



**Brentwood High School**

# **Principal's Newsletter**

**Dr. Don Rugraff**

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## **Fall 2011-2012**

We are off to another great start this school year. With several weeks behind us students are settled in and focused on academics. I am happy to report to you that we have continued to make improvements in our ACT scores the past three years. Our composite score last year was 24.25 when calculated with the best ACT score of each student. The recent Post Dispatch article had Brentwood High School ranked number 5 among all schools in St. Louis County with a composite score of 23.8. The Post Dispatch data *does not* take in account the best student score rather the last ACT score of the student. Our MAP/EOC results were also impressive. BHS was the *only* high school in St. Louis County that met AYP (annual yearly progress) this past year. I am very proud of our students for these accomplishments and I am also very grateful to our parents for their ongoing support and involvement.

**Free ACT & Advanced Placement Test** can be found at:

[www.more.net/content/learning-express-library](http://www.more.net/content/learning-express-library)

Go to LearningExpress <http://www.learningexpresslibrary.com>

Register as a new user and begin utilizing the library's resources.

This is a wonderful website with practice tests, GED preparations, along with job and career information.

### **Parent Teacher Conferences**

Our BHS parent teacher conferences will be here before we know it. They are scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup> and November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 3:30 to 7:30. Parents can sign up for teacher conferences using online conference scheduling, which opens on Wednesday, October 12. Parents may also sign up by calling the main office (beginning on 10/24). There will be an informational message sent to all parents of the district by phone about the Online Conference Scheduler on Friday, September 23.

### **Working Toward Paperless**

This year we are continuing to work towards being paperless. Student midterm grades can be accessed through the parent portal of Infinite Campus. If you do not have a parent portal account please stop by the guidance office with a photo I.D. and an account will be set up for you. If you would like a hard copy of your son's or daughter's midterm grades please contact Ms. Laura Brown, Registrar/Guidance Secretary by e-mail [lbrown@brentwood.k12.mo.us](mailto:lbrown@brentwood.k12.mo.us) or phone 962.3837 ext 1018 and a hard copy will be mailed to you. This year we will continue mailing student quarter grades, but intend to go paperless in the next year or two.

### **Homecoming Week**

Students are getting excited about Homecoming week (week of September 26<sup>th</sup>). There will be many different activities throughout the week leading to our Homecoming games and dance. On Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup> around 11:00 am we will have a drunk driving reenactment in front

of BHS. Don't be alarmed when you hear the sirens (police, fire, EMT, and possibly a helicopter). This activity is being put on as an educational production to educate and remind students of the implications of drinking and driving.

Students planning on attending the dance must purchase Homecoming tickets in advance to attend. Tickets to the dance will not be sold upon entry to the dance. The doors will close at 8:30 and the dance will end at 11:00. Students who have special circumstances that would prevent them from arriving to the dance prior to 8:30 must get prior approval from a building principal in order to be admitted after the doors close. Students that are planning on bringing guests (non enrolled BHS student) must follow the procedures of our guest permission policy (contact Ms. Javier or the front office by Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup> if you need this information). Students attending the dance are expected to dress appropriately and dance appropriately.

In the past we have experienced some incidents with students attending pre-Homecoming or post-Homecoming parties in which alcohol and/or drugs have been available. Over the years we have had our share of incidents in which students attended school functions under the influence. These situations are taken very seriously as described in our district code of conduct and can have far reaching implications including college admissions. It needs to be clear that the district does not support unsupervised gatherings before or after the dance, nor do we condone supervised parties in which alcohol or drugs are made available to our students. If such a party is reported to us, we will share this information with the Brentwood Police Department and in some situations possibly the Division of Family Services. If your child indicates his or her desire to attend a party, we suggest that you inquire as to its location and contact the parents hosting the party to ask questions such as, will a parent be home and supervising? Will there be alcohol on the premises? How do you plan to supervise your child's guests? We also ask that you stand strongly disapproving hotel parties (all night or otherwise) where alcohol may be served or any other party where "carrying in" may be overlooked. We realize, however, that before and after the dance you, the parents assume full responsibility. We are convinced that with parents working with their children and other parents, all of us together can ensure an evening, which is thoroughly enjoyable and keeps our students safe. We have heard and have been part of too many incidents in which tragedy occurs because such standards have been compromised. As a parent of three high school students I know the challenges they present and I also know, I never want to know, how much they would be missed. If you have any questions on these topics, please do not hesitate to contact Officer Paul Clayton (314.713.2185), School Resource Officer, or myself.

### **Joplin**

Tim Rempel, BHS Art instructor, visited two elementary schools in Joplin that were destroyed or damaged from the tornadoes this past May. The purpose of his visit was to present thirty 3'x5' photographs and paintings created by his artist group for these schools. Both principals requested that these art works be created to bring color and joy to their classrooms, hallways and offices. Tim's artist group also gave paint, brushes, stretcher frames, and canvases printed with paint by number designs for these students to create their own paintings for their schools. The BHS art club, Art Works, created 4 of these paintings; 2 for Irving Elementary School and 2 for Emerson Elementary School. It just so happens that the Joplin School District's mascot is the eagle! Tim's visit was powerful and emotional; it was an extraordinary opportunity for our BHS Art students to serve selflessly for the Joplin community and we are honored to have helped them with our time and our artistic talents.



### **The A+ Program**

is a Missouri scholarship program designed to keep kids in school and out of trouble. Students who successfully meet the program requirements are eligible for tuition at Missouri community colleges and technical schools.

A+ Program Eligibility (Based on State of Missouri Requirements Listed Below)

2.5 GPA upon Graduation

95% attendance over 4 years

50 hours of tutoring/mentoring

Good citizenship and avoidance of the unlawful use of drugs/alcohol

Written agreement with designated A+ High School

Enrollment in and attendance at a designated A+ school for at least three (3) consecutive years

Apply for financial aid by filing a FAFSA spring semester of senior year

\*For more information on the A+ Program visit the following websites:

<http://www.brentwood.k12.mo.us/bhs/guidance/aplus.html> <http://dese.mo.gov> You can also

contact Mrs. Ivy Hutchison, College and Career Advisor. Mrs. Hutchison can be reached by e-mail [ihutchison@brentwood.k12.mo.us](mailto:ihutchison@brentwood.k12.mo.us) or phone 314.962.3837 ext. 1020.

### **Accessing Athletic Schedules and Notification of Schedule Changes**

Up to date athletic schedules and schedule changes are available on our district web page [www.brentwood.k12.mo.us](http://www.brentwood.k12.mo.us).

To access this information, please follow the steps listed below:

- Select Brentwood High School under Our Schools,
- Select Athletics,
- Select Eagle Sports Links & select your sport, (you will be connected to the High School Sports.Net Web page which will provide you with current updated schedules).

You can also sign up for real time (as they occur) schedule changes to be sent to you by e-mail or text message to your cell phone. If you experience problems with accessing this information, please contact Julie Robertson, Athletic Office Secretary /Assistant Principal [jrobertson@brentwood.k12.mo.us](mailto:jrobertson@brentwood.k12.mo.us) or Dr. Ed Johnson, Athletic Director/Assistant Principal [ejohnson@brentwood.k12.mo.us](mailto:ejohnson@brentwood.k12.mo.us) by e-mail or phone 962.3837 ext 1033.

### **Dates to Remember**

9/26 No school for students

10/1 Homecoming Dance

10/14 Debate Tournament at BHS

10/18 Picture Retakes

10/21 Early Dismissal; end of first quarter

10/24 Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:30

11/2 Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:30

11/4 No school

11/23-25 No School Thanksgiving

