

# NEST NOTES

## DECEMBER 16TH-DECEMBER 21ST

### MESSAGE FOR THE WEEK

Good Afternoon, Eagles!

Happy Sunday! Thank you to our 9th Grade English teachers and counselors for their help with programming our 9th grade students for next school year. Any student who has not yet been met with and would like to meet with their counselor regarding programming needs to scan the QR code outside of Student Services in the C Hallway to set up an appointment.

This week we start with a regular release bell schedule on Monday. Tuesday we are on a modified bell schedule with a 125-minute testing period after first period. This will take place so that all of our 9th and 10th grade students can do their best on the FAST ELA Progress Monitoring 2 test and so that any 11th and 12th grader needing their Reading Benchmark can test. Any 11th or 12th grade student without a test will report to the auditorium for the 125-minute testing period for a study-hall. The bell schedule is attached in the Nest Notes. Wednesday any 11th or 12th grader needing their Algebra 1 Benchmark will have an opportunity to test, and Thursday any student in a government class will take the Florida Civics Literacy Exam. Students will receive testing passes through their first period teachers.

This week is also Holiday Spirit week, sponsored by SGA and Battle of the Belts Awareness. Monday's Spirit Day is "Happy Holidays from the Family", Tuesday's is "Holiday Chaos", Wednesday's is "Santa's Workshop", Thursday's is "Polar Express", and Friday's is "Movie Characters".

As a reminder, Quarter 2 has been extended and will not end until January 16th, with Semester Exams taking place January 13th-January 16th. Quarter 3 and Semester 2 begins on Friday, January 17th. Any student with a D/F or F/D combination must take their Semester 1 Exam. More information to come the first week of January.

We hope everyone has a restful Winter Break. Thanks for all you do, Eagle Nation! We're excited for a fantastic week. Follow us on Instagram @brandonhseagles to stay updated. Have a relaxing Sunday afternoon and Go Eagles!



**BRANDON HIGH SCHOOL**  
1101 VICTORIA STREET  
BRANDON, FLORIDA 33511  
813-744-8120



# LATEST UPDATES

## EVENTS THIS WEEK

### **Monday December 16th**

Regular Bell Schedule

"Happy Holidays from the Family" Spirit Day

### **Tuesday December 17th**

#### **FAST ELA PM2 & Reading Retakes**

All 9th/10th & Select 11th & 12th Graders

"Holiday Chaos" Spirit Day

Kona Ice @ Lunches

### **Wednesday December 18th**

#### **BEST Algebra 1 EOC Retakes**

Select 11th & 12th Graders

"Santa's Workshop" Spirit Day

### **Thursday December 19th**

#### **Florida Civics Literacy Exam**

"Polar Express" Spirit Day

### **Friday December 20th**

Last Day Before Winter Break

"Movie Characters" Spirit Day

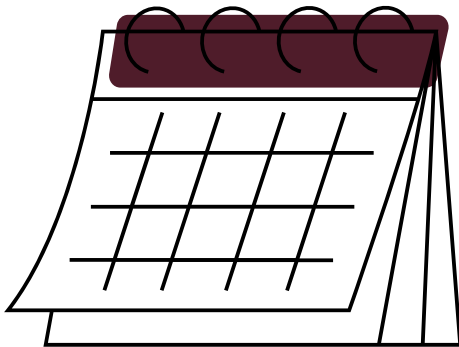
### **Saturday December 21st**

No Events

## STUDENT AFFAIRS

Parents and students, school begins at 8:30. Any student arriving to class after 8:30 is considered tardy and must have a pass to enter campus. Students on a late bus will receive an excused tardy pass to get to class.

Cell phones are to be kept up and out of sight during instructional time. The HCPS policy states: "During school hours and while on the bus, cellular based devices, including, but not limited to phones, watches, tablets and other electronic devices are to be used under the supervision of district staff for educational purposes only. Students must comply with the directives of school/district staff regarding when and where electronic devices can be used. The use of electronic devices on school property and school sponsored transportation to record, photograph, transmit, or post images or videos of any student or staff without their permission is strictly prohibited. The use of electronic devices with the ability to record or photograph are prohibited in restrooms and locker rooms. Devices may only be used in approved areas and students must comply with the directives of school/ district staff regarding when and where electronic devices may be used. Cellular device conversations and video recording during the school day are prohibited unless under the supervision of staff/school personnel."



