



# Brandon High School

## A Cambridge and Community School



Friday, August 9, 2024

Dear Brandon High School Eagle and Family,

I hope this letter finds you healthy and well. I would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome you to the 24-25 school year. The Eagle's Nest is excited to continue to construct a student-centered safe-haven that cultivates caring, confident, courteous citizens, and life-long learners. We are committed to having a school culture conducive to all students excelling in the classroom as well as in their extracurricular activities. It is our goal for all students who enter Brandon High School to be college and/or career ready and be prepared to graduate with their cohort.

Though the summer always seems too short, I am excited to see you and to take on the new year as we reimagine Brandon High School as **"OUR SCHOOL, OUR TOWN, OUR COMMUNITY"**. Looking forward to the 2024-2025 school year, I am confident that we can continue our progress towards a collaborative, caring, and successful commUNITY school. With this, I ask you to reflect on how your individual piece of the Brandon High School puzzle helps to create the best picture for all. As we unite our puzzle pieces together, consider the following: **"Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is the progress. Working together is the SUCCESS."** ~Anonymous

Communication both to and from school is critical to the success of our students. We will continue to use our Parentlink phone system, Synergy, CANVAS, Twitter, Instagram, and our school's website to share information with our students and their families.

The following information will be broken down into sections to help provide information pertinent to school starting on Monday, August 12, 2024.

### Open House

Thank you to all who were able to attend Open House this past Wednesday. The energy was absolutely AMAZING.

### Start of School

School starts on Monday, August 12, 2024, at **8:30am**. The Student Parking Lot will be the entrance point for student drivers, bike riders, car riders, and walkers. The Auditorium Lobby doors will open at 8:00am. Students riding a bus will enter the building from the Q Hallway. Please plan to arrive early as traffic will pick up with school starting. This will also be a great opportunity to get free breakfast from Student Nutrition in our Cafeteria. There will be first period locators around the school for students to find their first period class, where they will report by 8:30am. Students should check the locator, even if they already received a schedule as some schedules have changed.

### Attendance Matters

**every day MATTERS**

Teaching and Learning Begins Monday, August 12

Every day matters when it comes to attendance! There is a strong link between regular attendance and academic success. Research indicates that missing 10% of the school year, which is 2 days a month, negatively affects a student's academic performance.

Compared to students who are chronically absent, students who attend school regularly have greater success in all grade levels.

<p><b>Elementary school</b> students who regularly attend class are 1.7 times more likely to achieve grade-level scores in English Language Arts and 2 times more likely to achieve grade-level scores in Math.</p> <p>&gt; Chronic absenteeism leads to students struggling to read proficiently.</p>	<p><b>Middle school</b> students who attend school on a regular basis are 2 times more likely to score on grade level in English Language Arts and Math.</p> <p>&gt; Absenteeism in sixth grade leads to students facing difficulties with their coursework.</p>	<p><b>High school</b> students who are consistently in class are 1.7 times more likely to score on grade level in English Language Arts and 2 times more likely to score on grade level in Math.</p> <p>&gt; Chronic absenteeism for high school students leads to them being off-track for on-time graduation.</p>
--	--	---

If your student is facing any obstacles that affect their attendance, our schools and counselors are here to help. Please reach out to your school for assistance. You can also visit [hillsboroughschools.org/attendance](https://hillsboroughschools.org/attendance) for additional resources. Let's work together to make the 2024-2025 school year the best one yet!

We'll see all students back on Monday, August 12!

Hillsborough County PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Preparing Students for Life

[hillsboroughschools.org](https://hillsboroughschools.org)

**ATTENDANCE MATTERS**

Missing a day of school here and there may not seem like much, but absences add up!

<p><b>When a student misses 2 days a month...</b></p> <p>They will miss <b>20 DAYS</b> a year.</p> <p>They will miss <b>30 HOURS</b> of math over the school year.</p> <p>They will miss <b>60 HOURS</b> of reading &amp; writing over the school year.</p> <p>They will miss over <b>1 YEAR</b> of school by graduation.</p>	<p><b>When a student misses 4 days a month...</b></p> <p>They will miss <b>40 DAYS</b> a year.</p> <p>They will miss <b>60 HOURS</b> of math over the school year.</p> <p>They will miss <b>120 HOURS</b> of reading &amp; writing over the school year.</p> <p>They will miss over <b>2 YEARS</b> of school by graduation.</p>
---	---

## **Bell Schedule**

Please click on <https://tinyurl.com/BHSBS2425> for the different 24-25 bell schedules.

