

WEST BRIAR MIDDLE SCHOOL GRIZZLY TIMES



16 September, 2024/Vol. 07

Week 6 Updates and Appreciation from West Briar Middle School *Closing Out the Six Weeks with Gratitude and Momentum*

Dear West Briar Parents, Guardians, and Staff,

As we approach the final week of this grading period, I want to take a moment to share some important reminders and express our gratitude for the incredible support we've seen so far this year.

Open House Appreciation:

A huge thank you to all the parents and guardians who attended our recent Open House! Your presence and engagement mean so much, and we are grateful for your continued support in your child's education. I'd also like to extend my deepest thanks to our amazing teachers for their hard work and dedication in preparing for Open House. Your commitment to fostering strong connections with our families is truly appreciated. Lastly, a big thank you to our wonderful PTO for providing a delicious meal for our staff—it was a thoughtful gesture that energized us for the evening.

Dress Code and IDs:

As a reminder, all students should continue to follow our campus dress code. Most students have received their student IDs. Students must wear their school ID around their neck every day. For any student who has not yet received their ID, we will be available during lunches this week to issue them. Thank you for helping us uphold these standards, which ensure a safe and organized learning environment.

Picture Day:

Picture Day is scheduled for October 1, 2024! Students will have their photos taken during their social studies classes. Students will receive a price list in their social studies class. Order online at inter-state.com/order. **Use order code: 86752MA.** More details will be shared soon, so please stay tuned.

Hispanic Heritage Month:

We are excited to kick off Hispanic Heritage Month beginning September 15! This is a wonderful time to celebrate the rich history, culture, and contributions of the Hispanic community. We have several activities and events planned throughout the month to honor and recognize this important heritage. More information coming soon.

Academic Progress:

We are excited to see the academic progress our students have been making! Our teachers have been working tirelessly to provide high-quality instruction, and students are responding with great effort. Let's keep this positive momentum going as we close out the six weeks!

Special Shoutout:

Please join me in congratulating Mr. Holloway for being accepted into the Advanced Level Academy with HISD! This is a significant achievement, and we are so proud of him for his dedication to professional growth and leadership development. Way to go, Mr. Holloway!

Thank you again for your continued support and partnership. Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's teachers or our office team.

~Principal Blanchard

Power School Access for Parents

Please make sure you are monitoring your student's grades and attendance in PowerSchool. For assistance with accessing your student's information, please email Lauri Lamar at llamar@houstonisd.org

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SIGN UP FOR PTO



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UPCOMING EVENTS

September 16, 2024

- Support Dance Company Popcorn Fundraiser

September 17 and 19, 2024

- Dance Company Rehearsal

September 17, 2024

- West Briar Football (8th) vs Pin Oak - Barnett Stadium 5:00pm

September 18, 2024

- Christian Club Meeting 8:00am

September 19, 2024

- West Briar Volleyball (7th/8th) vs Key - West Briar Middle School 6:00pm/7:00pm

September 20, 2024

- Last day of Cycle 1 (report card)
- School store (11:30am - 1:00pm) - purchase your uniforms during lunch
- **4:00pm 8th Grade Ice Breaker**
 - **We invite all 8th grade teachers and students to come mingle...FREE!!!**

SAFE GUN STORAGE

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Houston Independent School District (HISD) is dedicated to a safe learning environment at school and at home. In the U.S., gun violence on school campuses is alarming. HISD recognizes that proper gun storage education and laws are essential to ensuring a gun-free campus. To further our efforts to protect students from firearms, and as a courtesy to our families, HISD is informing parents and guardians of the legal obligations to protect minors from negligent gun storage.

There are three steps to ensure safe gun storage:

1. Store firearms unloaded and locked.
2. Store and lock ammunition safely.
3. Keep others from getting access to stored firearms 24/7.

Please see the [flyer](https://safegunstorage.texas.com/) created by <https://safegunstorage.texas.com/> for more details on ways to safely store a firearm. (Please note, your student will be provided with a paper copy of the flyer.) In addition, please review the state statute on gun storage laws summarized below:

Texas State Law 46.13: Making a Firearm Accessible to a Child
In Texas, a "child" is defined as a person under the age of 17.

The statute indicates that a person commits an offense if a child gains access to a readily dischargeable firearm and charges the person with criminal negligence:

- (1) failed to secure the firearm; or
- (2) left the firearm in a place the person knew or should have known the child would gain access to.