## LOOKING AHEAD

12/23-1/3 - Winter Break

1/6 - Early Release Day

1/13 - Early Release Day

1/13-1/16- Semester 1 EXAMS

1/17 - Semester 2 Starts

Please speak to your student regarding threats. Any threat made, whether joking, written, verbal, or implied are taken seriously and will be treated as real until proven otherwise. There are steep disciplinary and legal consequences.



# NEST NOTABLES

Shoutout to our Boy's Wrestling Team for their win last weekend at the Jim Graves Invitational, and shoutout to the following wrestlers for placing this past weekend at the Kiwanis Invitational: Jackson Stouffer took 4th at 106lbs, Yenzon DeCastro took 2nd at 113 lbs, Noah Scribner took 3rd at 126lbs, Jaden Weisgal took 3rd at 132 lbs, Alecsander Rego took 2nd at 138 lbs, Yuriel Reyna-Campos took 6th at 190lbs, and Luis Jimenez took 4th at 285 lbs.

A HUGE congratulations to wrestler Caly Rodriguez for once again taking first place in her weight class.

Shoutout to our Brandon Colorguard, Band, and Cheerleaders for representing Brandon at the first annual Parade of Lights.

Shoutout to ROTC for an amazing Military Ball.

Thank you to Bloom Girls for the Holiday Cheer at their Bloom Girls Cafe on Friday.

Congratulations to the following FFA members for a great day at sub-districts: Jacob Hardesty took 2nd Place in Safe Tractor Driving Operations, Ahitana Querol took 2nd Place in Creed Speaking, and Sarah Menendez took 1st Place in Prepared Public Speaking.

A big shoutout to all the staff members who participated in our Dress Like a Student Day sponsored by Ms. Leto.



# REMINDERS

## COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

We have a food pantry funded through Feeding Tampa Bay in Room 803! The pantry is open for parents, by appointment, 8:00am-4:00pm on Fridays and after school on Fridays for students.

There is a supply pantry located in the Media Center – see Ms. Leto for help.

Please complete this link to help identify needs: <https://forms.office.com/r/sRN2cbaMXG> and email Ms. Leto at [Lauren.Leto@hcps.net](mailto:Lauren.Leto@hcps.net) with any questions you may have.



## CANVAS & GRADES

Parents, please remember that CANVAS is where teachers post grades, students and parents can message teachers, Mrs. Leto posts volunteer events, community school news, and job opportunities, and school counselors post important information regarding scholarships, volunteering and more! Join the BHS Eagle's Nest 24-25 page to see what's going on around campus.

Parents must first set up their ParentVue account for Synergy to be able to access Canvas. In your Parentvue account you will be able to see your student's schedule, attendance, teacher notes, and discipline actions. View this link to help: [Parent Apps – Questions and Answers](#)

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/YOouV3V6zXC5pKKN?ref=Link>

Please contact the Main Office with any questions.

## COUNSELING CORNER

Scan the QR code below to see your counselor!



The December Scholarship Matrix is on Canvas! Students are encouraged to look through the opportunities and apply.

Any student wishing to enroll, or currently enrolled in a Dual Enrollment course HCC next all must have a 3.0 unweighted GPA and a qualifying test score. HCC offers the PERT test that students may sign up for to qualify. Students should see their counselor with questions.

Mrs. Ritz is starting a coping skill group this semester! In this group, students will engage in discussion and learn how to regulate emotions, handle conflict, navigate relationships, and more. The group will meet weekly, alternating periods, to ensure instructional time is preserved. Please contact Mrs. Ritz with questions at [Jennifer.Ritz@hcps.net](mailto:Jennifer.Ritz@hcps.net) or 813-744-8120, ext. 238.





# SENIOR INFORMATION



## **Future Career Academy:**

"FUTURE CAREER ACADEMY BUSINESS PARTNERS: Go to this link [Hiring\\_Partners](#) for information about job postings from companies that work with the Future Career Academy and how to get started on envisioning your "E" – Enroll, Enlist, Employ. Reach out to your English teacher with any questions about the Future Career Academy."