## **Synergy ParentVUE**

Synergy's ParentVUE will replace MySpot as the HCPS parent application. Parents and guardians will need to create their ParentVUE accounts to view student information like reports cards, attendance, and graduation status. For those who were able to attend Open House, the ParentVUE activation codes were given to the parent/guardian present and/or to the student to bring home. The ParentVUE activation code and information will also be given to students on the first day of school to bring home. Each parent/guardian has a separate activation code.

Parents and guardians will continue to use Canvas to view current class grades, assignments, and for communication with teachers. Since MySpot is being replaced, existing Canvas parent accounts will be disabled and archived. To access Canvas moving forward, parents MUST first create their ParentVUE account and then Synergy will share the account information and student relationships to Canvas. Parents will use the same username in both ParentVUE and Canvas.

## **Student Learning System = CANVAS (Please use Chrome)**

The student learning system will continue to be CANVAS. You will be able to access your classes and communicate with your teachers, school counselor, administrators, and other staff members. You will use CANVAS for the following:

Students will use CANVAS to:

- Access class materials (calendar, assignments, quizzes, etc.) online using any device or any browser.
- Access student schedules.
- Track their progress through ongoing teacher feedback tools.
- Receive course announcements, grade notifications, etc. instantaneously on their preferred device(s).
- Easily collaborate with peers and teachers.

Parents/Guardians can use CANVAS to:

- Review upcoming or past assignments.
- Check grades.
- Receive alerts for student activity.
- Communicate with teachers.

The CANVAS Family Guide helps parents/guardians be able to increase their knowledge of CANVAS by navigating through the following modules:

- Creating an Account & Logging In
- Exploring Your Dashboard
- Communicating with Teachers
- Monitoring Student Progress
- Using iOS CANVAS Parent App
- Using the Android Canvas Parent App

To access the CANVAS Family Guide, please click one of the following links:

<https://sdhc.instructure.com/courses/3146>

To access the CANVAS Student Guide, please click one of the following links: <https://sdhc.instructure.com/courses/36524>

Quick Start for Students

<https://tinyurl.com/CANVASQSFS>

You can access CANVAS via your CLEVER account by going to [www.hillsboroughschools.org](http://www.hillsboroughschools.org) and searching "CLEVER" in the search bar or by clicking <https://clever.com/in/hcps>.

If you need support with your account, please call the Technical Support Helpline at 813-272-4786.

## **Bus Transportation**

Please go to the Brandon High School website (<http://brandon.mysdhc.org/>) and click on Bus Routes for route information. For information on the "Here Comes the Bus" app, please click on [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ck9pQ-BI1LHSbN\\_wOO8IjxHduqbutXMc/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ck9pQ-BI1LHSbN_wOO8IjxHduqbutXMc/view?usp=sharing). Students will receive bus passes on the first day of school during lunches. Administrators will also be available during lunch to assist with bus transportation needs.

## **Lockers**

Lockers will be sold (\$5.00) in the Cafeteria and during lunches the first week of school.

## **Student Drivers**

Student drivers must click on <https://forms.office.com/r/LQEXUXagV0> to complete the Student Parking Registration Form.

## **Forms**

During first period on Monday, August 12, 2024, students will receive their schedule, the Medicaid Parental Consent Form, Synergy ParentVUE activation code, and a QR code paper. The QR code contains all of the first day informational forms. Please click on <https://shorturl.at/vzDf8> for information such as student calendar, volunteer forms, student nutrition information, student medication information, etc.

For the forms that need to be acknowledged, please click on <https://tinyurl.com/BHSFDE2425> to acknowledge by Thursday, August 15, 2024.

Emergency cards will be passed out starting on Tuesday, August 13, 2024. Please sign and have your child return to their first period teacher by Thursday, August 15, 2024. It's imperative we have current contact information. Thank you.

## **Additional Resources**

Please click on [Parents / Homepage \(hillsboroughschools.org\)](#) for additional information on resources.

## **School Supplies**

During the first week of school, teachers will discuss school supplies with students. If there is a need to assist in purchasing school supplies, please reach out to Ms. Leto ([lauren.letto@hcps.net](mailto:lauren.letto@hcps.net)), School Community Coordinator.

## **Dress Code**

Per Hillsborough County Public Schools, the dress and grooming of students shall be that which contributes to the health and safety of the individual and which is non-disruptive of the educational activities and processes of a school. The definition of appropriate dress shall vary with the age of the student, the program of instruction, and the heating/cooling system of the building.

