

# **Welcome to Brabham Middle School**

# Administration

- Principal: Tiffany Mathews
- Assistant Principals: Denman (Trey) Watson and Cori Reitz
- Counselors: Beth Fleming and Anna Payne
- Nurse: Helen Barley
- Instructional Coaches: Jean Eaton, Lynnly Muncherjee, and Brenda Schultz

**OUR WHY**

**To Build Their Foundation**

# At Brabham...

- We do things for a reason.
  - Safety.
  - Kid friendly and preparing them for high school (future).
  - Teaching responsibility and time management.
  - Procedures for grading, homework, testing, etc.
  - Discipline.
- Our staff cares about kids.
- We do our best to keep you informed so you can help your child be successful.

# Safety

- Visitors sign in and out
  - Government issued ID is required to enter the building or check your student out.
- Door buzzer system; double entry
- School Resource Officer
  - Interacts routinely with staff, students and parents.
  - Drug dog
- Cameras
- Classroom doors locked
- Building open at 6:55am
- School ends at 2:50 pm and all students are expected to be picked up by 3:10 pm unless prior arrangements have been made with a supervising adult.

# School Notifications

Most likely will happen and you'll benefit by knowing in advance:

1. You will likely get several emails from BMS; some may be safety alerts. If there is a true safety event, you will be notified.
2. Something will be said or occur involving a child that will be exaggerated or delivered as grossly incorrect information by the time it passes through the "Telephone Game" or social media and makes it to you .

# Discipline, Investigations, Consequences and FERPA

- All offenses are taken seriously and investigated.
- Understand in advance, due to FERPA, we cannot discuss consequences given to students, criminal or administrative, with anyone other than the individual child's parent or guardian.
- In other words, just as I cannot discuss consequences given to your child with another parent/guardian, I cannot discuss the consequences of an individual kid with you, the media, or anyone else.
- If electronic communication is involved, we will investigate that as well. As in, we will go through your child's cell phone if necessary.

# Discipline, Expectations, Consequences

- Our expectations for our students in and out of the classroom are high so that all students can be successful.
- Expectations for our parents/guardians are also high.
- Much more is on the line than when most of us were in school.
- We do everything we can to prevent a situation from happening.
- Please immediately report any concerns to school administration.



# David's Law

- **Bullying will not be tolerated.**
- **Criminal charges are possible in addition to school discipline.**
- **This can include electronic bullying outside of the school day.**

# Car Line Safety

- **Drop off and pick up are in the front of the school. You must go ALL the way around the car line.**
- **Extracurricular pickup is on the cafeteria side of the building as students wait with their sponsors.**
- **Please make sure your student only enters and exits the car on the curb side of the car.**
- **Cell phone use is prohibited by law.**
- **Please pull all the way up to the back of each car in line.**
- **Please have your student exit the car once your vehicle has stopped and passed the Drop Your Student Here sign.**
- **Please drive cautiously in our school zone.**

# Buses

- Buses drop and load on the cafeteria side of the building.
- No one can park in the purple paws area throughout the school day.
- We have less than 8 minutes to get students loaded on the bus each day.
- Your student must know their bus number in advance. If you are unsure, go to the district's Transportation website.
- Middle school and high school students ride the buses together.

# Attendance

- Research has shown that the single most important influencer in a student's schooling is their attendance.
- Being at school daily and on time not only sets students up for successful time management but also a healthy to start to each school day (less stress).
- Missing 1 day is equivalent to missing 7 classes.
- If you have a doctor's appointment, please be here for part of that day and present your excused doctor's note. This doesn't count against your attendance for that day.
- We will file on parents and students that are consistently absent; it's the law.

# Brabham Basics

- **No electronic devices are allowed to be visible or heard from 6:55 am until 2:50 pm. They will be confiscated; a fee is required to get it back and only from 2:50-3:10pm.**
- **Dress code will be enforced. We are a middle school and our students will dress appropriately.**
- **We walk with a purpose to our destination.**
- **We have 2 one-way halls.**
- **No lunch drop offs.**
- **We respect everyone.**
- **Lockers are by request.**
- **Be at school on time daily.**

# Website

- Information available on the school website
  - Tentative athletic schedule
  - WISD Course of Studies
  - WISD Student Code of Conduct
  - BMS Student Handbook

# Contacting Teachers

- If there's an issue, the best long term solution is for your child to advocate for themselves and speak to their teacher.
- We also encourage parents to email the teacher as needed
  - Realize we are with kids and can't always instantly email you back.

# Courses

- **Mrs. Fleming and Mrs. Payne, BMS Counselors.**
- **Double blocked Math class (2 periods).**
- **Level, Pre-AP, Pre-AP Accelerated**
- **Course requests are requests, not guarantees.**
- **High School credit classes (8th grade year) Art I, Algebra I, Biology I, and Spanish 1.**



Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle School Campus: BMS / LLMS (circle one)

Current campus (circle one): Turner CC Hardy Cannan Meador Parmley

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Selection 2019-2020

#### **Core Content Areas**

*Students will be placed accordingly in level or advanced content-area courses based on end of year assessment data, teacher recommendation, and grades.*

However, you may pre-select Pre-AP or Accelerated courses by content area.