## **Graduation:**

Graduation for our Class of 2025 Eagles will be Saturday, May 24th at 3:00pm. More information to come regarding rehearsal expectations and tickets for guests.

## **Senior Shirts:**

Mr. Weiss has Senior Shirts for sale for \$20 in room E335. Please see him before or after school to purchase!

## **Senior Pictures:**

Make sure you have signed up for your senior picture! There is a \$35 sit fee and this is the picture that will go in the yearbook for seniors. Please go to Cady Studios' website to sign up. November 18th is the next on campus date.

## **Cap & Gown/Class Rings:**

Caps and Gowns are not yet available on Herff Jones' website. We will put more information out about this as we receive it! For now, you can browse their catalog for merchandise and class rings! <https://www.herffjones.com/catalogs/graduationcatalog/>. There will be a meeting about Caps & Gowns in December and we will have two days to order during lunch.

## **Senior Events**

Seniors, we want to celebrate YOU! Click the link here: [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=-f2oEP\\_CDU6cGR\\_iwYgWSmeepp9NV-JLkhVeHjSfdONUQ1g5MVVNRRFFWWEVHMFhGUFAzMURVMUIOMC4](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=-f2oEP_CDU6cGR_iwYgWSmeepp9NV-JLkhVeHjSfdONUQ1g5MVVNRRFFWWEVHMFhGUFAzMURVMUIOMC4) to express your wishes and ideas for your senior year. Let's make it great!

## **Grad Bash:**

Grad Bash at Universal Studios will be April 25th, 2025. Save the date!

## **Prom:**

Prom will be on Saturday, March 8th at the Regent in Riverview. Please note this is a change from what was previously announced. More information to come about the pricing!

# WINTER TESTING

## DECEMBER 2024-FEBRUARY 2025

**December 12th** | Senior EOCS (12th)

**December 17th** | FAST ELA PM2 (9th & 10th) & Reading Retakes (Select 11th & 12th)  
*\*Special Bell Schedule\**

**December 18th** | Algebra 1 Retakes (Select 11th & 12th)

**December 19th** | Florida Civics Literacy Exam (Students in Government)

**January 13th** | 4th Period Exams (D/F or F/D Students)  
*\*Normal Early Release Bell Schedule\**

**January 14th** | 1st Period & 7th Period Exams (D/F or F/D Students)  
*\*Special Bell Schedule\**

**January 15th** | 2nd Period & 6th Period Exams (D/F or F/D Students)  
*\*Special Bell Schedule\**

**January 16th** | 3rd Period & 5th Period Exams (D/F or F/D Students)  
*\*Special Bell Schedule\**

**February 20th** | CLT (Select 11th & 12th Graders)



# SPECIAL BELLS

## December 17th, 2024 | FAST ELA PM2 & Retakes

1st Period | 8:30am-9:00am | 30 minutes

**Testing Period | 9:05am-11:10am | 2 hours 5 minutes**

4th Period (Lunch A) | 11:15am-11:55am | 40 minutes

4th Period (Class B) | 11:15am-12:05pm | 50 minutes

4th Period (Lunch B) | 12:10pm-12:50pm | 40 minutes

4th Period (Class A) | 12:00pm-12:50pm | 50 minutes

2nd Period | 12:55pm-1:25pm | 30 minutes

3rd Period | 1:30pm-2:00pm | 30 minutes

5th Period | 2:05pm-2:35pm | 30 minutes

6th Period | 2:40 pm-3:10pm | 30 minutes

7th Period | 3:15pm-3:35pm | 20 minutes

In first period students will receive their testing passes to report to their testing locations at the end of the period. The FAST ELA PM2 is 90 minutes long, with students being allowed to test for the remainder of the day. Students who need more time will be swept to the A Hallway to continue testing after being checked in and reporting to A lunch. 11th and 12th graders in Reading Retakes receive 2 hours of testing time with the option to continue testing all day. The same procedure will apply.