Students have the right: to dress as they choose as long as their dress meets the approved dress and grooming regulations, does not disrupt school activities, is not obscene or defamatory, and does not endanger the physical health or safety of themselves or others. Students have the responsibility: to dress and groom in such a manner to reflect cleanliness, modesty, safety and good taste; become familiar with and adhere to approved dress and grooming regulations of the School Board of Hillsborough County.

Shoes shall be worn. Skate tennis shoes and bedroom slippers are unacceptable and not allowed.

Clothing that exposes the entire shoulder, tube tops, spaghetti straps, or similar type of clothing may only be worn with a blouse or shirt. Clothing exposing the torso or the midriff, either front, back, or sides shall not be worn. Underwear shall not be visible. Clothing shall not expose the mid-chest area. Clothing not properly fastened or with tears that are indecent shall not be worn. Clothing traditionally designed as undergarments or sleepwear shall not be worn as outer garments. All pants and shorts shall be secured at the waist. Boys' shirts shall have sleeves. Mini-skirts, mini-dresses, and short shorts shall not be permitted. Hemlines shall be no shorter than fingertip length.

Head coverings shall not be worn in the building unless required for religious observance or health-related reasons.

Garments and/or jewelry that display or suggest sexual, vulgar, drug, gang, weapons, or alcohol-related wording or graphics, or that provoke or may tend to provoke violence or disruption in the school, shall not be worn. Wallet chains shall not be worn.

Please refer to <https://web.hillsboroughschools.org/conduct/index> for additional information.

## **Wireless Communication and Other Electronic Devices**

The use of wireless communication devices is always prohibited during the instructional day, unless expressly directed by a teacher, staff, and/or administrative staff. Wireless communication devices (WCD) will remain on silent in the student's backpack, lunchbox, purse, pocket, or out of sight while the student is on school property or in attendance at a school function. Use of a device is restricted to before school and after school. Students in high school may use phones during lunch. In elementary and middle schools, cell phones may only be used during lunch with the express permission of the school's principal. A school principal may impose more restrictive conditions at their school.

Violations of the cell phone policy will be handled in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and may result in confiscation of said device. If the WCD is used in a criminal act (such as sexting, as outlined in Florida Statutes and the Student Code of Conduct), the cell phone will be provided to law enforcement and the student may face criminal penalties.

Students may not receive discipline if they use their cellphone and/or ancillary device(s) to monitor a health condition that is documented through medical records provided to the school including, but not limited to, an IEP, a Section 504 Plan, or a Health Plan.

At no time shall Hillsborough County Public Schools be responsible for theft, loss or damage to cell phones or other electronic devices brought onto its property.

Students shall not operate a motor vehicle owned or leased by the district on or off school property, or personal motor vehicle on district property, while manually typing into a personal communication device or while sending or reading messages on such a device, for the purpose of non-voice interpersonal communication, including, but not limited to, communication methods known as texting, e-mailing, instant messaging, including Snapchat, and any forms of social media.

The use of WCDs that contain built-in cameras (i.e., devices that take still or motion pictures, whether in a digital or other format) is prohibited in locker rooms, shower facilities, and/or rest/bathrooms. Furthermore, students are prohibited from using WCDs to take unauthorized photographs or videos involving students and/or staff and posting those online or on social media platforms.

Students shall have no expectation of confidentiality with respect to their use of WCDs on school premises/property. Students may not use a WCD in any way that might reasonably create in the mind of another person an impression of being threatened, humiliated, harassed, embarrassed or intimidated. In particular, students are prohibited from using WCDs to: (1) transmit material that is threatening, obscene, disruptive, or sexually explicit or that can be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based upon their race, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, ancestry, or political beliefs; and (2) engage in 'sexting' - i.e., sending, receiving, sharing, viewing or possessing pictures, text messages, e-mails or other materials of a sexual nature in electronic or any other form.

Students are also prohibited from using a WCD to capture, record and/or transmit test information or any other information in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating, or academic dishonesty. Likewise, students are prohibited from using WCDs to receive such information. Students must adhere to any additional restrictions imposed within a testing environment regarding the use and/or possession of WCDs during testing.

In an emergency situation, all WCDs must be placed in silent mode.

### **PTSA**

You are invited to join the PTSA by clicking on <https://brandonptsa.memberhub.com/store?limit=21&live=true>.