**ELA:** Pre-AP **Math:** (double-blocked course) Pre-AP or Pre-AP Accelerated\*

**Science:** Pre-AP or Pre-AP Accelerated\* **Social Studies:** Pre-AP

#### **Physical Education\*\* (circle only one):**

Boy's P.E. Girl's P.E. Dance P.E. Tennis

#### **Electives\*\* (select three and rank below)**

Band General Music\*\*\*\* Choir Art Theater Arts

1<sup>st</sup> Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

*Selections above do not guarantee placement in courses.*

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Pre-AP Accelerated courses are a faster-paced and concentrated/condensed middle school curriculum format which prepares students to take high school EOC courses while in 8<sup>th</sup> grade (Algebra and/or Biology). Students taking Pre-AP accelerated courses should begin to do so in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, however should a student enroll in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade, a district assessment will be administered to determine if placement in the course is appropriate.

\*\* Students are required to take four (4) semesters of PE, two (2) semesters of Fine Arts, and two (2) semesters of Technology Applications during middle school enrollment. Math is double blocked in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and includes Technology Applications

\*\*\* Lynn Lucas only

\*\*\*\*Braham Only

# What Parents Need to Know

- We care about your child and hire people who do the same.
- Students are being prepared to operate at the speed of life.
  - In order for our students to compete in this world, they must be prepared.
  - Our staff moves at this pace.
  - Classes move quickly.
    - STAAR TEKS requirements.
- You are welcome to come visit.

# A Typical Day

- **Students enter the building at 6:55am**
  - Please do not drop your student off prior to 6:55am
  - Breakfast is available for purchase in the cafeteria
  - Students report to their 1st period teacher and may get a pass for tutoring if needed.
- **1st period starts at 7:30am. There are currently 7 periods each day.**
- **Pledges, moment of silence and announcements daily.**
- **4 minute passing periods.**
- **Lunch time is by class. Students will find out their lunch on the first day of school.**
  - **Please preload student lunch money on the district website.**
- **School ends at 2:50 pm.**

# **Bobkat Time**

- **Time for intervention or enrichment**
- **30 minutes daily**

# Tutorials

- We have tutorials every morning and every afternoon except on Wednesdays.
- Tutorial schedules will be posted and sent to parents.
- Students do not have to go to their specific teacher for tutorials.
- Students must come prepared to tutorials with specific questions about the material.
- Students are responsible for attending the needed tutorial(s).

# Grades

- **Relearning and late work policies are posted on our website.**
- **Encourage your child to take advantage of the free tutoring offered.**
- **It takes effort to make an A in secondary; however, it also takes a huge lack of effort to fail.**

# Parent Self Serve

- **Please make sure that you are setup on Parent Self Serve; see Ashlee Burns, our campus Registrar for assistance.**
- **You can set up customized alerts for grades and attendance.**
- **It is critical to know where your student is academically throughout the school year.**
- **Students have an account as well. There's no excuse for students to not know their grades.**

# Parent Resources

**In addition to teacher websites:**

- **Khan Academy**
- **Wolfram Alpha**
- **Odysseyware**



# Communication

- **Please make sure that we have an email on file (TEAMS) that you check regularly; as well as the correct mailing address and telephone number.**
- **WAGs: Teachers will send out Week at a Glance emails weekly.**
- **Follow us on Twitter @BrabhamBobkats.**
- **Check our school website.**

# How Parents Make the Difference

- **Talk to your child.**
- **Get to know your child's friends.**
- **Monitor their electronic device use. Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, texting, and all other apps. If you don't know what's on your child's phone in 2019, it is difficult to really know what is going on in their life.**
- **Hold students responsible for their actions (behaviorally and academically).**
- **Give your child a chance to work out some problems on their own.**
- **Monitor the amount of sleep they really get. Remove electronic devices at night.**
- **Make sure they eat balanced meals.**
- **Get them involved with a club or organization.**
- **This is the most critical time to be a part of your child's life.**

# PTO

- **Please consider joining our PTO to be more involved in campus life.**
  - Get to know the school culture
  - Meet other BMS parents
  - Watch students interact with each other
  - Get to know staff
  - Opportunities before and after school to be involved

# School Supplies

- 4 inch binder (1)
- Composition books
- Dividers for binder
- Loose leaf paper
- Earbuds
- Pencils and pens
- Colored pencils
- Highlighters
- Expo markers

\*\*\* Additional supplies may be required \*\*\*

# Bobkat Kamp

- **Date: TBD**
- **Place: BMS**
- **Time: 9am-10:45am; parents join at 10:45am**
- **Locker requests in the library**
- **Social Time for incoming 6th graders**
- **Learn the building and routines**
- **Not required but VERY beneficial**

# Common Questions

- Can I eat lunch with my child?
  - Yes, in the front office area.
- Can I bring birthday food?
  - No. Kids can't share food anytime.
- Can I bring my child lunch?
  - We don't accept fast food deliveries. However, if your student forgets his/her home lunch, you may bring it to the front receptionist for delivery.
- Did you find my phone?
  - We aren't responsible for electronic devices. Things do get stolen (lost most often). Don't bring expensive or meaningful items to school. Always secure personal belongings.
- Can I bring my backpack to class?
  - Yes, each classroom has a designated backpack area.

# Common Questions (cont.)

- **Do I need to contact anyone if my child is sick?**
  - Yes, the Attendance Clerk, Mrs. Reynolds.
- **Can my student bring medicine to school?**
  - A parent must bring the medication (if prescription, must be accompanied by the doctor's note) to the nurse's office. Students can't have ANY medication on them.
- **Are there textbooks available?**
  - Yes, a parent may request a traditional textbook through the Assistant Principal's office.
- **How can I get in touch with my child during the school day?**
  - Call the school and we will get a message to them if before 2pm.

**Thank You!**

**We look forward to a great school year  
together!**