# BHS BELL SCHEDULES 24-25

## REGULAR

1 <sup>st</sup> Period		8:30-9:20	50
2 <sup>nd</sup> Period		9:25-10:15	50
3 <sup>rd</sup> Period		10:20-11:10	50
4 <sup>th</sup> Period	Lunch A	11:15-11:55	40
	Class B	11:15-12:05	50
	Lunch B	12:10-12:50	40
	Class A	12:00-12:50	50
5 <sup>th</sup> Period		12:55-1:45	50
6 <sup>th</sup> Period		1:50-2:40	50
7 <sup>th</sup> Period		2:45-3:35	50

## EARLY RELEASE

1 <sup>st</sup> Period		8:30-9:10	40
2 <sup>nd</sup> Period		9:15-9:55	40
3 <sup>rd</sup> Period		10:00-10:40	40
4 <sup>th</sup> Period	Lunch A	10:45-11:25	40
	Class B	10:45-11:35	50
	Lunch B	11:40-12:20	40
	Class A	11:30-12:20	50
5 <sup>th</sup> Period		12:25-1:05	40
6 <sup>th</sup> Period		1:10-1:50	40
7 <sup>th</sup> Period		1:55-2:35	40





# BRANDON HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION



## DR. JEREMY KLEIN

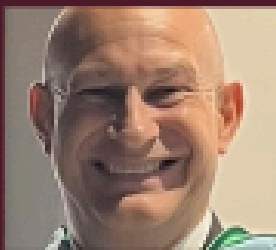
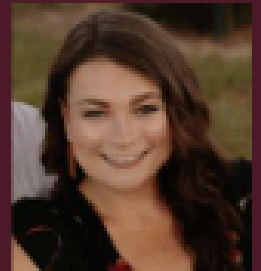
Principal

[Jeremy.Klein@hcps.net](mailto:Jeremy.Klein@hcps.net)

## ALLISON WRIGHT

Assistant Principal for Curriculum

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## JOHN OLEWSKI

Assistant Principal for Administration

[John.Olewski@hcps.net](mailto: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



# BRANDON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SERVICES

## GEANITA EVERETT

School Counselor | [Geanita.Everett@hcps.net](mailto:Geanita.Everett@hcps.net)  
Last Names A-C

## ANGELA ZEMAN

School Counselor | [Angela.Zeman@hcps.net](mailto:Angela.Zeman@hcps.net)  
Last Names D-Ja

## AMY SIMMONS

School Counselor | [Amy.Simmons@hcps.net](mailto:Amy.Simmons@hcps.net)  
Last Names Je-N

## JENNIFER RITZ

School Counselor | [Jennifer.Ritz@hcps.net](mailto:Jennifer.Ritz@hcps.net)  
Last Names O-Sh & AICE Diploma Candidates

## MARY BROWN-JOSEPH

School Counselor | [Mary.Brown-Joseph@hcps.net](mailto:Mary.Brown-Joseph@hcps.net)  
Last Names Si-Z

## STEPHANIE MOORE

Success Coach | [Stephanie.Moore@hcps.net](mailto:Stephanie.Moore@hcps.net)  
10th Grade & 11th Grade Last Names A-L

## KEVIN MCDONALD

Success Coach | [Kevin.McDonald@hcps.net](mailto: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  
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## LAURA PACHECO

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## WANDA JACKSON

School Social Worker  
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## CHARLOTTE GRANT

School Social Worker  
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## JULIUS DENSON

School Psychologist  
Julius.Denson@hcps.net

## JESSICA DRAEGER

Exceptional Student Educaiton Speciliast  
Jessica.Draeger@hcps.net



# Join us for Park-n-Learn!

*Listen from your car!  
Prizes available!*



## Igniting Conversations with Your Kids

- The importance of forming connections through conversation
- How emotional intelligence fosters these meaningful conversations
- Practical tips for parents

**December 9th to December  
18th - see link on our BHS  
website**

*Frameworks of Tampa Bay knows emotional intelligence is the key to personal, academic, and professional success. We work with parents, teachers, and other trusted adults to equip all children to become kind, collaborative, and capable citizens.*

*Made possible by the generosity of the PwC Charitable Foundation*





**IS COMING!**

Brandon High School  
KONA DAY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17th  
**LUNCHTIME**

**1**

**STEP 1: Choose Your Size**

\$4.00 Klassic, \$5.00 King, \$6.00  
Kowabunga, \$7.00 Color Changing with  
\$4 Refills