### **Brandon High School Swag**

To purchase Brandon High School Swag, click on <https://1stplacespiritwear.com/partner/20917>.

### **Conference Nights - 4:00pm-6:00pm**

Quarter 1 - Thursday, September 19, 2024

Quarter 2 - Thursday, December 5, 2024

Quarter 3 - Tuesday, February 20, 2025

Quarter 4 - Tuesday, April 24, 2025

Additional information on academic and career nights will be forthcoming.

### **Athletics**

Click on [https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/cms/lib/FL50000635/Centricity/Domain/3017/sf\\_athletichomecampusinstructions.pdf](https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/cms/lib/FL50000635/Centricity/Domain/3017/sf_athletichomecampusinstructions.pdf) for information on Athletics. Fall Sports include Football, Volleyball, Swimming, Golf, and Cross County.

### **Connecting to Brandon**

Brandon High School Website: <http://brandon.mysdhc.org/>


Brandon High School Twitter: @BrandonHSEagles

Brandon High School Instagram: @brandonhseagles

Dr. Klein's Twitter: @BHSKleinTime



## Brandon High School Administration




**BRANDON HIGH SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATION**




**DR. JEREMY KLEIN**  
Principal  
Jeremy.Klein@hcps.net




**ALLISON WRIGHT**  
Assistant Principal for Curriculum  
Allison.Wright@hcps.net



**JOHN OLEWSKI**  
Assistant Principal for Administration  
John.Olewski@hcps.net



**BRENT COOPER**  
Assistant Principal for Student Affairs  
Last Names A-L



**QUICTA WALTERS**  
Assistant Principal for Student Affairs  
Last Names M-Z

**RISE ABOVE**



## Student Services Department



**BRANDON HIGH SCHOOL  
STUDENT SERVICES**

**GEANITA EVERETT**  
School Counselor | Geanita.Everett@hcps.net  
Last Names A-C

**ANGELA ZEMAN**  
School Counselor | Angela.Zeman@hcps.net  
Last Names D-Ja


**AMY SIMMONS**  
School Counselor | Amy.Simmons@hcps.net  
Last Names Je-N

**JENNIFER RITZ**  
School Counselor | Jennifer.Ritz@hcps.net  
Last Names O-Sh & AICE Diploma Candidates

**MARY BROWN-JOSEPH**  
School Counselor | Mary.Brown-Joseph@hcps.net  
Last Names Si-Z

**STEPHANIE MOORE**  
Success Coach | Stephanie.Moore@hcps.net  
10th Grade & 11th Grade Last Names A-L

**KEVIN MCDONALD**  
Success Coach | Kevin.McDonald@hcps.net  
9th Grade & 11th Grade Last Names M-Z



**BRANDON HIGH SCHOOL  
STUDENT SERVICES**

**MANDY RIVERA**  
Accelerated Programs Lead Teacher  
Amanda.Rivera@hcps.net

**LAUREN LETO**  
Community Schools Coordinator  
Lauren.Leto@hcps.net

**LAURA PACHECO**  
Parent Liaison  
Laura.Pacheco@hcps.net

**WANDA JACKSON**  
School Social Worker  
Wanda.Jackson@hcps.net

**CHARLOTTE GRANT**  
School Social Worker  
Charlotte.Grant@hcps.net

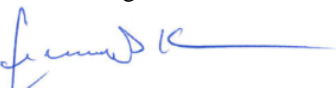
**JULIUS DENSON**  
School Psychologist  
Julius.Denson@hcps.net

**JESSICA DRAEGER**  
Exceptional Student Education Specialist  
Jessica.Draeger@hcps.net

We are so excited to work together with all our parents/guardians to ensure that each of our students thrive and succeed at Brandon High School. We welcome all of you to get involved by joining our PTSA, School Advisory Committee, our many Booster Clubs, and by volunteering at our events. As we enter the new school year, I encourage you to consider ways in which you can cultivate the greatest culture for learning. I stay committed and motivated to ensure you are supported. If you have any questions or need assistance at any time, please contact me or my staff at 813-744-8120.

*"Time is free, but it's priceless. You can't own it, but you can use it. You can't keep it, but you can spend it. Once you've lost it, you can never get it back."* -Harvey Mackay

Proclaiming a **SUCCESSFUL** school year,



Jeremy D. Klein, Ed.D.

Principal

[jeremy.klein@hcps.net](mailto:jeremy.klein@hcps.net)

813-744-8120

Dr. Klein's Twitter: @BHSKleinTime