

WEST BRIAR MIDDLE SCHOOL GRIZZLY TIMES



23 September, 2024/Vol. 08

Moving Forward Together: Week 7 Updates

Dear Grizzly Families and West Briar Staff,

As we begin Week 7, I want to take a moment to express my deep gratitude for the continued hard work and dedication of our teachers, students, and parents. Each day, I see incredible progress in our classrooms and the growth in our students' learning journey. It is a true testament to the collaboration between home and school, and I couldn't be more proud of what we are accomplishing together.

To Our Parents: Hello, Grizzly family,

I hope this message finds you well. As you may know, we are currently a C-rated campus. However, we have amazing students, and I truly believe we can achieve an A rating. To ensure we're moving in the right direction, we must make some changes to the master schedule.

How does this impact your student? Some students may receive a schedule change. Any student who did not pass the STAAR Reading or Math exam will be assigned an intervention course to help close their instructional gaps. These students will receive at least 90 minutes of targeted instruction in the course or courses they did not pass, increasing their opportunity for learning and academic growth.

We understand that change can be difficult, especially during the transitional years of middle school. However, we are committed to keeping an open line of communication for any student who may struggle with this adjustment. The plan is to ensure all schedules are changed by October 1, 2024.

To Our Teachers: Your dedication continues to inspire me. I've seen firsthand the intentionality in your planning, the energy in your classrooms, and the commitment you have to seeing every student succeed. Keep up the amazing work! As we move through the semester, please remember to take care of yourselves as well. Balance is key, and your well-being is important to all of us.

Important Reminders:

- **Report Cards:** Be on the lookout for report cards Friday. This is a great opportunity to check in on your child's academic progress and ensure they are on track.
- **Upcoming Events:** Don't forget to mark your calendars for our upcoming PTO meeting Wednesday, which will be a great opportunity for families to engage with the campus.
- **Student Safety:** Please continue to remind your children about safety on campus. Ensuring students arrive and depart from school safely is our top priority, and we appreciate your help in reinforcing safe habits.

Together, we are making strides toward our vision of success for every Grizzly, every day. Let's continue this journey together, staying focused on our shared goals of academic growth, community building, and providing the best environment for our students to thrive.

Thank you for all that you do!

~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

WEST BRIAR MIDDLE SCHOOL

GRIZZLY TIMES

SIGN UP FOR PTO



23 September, 2024/Vol. 08

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 23, 2024

- Varsity Drum Line Practice 4:00pm - 4:45pm
- 7th grade Football 5:00pm at Meyerland

September 23 - 26, 2024

- Dance Company Rehearsal

September 24, 2024

- Varsity Brass Practice 4:00pm - 4:45pm

September 25, 2024

- Christian Club Meeting 7:50am
- Varsity Woodwinds Practice 4:00pm - 4:45pm
- West Briar Football (8th) vs Lanier - Cowart Stadium 5:00pm
- General PTO meeting with Ms. Blanchard 6:00pm

September 26, 2024

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

September 27, 2024

- Free Dress PTO members
- School store (11:30am - 1:00pm) - purchase your uniforms during lunch

September 28, 2024

- Cross Country Meet @North Forest High School 9:00am
- Galveston Bay Fishing Trip - see Coach Lamar

October 2, 2024

- Honor Roll Celebration during lunch

TEACHER'S ASSISTANT DAY 9/30

I am thrilled to remind everyone that Monday, September 30th, is Teacher Assistant Appreciation Day! On this day, we come together to recognize the hard work and dedication of our incredible teacher assistants who make a lasting impact on the lives of our students every day.

A special shout-out goes to the amazing teacher assistants who support our students in the Special Education self-contained classes. Their unwavering dedication, compassion, and commitment to fostering a nurturing learning environment have been instrumental in helping our students grow and thrive.

Please take a moment to show your appreciation for their efforts—whether it's a kind word, a thank-you note, or a simple gesture of gratitude. Their contributions truly make a difference!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in making West Briar a special place for every student.

PSAT - 8TH GRADE 10/16

We are excited to announce that the PSAT will be held on Wednesday, October 16. This is a great opportunity for our students to practice for future college entrance exams and assess their academic progress.

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



WEST BRIAR MIDDLE SCHOOL

GRIZZLY TIMES

SIGN UP FOR PTO



23 September, 2024/Vol. 08

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](#)



WEST BRIAR MIDDLE SCHOOL GRIZZLY TIMES



23 September, 2024/Vol. 08

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

“AUGUST”

Lydia Foster, 6th grade



Julia Meiller, 7th grade



Aziza Walizai, 8th grade



Staff Birthday Corner

Mr. Stanley – 9/22/2024



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
Altamirano, Carly Lin	09-22	7
Altamirano, Damien Joel	09-22	7
Benitez-Trochez, Danna Michell	09-22	8
Robinson, Christian Tyler Ashtin	09-24	8
Adeleye, Baqir Jayden	09-25	7
Alvarez, Damian	09-25	7
Espinoza Salazar, Isabella Angeline	09-25	6
Alemy, Marwah	09-26	8
Gomez, Mateo Yahir	09-26	6
Wamback, Jack Maurice	09-26	8
Camargo, Leela Emaree	09-27	6
Chavez, Leslie Marisol	09-27	6
Abdi, Kadija Warfa	09-28	8



HAPPY BIRTHDAY