**2**

**STEP 2: Choose Your Flavor**

Tiger's Blood, Blue Raspberry, Groovy Grape, Island Rush, Monster Mango, Lucky  
Lime, Watermelon Wave, Strawberry'd Treasure, Ninja Cherry, Piña Colada



KLASSIC  
\$4.00

KING  
\$5.00

KOWABUNGA  
\$6.00

COLOR  
CHANGING  
\$7.00



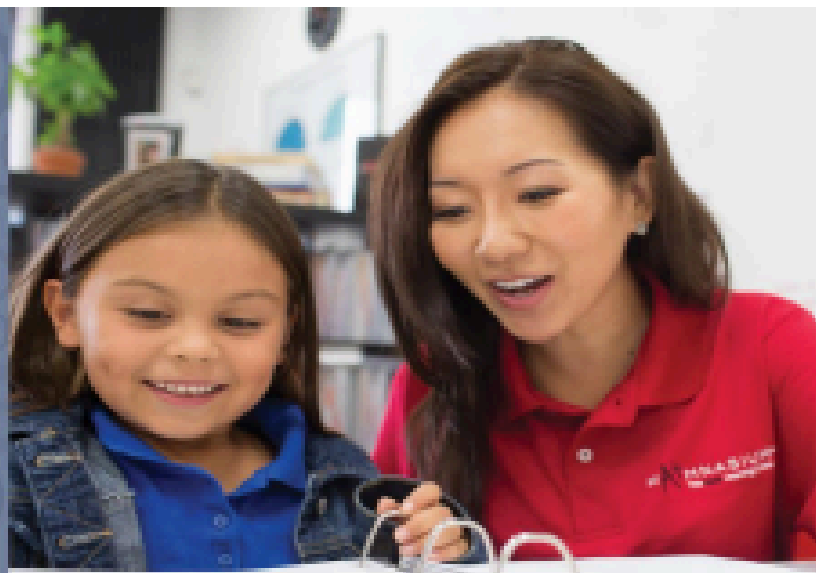
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**KONA ICE OF BRANDON**

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50%  
OFF

*The Month of December*

**Give the gift of learning with 50% off math instruction in December!** (With a 12- or 18-month program.)

Our flexible holiday schedule ensures your child can build critical thinking skills and math confidence without missing out on festive fun. By fostering a love for math that extends beyond the classroom, Mathnasium brightens the holiday season and sets kids up for success in the new year. Experience the Mathnasium difference:

- Personalized learning plans tailored to your child's unique needs
- Engaging, reward-based environment that makes math fun
- Expert instructors who adapt teaching methods to each child's learning style

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**1930 West Brandon Blvd.**

**Brandon, FL 33511**

**813-798-6284**

<https://www.mathnasium.com/math-centers/brandonwest>

*Don't Miss Out!*



MATHNASIUM<sup>®</sup>  
The Math Learning Center

[www.mathnasium.com](http://www.mathnasium.com)

# want to THRIVE?

Join our Coping & Success Skills Group!

Learn how to conquer barriers and  
accomplish your goals

**WHEN:** Thursdays; alternating periods

**WHERE:** M606

**HOW:** Passes provided. See Ms. Ritz in  
counseling office 208 for permission forms!

**WHO:** Group is led by Ms. Ritz



**2024-2025 Student Academic Calendar**  
**School Board Approved 9/19/23**  
**Revised 10/23/24**

Students' First Day of School	Monday, August 12, 2024
Labor Day/Non-Student Day	Monday, September 2, 2024
End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Grading Period	Friday, October 25, 2024
Veterans Day/Non-Student Day	Monday, November 11, 2024
Fall Break/Non-Student Days	Monday, November 25 - Friday, November 29, 2024
Students Return to School	Monday, December 2, 2024
Winter Break/Non-Student Days	Monday, December 23, 2024 - Friday, January 3, 2025
Students Return to School/Early Release Day	Monday, January 6, 2025
Early Release Day	Monday, January 13, 2025
End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grading Period/1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	Thursday, January 16, 2025
Martin Luther King, Jr./Non-Student Day	Monday, January 20, 2025
Florida State Fair/Non-Student Day <b>for West County Schools only</b>	Friday, February 14, 2025
Presidents' Day/Student Day	Monday, February 17, 2025
Strawberry Festival /Non-Student Day <b>for East County Schools only</b>	Monday, March 3, 2025
Spring Break/Non-Student Days	Monday, March 17 - Friday, March 21, 2025
Students Return to School	Monday, March 24, 2025
End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grading Period	Friday, March 28, 2025
Non-Student Day	Friday, April 18, 2025
Memorial Day/Non-Student Day	Monday, May 26, 2025
Last Day of School/2.5 Hour Early Dismissal End of 4 <sup>th</sup> Grading Period/2nd Semester	Friday, May 30, 2025