WHO DO I CONTACT? 📞

ATTENDANCE: MS. YOUNG - SYOUNG1@HOUSTONISD.ORG

REGISTRATION - MS. COOPER - NAKIYAH.COOPER@HOUSTONISD.ORG

NURSE: NURSE PAPILLION - REBECCA.PAPILLIONS@HOUSTONISD.ORG

SPECIAL EDUCATION: MS. STOKES - KENDRA.STOKES@HOUSTONISD.ORG

6TH GRADE HOUSE SECRETARY: MS. YOUNG - SYOUNG1@HOUSTONISD.ORG

7TH GRADE HOUSE SECRETARY: MS. EDWARDS - LATOSHA.EDWARDS@HOUSTONISD.ORG

8TH GRADE HOUSE SECRETARY: MS. JOHNSON - AJOHNS44@HOUSTONISD.ORG

SCHOOL COUNSELOR: BRIDGETTE RYANS - BRIDGETTE.RYANS@HOUSTONISD.ORG

6TH GRADE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - MS. WILLIAMS - LERONEATRA.WILLIAMS@HOUSTONISD.ORG

7TH GRADE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - DR. MCCURDY - DEWAYNE.MCCURDY@HOUSTONISD.ORG

8TH GRADE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - MR. JOHNSON - DJOHNS41@HOUSTONISD.ORG

PRINCIPAL - MS. BLANCHARD - CRYSTAL.BLANCHARD@HOUSTONISD.ORG



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Weekly Instructional Focus Area

T-Tess 1.4: Activities

- The teacher plans engaging, flexible lessons that are aligned to instructional outcomes
- Questions that encourage all students to engage in higher-order thinking
- Instructional groups based on the needs of all students
- All students understand their roles within the groups

T-Tess 2.3: Communication

- Establishes classroom practices that provide opportunities for **most students to communicate effectively with the teacher and their peers**
- Recognizes student misunderstandings and responds with an array of teaching techniques to clarify concepts
- Provides explanations that are clear and uses verbal and written communication that is clear and correct
- Ask remember, understand and apply level questions that focus on the objective of the lesson and **provoke discussion**
- Use probing questions to clarify and elaborate learning



Strategy to Implement

Turn and Talk

This strategy permits all students to participate in discussion, rather than only a few students participating in a class-wide discussion. All students can process new learning while engaging in meaningful conversation with a classmate.

How to Use

1. Question

Pose a question or prompt for students to discuss and tell them how much time they will have. A one-to-two-minute discussion is most productive.

2. Turn

Have students turn to a specific partner. Partner assignments should be set up beforehand so that students can quickly and easily pair up.

3. Talk

Set a timer for the allotted time, and have students begin discussing the assigned question or prompt. Use sentence stems when appropriate. When time is up, ask partners to share thoughts and ideas from their discussion to the class.

When to Use

Use Turn and Talk at any time during a lesson to encourage accountable talk:

- As a warm-up activity to discuss previous lesson
- After five to seven minutes of oral or written input, to help student process what they have just heard or read
- During class discussions as a way for students to discuss ideas before sharing them with the class
- As a closing activity so that students can review what was learned in the lesson
- As a clarification tool for a complex problem or new guiding question posed by the teacher

STAY
CONNECTED

SCHOOL WEBSITE
www.houstonisd.org/westbriar

TWITTER
@WestBriarMS

INSTAGRAM
@westbriarms

Important Links

- [West Briar Handbook](#)
- [HISD Student Handbook](#)
- [School Supply List](#)
- [Bell Schedule](#)
- [Academic Calendar](#)
- [Campus Assessment Calendar](#)
- [Health Inventory Form](#)
- [School Pay](#)



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STUDENT OF THE MONTH

“AUGUST”

Lydia Foster, 6th grade



Julia Meiller, 7th grade



Aziza Walizai, 8th grade



Staff Birthday Corner

Ms. G. Scott – 9/15/2024

Coach Crawford – 9/16/2024

Ms. Wells – 9/17/2024

Ms. Nelson – 9/18/2024

Mr. Pate – 9/20/2024

Staff of the Month – August

Lauri Lamar, SIR

Bridgette Ryans, Counselor

Thanks for going above and
beyond EVERY DAY for
EVERYONE





Happy Birthday

| Student Name | Birthday | GRADE |
|-------------------------------|----------|-------|
| Hines, Javoria Danielle | 09-15 | 8 |
| Marton, Valentina Mai | 09-15 | 6 |
| Ogunbode, Jeremiah Shylon | 09-16 | 7 |
| Gamboa, Claudia Sophia | 09-17 | 6 |
| Johnson, Journee Nicole | 09-19 | 6 |
| Kheba, Taliyah Skye | 09-19 | 6 |
| Zhang, Anna Yifei | 09-19 | 7 |
| Ajayi, Fiyinfoluwa Gideon | 09-20 | 8 |
| Jackson, Nevaeh Michael Shane | 09-20 | 7 |
| Fulton, Riya Ma'Shay | 09-21 | 7 |
| Peralta, Gael Steven | 09-21 | 6 |
| Ubini, Kaleb Omarefe | 09-21 | 8 |
| Young, Isaiah LeBron | 09-21 | 8 |



HAPPY BIRTHDAY