second child’s classroom or stop by visit Art, Music, PE
8:15-8:30	Optional: Visit tables for help with Parent Vue, Questions about School Meal Service and PTA Information

Childcare for Back to School Night: Kidsco will be available in the All Purpose Room to watch children 5 and older. **Please complete [this form](#) if you would like your child to attend Kidsco for free while you attend Back to School Night.**

Sign Up For ParentVUE

Families new to MCPS are encouraged to sign up for a ParentVUE account. ParentVUE is the online parent portal that serves as the primary communication vehicle for schools to share information regarding grades, attendance, scheduling, access to myMCPS Classroom and more.

ParentVUE Quick Guides

English / [español](#) / [中文](#) / [français](#) / [Português](#) / [한국어](#) / [tiếng Việt](#) / [ភាសាខ្មែរ](#)

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Attendance

1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem like much, but for your child's K-12 education...

If they miss...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling, that's...
1 day every 2 weeks	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 & ½ years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 & ½ years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years

How about 10 minutes late a day? Surely that won't affect my child?

They're only missing...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling, that's
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1 & ½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year
20 minutes per day	1 hr. & 40 mins. / week	Over 2 & ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 minutes per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 & ½ years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 & ½ years

EVERY DAY COUNTS! If you want your child to be successful in school and in the future, then, **YES, attendance matters!**

Oh no! If your child is sick or misses school, please let us know!



[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 will be marked unexcused.

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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

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.

[MCPS Community Message](#) - Please see this week's MCPS "Things to Know" for information on the first week of school, back to school events and the new Remind app as a communication tool.

Saturday School

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.

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IMPORTANT DATES

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
Monday, Sept. 4		No School for students and teachers
Thursday, Sept. 7	7:00-8:30 pm	Back to School Night -only for K-5
Friday, Sept. 8	5:30-8:00 pm	PTA Back to School Picnic
Wed, Sept. 22	12:55 pm	Early Release Day
Monday, Sept. 25		No School for Students and Teachers