- Early Release Mondays scheduled October 21, 2024 - December 16, 2024, and January 27, 2025 - May 19, 2025 were converted to full school days after Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton school closures.
- East County schools are listed in the chart below. Only students attending these schools are scheduled for a non-student day on March 3, 2025. All schools not listed below are considered West County Schools.

Elementary			Middle	High	Non-Traditional
Bailey	Jackson	Springhead	Marshall	Durant	Simmons Career Acceleration Academy
Bryan PC	Knights	Trapnell	Mulrennan	Plant City	Simmons ESC
Buckhorn	Lincoln Magnet	Valrico	Tomlin	Strawberry Crest	Willis Peters ESC
Burney	Nelson	Walden Lake	Turkey Creek		
Cork	Pinecrest	Wilson PC			
Dover	Robinson				





# SCOPE

Student Center of Postsecondary Exploration

## University Chats

SCOPE is excited to host representatives from multiple Florida universities to share information and discuss college options with students!

### Upcoming Visits:

- Florida A&M University
- University of Central Florida
- St. Leo University
- University of Tampa
- University of South Florida
- Florida Atlantic University
- more to come...

**Community colleges and technical schools will be invited to campus in the spring semester!**

To sign up and view date/time, visit the SCOPE website:



Space is limited to juniors and seniors.

For more information, visit Ms. Smith in  
SCOPE (K-582) or email  
[asmith@educationfoundation.com](mailto:asmith@educationfoundation.com).





## Brandon High School Athletics

**Athletic Sponsorship:** The Brandon High School Athletic Booster Club would appreciate your involvement and support for the 2024-2025 school year. Our purpose is to provide additional financial and moral support for all athletic programs at Brandon High School. Your sponsorship benefits all Brandon athletes, but also benefits your business.

**\$750 Eagles Nest Sponsors** – Includes 2 banners up to 4' X 6' provided by the sponsor-one to be displayed in the football stadium and one in the gym. The banners will be displayed for the entire school year. Also, BHS includes social media (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) recognition and sponsorships mentioned during all home games.

**\$500 Gold Sponsors** – Includes 2 banners up to 4' X 6' provided by the sponsor-one to be displayed in the football stadium and one in the gym. The banners will be displayed for the entire school year.

**\$250 Maroon Sponsors** – Includes 1 banner up to 4' X 6' provided by the sponsor. The banner will be displayed on the football field or gym for the entire school year.

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship Level      \_\_\_\_\_ \$750      \_\_\_\_\_ \$500      \_\_\_\_\_ \$250

Donations:      \_\_\_\_\_ \$100      \_\_\_\_\_ \$75      \_\_\_\_\_ \$50      \_\_\_\_\_ \$25      \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

Please complete this form. Make checks payable to Brandon High School Athletic Booster Club and mail to 1101 Victoria St. Brandon, FL 33510 Attn: BHS Athletics Boosters.



BHS Athletic Boosters  
Donations  
Sponsorship

Thank You in advance for your support of Brandon Athletics.



# SAT, ACT, CLT



# TEST DATES

## SAT Dates

August 24th  
October 5th  
November 2nd  
December 7th  
March 8th  
May 3rd  
June 7th

## ACT Dates

September 14th  
October 26th  
December 14th  
February 8th  
April 5th  
June 14th  
July 12th

## CLT Dates

September 21st  
October 16th  
November 7th  
December 7th  
January 25th  
February 20th  
March 15th  
April 10th  
May 10th  
June 18th

## SIGN UP BELOW

